



The Hudson ???

ARRL HUDSON DIVISION NEWSLETTER

2025 HUDSON DIVISION CONVENTION SCHEDULED JULY 13

The 2025 ARRL Hudson Division Convention will be held at the Sussex County Amateur Radio Club Hamfest on Sunday, July 13th 2025. The SCARC Hamfest will be at the Sussex County Farm & Horse Show Fairgrounds, 37 Plains Road, Augusta, NJ.

According to Hudson Division Director Ed Wilson N2XDD, several ARRL events are planned to take place as part of the convention. These include an ARRL Membership Forum, a clean signal update from the ARRL Lab and possibly a remote radio demonstration.

Wilson is also asking about the inclusion of possible 30 to 45 minute presentations as part of the convention offerings.

A VE testing session will be held starting at 10 AM at the Fairgrounds Administration



Building.

Sussex County Farm & Horse Show Fairgrounds site offers 270,000 square feet of outdoor tailgate space (over six acres) and 10,000 square feet of indoor space.

There will be food, door prizes and plenty of parking.

Admission will be \$8, indoor tables \$25, tailgate space including one admission \$25.

Gates open at 6:00am on July 13 for sellers/tailgaters

and 8:00am for buyers.

Vendors are reminded that there is not electricity available outdoors. Please bring your own table and chair. Saturday setup is available after 6 PM. Overnight camping is available. (RV \$55/ others \$30)

No pets are permitted on Fairground property. No food or drink sales by sellers are permitted and they must leave spaces clean.

For further information and advance registration write to Brian Brunsch, KC2YON, PO Box 312, Augusta NY 07822 or email hamfest@scarcnj.org.

www.sussexhamfest.org

Fairground location is: 37 Plains Road, Augusta, NJ 07822

Talk in: 147.300+ (PL 151.4)

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NEWSLETTER NAMED... ALMOST

As you may recall, we introduced our new, bi-monthly Hudson Division newsletter back in March. Thanks to all who have commented.

At that time we gave this missive an interim name of *The Hudson ???*

We also opened a contest for members of the Division to give this a permanent name.

The good news is that we received many suggestions by the April 10 deadline.

The bad news is that we

had enough choices that we are still sorting through them as of this issue's publication. Thanks to all who submitted!

The new name (and the winner of the ARRL Handbook) will be announced in the next issue. 73– KM2O

**SAVE THE
DATE!**

**SUNDAY
JULY 13**

**The Hudson
Division
Convention
Returns!**

Augusta NJ



Flea at RPI—RPI's Amateur Radio Club, Troy NY

"ExamTools offers a modern, web-based solution that simplifies the administration of amateur radio exams."



Upcoming Hamfests and Conventions

05/04/2025 - Orange County

Hamfest: Mountainville, NY
Sponsor: Orange County Amateur Radio Club
<http://www.ocarcny.org>

05/18/2025 - Splitrock ARA Tail-

gate Hamfest: Landing, NJ
Sponsor: Splitrock Amateur Radio Association
<http://Splitrockara.org>

05/24/2025 - Bergen Amateur

Radio Association Spring Ham-
fest: Washington Township, NJ
Sponsor: Bergen Amateur Radio Association
<http://www.bara.org>

05/31/2025 - OMARC Spring

Hamfest: Spring Lake, NJ
Sponsor: Ocean Monmouth Amateur Radio Club
<http://www.n2mo.org>

06/07/2025 - East Greenbush

Amateur Radio Association 2025
Hamfest: Rensselaer, NY
Sponsor: East Greenbush Amateur Radio Association

06/08/2025 - Long Island Hamfest

and Electronics Fair: Bethpage, NY
Sponsor: Long Island Mobile Amateur Radio Club
<http://www.limarc.org>

06/14/2025 - Fair Lawn ARC

Hamfest: Fair Lawn, NJ
Sponsor: Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club

06/21/2025 - Raritan Valley Radio

Club 2025 Hamfest: Piscataway, NJ
Sponsor: Raritan Valley Radio Club
Website: <http://w2qw.org/>

Exam Tools is Coming to VE Sessions Near You

For those involved in the world of amateur radio, both aspiring operators and volunteer examiners benefit from innovative tools designed to make studying and exam administration more efficient and accessible. Two standout resources in this space are HamStudy.org and ExamTools.org—closely integrated platforms that

streamline the process from learning to licensing.

ExamTools: Modern Testing for Volunteer Examiners

For Volunteer Examiners (VEs), ExamTools offers a modern, web-based solution that simplifies the administration of amateur radio exams. This innovative sys-

tem enhances efficiency, accuracy, and flexibility in the testing process.

Key features include:

Digital Exam Administration: Exams can be administered on computers or tablets, eliminating the need for paper in many cases.

(Continued pg. 4 EXAMS)

Recently Established School Club Rapidly Grows New Hams

Founded in 2024, the Staten Island Technical High School Amateur Radio League, call sign WS1THS, seeks to explore hands-on amateur radio applications in club and engineering classes. According to the club's QRZ.com page, "Our current strength is the promotion of ham radio to individ-

uals that usually have no idea what it is and getting students licensed/learning."

At last report, the club boasts 399 licensed students from the program. This includes 319 Technician Class, 62 General Class and 18 Amateur Extra licensees.

The station trustee, Staten

Island Technical High School teacher, Everton Henriques, KD2ZZT has participated in two levels of the ARRL Teacher's Institute and credits it for bringing "a ton of great lessons, experiences, and collaborative friendships back home!"

Join the Hudson Division Discord

The ARRL Hudson Division is now on Discord! Discord is a great platform to connect and chat with like minded peers. It is very simple to join the ARRL Hudson Division Discord!

First, go to our website (www.hudson.arrl.org), and click on News and Discord. There you will find an invite link. Clicking on that will take you directly to Discord, where it will ask you to accept the invite. If you do not

already have a discord account, it will walk you through the setup process! Now you are in and able to stay up to date on what everyone is doing in the Hudson Division! Discord is available on phones and computers. Please remember to keep it clean and family friendly, just like on the airwaves!

Clubs in our Division, like W2WCR and W2SZ are also on Discord! If you would like to setup a Discord Serv-

er for your club, please feel free to let me know, and I'd be happy to help!

Adam Koeble - KD2YFY

W2WCR Club President

ARRL Hudson Division Assistant Director



Discord

New Documents on Club Activities and Hamfests

The ARRL has released some new documents for affiliated clubs.

The first of these is a newly revised Active Club Primer. The document, available at: <https://www.arrl.org/active-club-primer>

It is described as "a compilation and update of the best of ARRL ideas. This primer is

loaded with helpful links and ideas galore to get your club enlivened!"

The Primer includes sections on programs and activities, boosting attendance and engaging with local events and much, much more.

The other document regards one of our favorite club activities, namely hamfests. A new-

ly revised Official Rules and Regulations Concerning ARRL Hamfests and Conventions has been posted at: <https://www.arrl.org/files/file/Rules%20for%20Hamfests%20Trunkfests%20Conventions.pdf>

If your club holds, or may be planning to hold, a hamfest or trunkfest, this new guidance is a must read.

"This primer is loaded with helpful links and ideas galore to get your club enlivened!"

Get Ready for Field Day 2025

ARRL Field Day is coming! The largest event in amateur radio occurs on the fourth weekend of June, this year June 28 & 29.

Ham radio's open house has something for just about everyone. Setting up temporary stations provides all of us with a way to showcase our hobby by demonstrating science,

skill and community service as well as opportunities for even seasoned hams to learn new things.

Has your club begun planning this annual event yet? If not, what are you waiting for?

The theme this year is "Radio Connects" with a goal of highlighting how wireless

technology connects people across distances near and far.

Rules and information for Field Day 2025 are up on the arrl.org website. Remember to use the Field Day Locator to put your club on the map so that others (including your ARRL leadership) may find you. See you on the air!





ARRL's mission is to promote and protect the art, science, and enjoyment of amateur radio, and to develop the next generation of radio amateurs.

ARRL HUDSON DIVISION

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VISIT US AT
HUDSON.ARRL.ORG

The ARRL Hudson Division covers portions of New York and New Jersey. It includes three Sections:

Eastern New York (ENY) including the counties of Albany, Columbia, Dutchess, Greene, Orange, Putnam, Rensselaer, Rockland, Saratoga, Schenectady, Sullivan, Ulster, Warren, Washington, Westchester.

New York City & Long Island (NLI) including All of New York City (Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens, Staten Island) and Long Island (Nassau, Suffolk)

Northern New Jersey (NNJ) including the counties of Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union, Warren.

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Exam Tools

Exams (continued from pg.2)

Flexible Testing Formats: Whether using paper, tablet-based, or fully remote online testing, ExamTools adapts to the needs of each session.

Randomized Test Generation: Generate secure, unique exams for Elements 2 (Technician), 3 (General), and 4 (Amateur Extra).

Automated Grading: Instantly scores tests to eliminate human error and streamline the exam day process.

Electronic Signatures: Enables fast and secure digital signing of NCVEC Form 605 and Certificates of Successful Completion.

Faster Upload and Processing: Completed sessions are uploaded quickly to the FCC, speeding up license

issuance.

In recognition of these benefits, the ARRL (American Radio Relay League)—the largest organization of amateur radio operators in the U.S.—is transitioning to using ExamTools for all VE testing. This move mirrors the growing trend among Volunteer Examiner teams nationwide. By adopting ExamTools, the ARRL is providing its examiners with greater flexibility, reliability, and efficiency, ensuring a smoother experience for both examiners and candidates.

Guidance and Support from the Hudson Division

We know that change can feel overwhelming. Many are understandably cautious when

moving away from long-established methods. However, a dedicated group of us in the Hudson Division have committed ourselves to helping any Volunteer Examiner team interested in making the transition to ExamTools.

We've already supported several groups through the process, and the feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. The ease of use, speed of processing, and flexible testing options have made a noticeable difference for both examiners and candidates.

Nicole Adams, - AD2IM

SCRC Secretary

ARRL Hudson Division Assistant Director