

ARRL Dakota Division

NEWSLETTER



DIRECTOR NOTES

Welcome to the first edition of the Dakota Division Newsletter. The primary goal is to keep you informed on happens within the division. This is your newsletter so send me information to include. A few things that come to mind are:

- Club Activities
- License training
- Other training
- VE Testing
- Special Event Stations
- Public Service Activities

Feel free to write short articles of items that would be of interest to Division members and submit those for consideration. Make sure to send pictures, with file sizes larger than 1 MB for proper resolution.

Information should be sent by the third week of the month to make the next newsletter.

Hope you enjoy this edition and suggestions are always welcomed.

73

Bill Lippert ACØW

Director Dakota Division

VOLUNTEERS ON THE AIR (VOTA)

W1AW/Ø

South Dakota was first up in activating W1AW/Ø from the Dakota Division. With little time to prepare they turned in a good effort making 4,611 contacts. Next up is North Dakota in roughly one week. While sign-up is progressing nicely, there are plenty of open slots. Questions reach out to Lynn, WØND.

Minnesota closes out the first round of activations in May. Sign-up has started. With 10 and 15 opening more often there will be plenty of options to get on and active. Plus, don't forget about the VHF and UHF bands. It gives those with limited HF equipment or frequency limitations an opportunity to take part in the fun.

When you aren't busy activating W1AW/Ø take the time to chase the other W1AW/x stations. It helps to have a way to track the band/mode contacts for each state. I created a simple spreadsheet. For W1AW/7 in Oregon I'm currently at 13 of the 18 different HF band/mode combinations.

Date	State	Coordinator	Contact	Sign up Website
2/1 - 2/7	South Dakota	Matt Holden, KØBBC	mtholden@gmail.com	ok.arrl.org/w1awsd
4/19 - 4/25	North Dakota	Lynn Nelson, WØND	lnelson@arrl.org	ok.arrl.org/w1awnd
5/10 - 5/16	Minnesota	Don WA6ZMT, Jim KØMHC	arrl_mn_acc@donkelly.biz	ok.arrl.org/w1awmn
7/19 - 7/25	South Dakota	Matt Holden, KØBBC	mtholden@gmail.com	ok.arrl.org/w1awsd
8/2 - 8/8	Minnesota	Don WA6ZMT, Jim KØMHC	arrl_mn_acc@donkelly.biz	ok.arrl.org/w1awmn
8/23 - 8/29	North Dakota	Lynn Nelson, WØND	lnelson@arrl.org	ok.arrl.org/w1awnd

VOTA

Along with chasing the W1AW/x stations, it's fun to search and find volunteers to work. Tune around the bands to find those calling CQ VOTA and work them or call CQ VOTA yourself. Some people will have a short QSO while others exchange just enough information to make it a valid QSO and move onto the next person. I try to work a few every day when I'm home. A great way to honor and thank those that volunteer their time and service to amateur radio and the ARRL organization. Hopefully, I'll work some of you this way.

WORLD AMATEUR RADIO DAY

APRIL 18

World Amateur Radio Day (WARD) recognizes the founding of the International Amateur Radio Union on April 18, 1925. The first president was Hiram Percy Maxim.

On World Amateur Radio Day all radio amateurs are invited to take to the airwaves to enjoy our global friendship with other amateurs and to show our skills and capabilities to the public. More details can be found in the online article.

[View article....](#)

STATE QSO PARTIES

MINNESOTA

Minnesota held their annual QSO Party February 4. Activity was strong with good 15- & 10-Meter conditions resulting more QSO's to be made. As a result, several new scoring records were set. Hope to see many of you in next year's party February 3, 2024. Full results are on the website.

[MNQP Results](#)

NORTH DAKOTA

APRIL 15 & 16

North Dakota is next up for the Division QSO Parties, April 15 & 16. This is a fun event to do mobile or portable as so many are looking for work different ND counties. This is your opportunity to be the "rare" DX so get on the air and have fun. See the link for full rules and details.

[NDQP Rules](#)

SOUTH DAKOTA

OCTOBER 14 & 15

Closing out the season is the South Dakota QSO Party October 14 & 15. This is another fun event where you are the "rare" DX when activating a rare county that many are looking for to earn the Worked All Counties award. Another fun location to operate from mobile, having done that the last two years. Full details in the link.

[SDQP Rules](#)

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

This section will highlight clubs in the division and what they are doing. With the number of clubs in the division good chance we will try to spotlight two or three clubs each newsletter. Work with your Section Manager or Affiliated Club Coordinator to be considered.

WINONA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Winona ARC in Winona, MN is strong into public service. Most recently local agencies requested the club to aid in the search for a missing person. Amateurs used the served agencies equipment. These agencies were pleased with the "radio discipline and effectiveness of the hams" and recognized the value of having hams as communicators.

Other public service events include Skywarn, Winona Rotary Ride the Ridges bicycle event, Waumandee Vintage Car Time Trials, and Trinona Triathlon. Some of these events cover a large area requiring using multiple repeaters, portable repeaters and APRS.

The club has 42 members. The city is in southeast MN on the Mississippi River with a population of about 26,000. It has two universities and is home to several industries including Fastenal and Wenonah Canoe. Link to the club's website is below.

[Website](#)

VE TESTING

Date	Time	Type	Location	Reserve	Sponsor	Website
April 13	6:30 PM	Online		Yes	Maple Grove RC	Exam.mnyarc.org
April 14	10:00 AM	Online		Yes	Maple Grove RC	Exam.mnyarc.org
April 22	9:00 AM	In Person	E Grand Forks, MN	Yes	Forx RC	www.wa0jxt.org/general-8
May 6		In Person	Superior, WI	aa0aw@arrl.net	Arrowhead RAC	thearac.org/hamfest.htm
May 6	10:00 AM	In Person	Roseville, MN	Yes	St Paul RC	stpaulradioclub.org/
May 11	6:30 PM	Online		Yes	Maple Grove RC	Exam.mnyarc.org
May 12	10:00 AM	Online		Yes	Maple Grove RC	Exam.mnyarc.org
May 23	7:00 PM	In Person	Bismarck, ND	Yes	Central Dakota ARC	

Send details of your test session to ac0w@arrl.org to be included in the newsletter

DIVISION HAMFESTS - ARRL SANCTIONED

Date	Time	City	Club	Website	ARRL Reps
April 15	9:00 - 1:00	Brainerd, MN	Brainerd Area ARC	http://brainerdham.org	DIR, SM, CC
April 22	8:00 - 1:00	E Grand Forks, MN	Forx ARC	http://www.wa0jxt.org	DIR, VD, SM
May 6	8:00 - 12:00	Superior, WI	Arrowhead RAC	https://thearac.org/	DIR, VD, CC
June 3	9:00 - 5:00	Plymouth, MN	Aurora 23 - NLRS	http://www.NLRS.club	TBD
June 17	8:00 - 12:00	Plymouth, MN	Twin City FM Club	https://tcfmc.org	TBD
June 24	June 25	FIELD DAY			

Abbreviations: DIR - Director; VD - Vice Director; SM - Section Manager; CC - Card Checker

DIVISION CONTACTS**Director**

Bill Lippert AC0W
ac0w@arrl.org

Vice Director

Lynn Nelson W0ND
w0nd@arrl.org

Section Managers**Minnesota**

Bill Mitchell AE0EE
AE0EE@arrl.org

North Dakota

Ralph Fettig N0RDF
N0RDF@arrl.org

South Dakota

Chris Stallkamp KI0D
KI0D@arrl.org