

KY AFFILIATED CLUB COORDINATOR

STEVE MORGAN W4NHO

OWENSBORO, KY 42301

email: w4nho@arrl.net

KY AMERICA250 – WAS OPERATING EVENT

A. MARCH 18, 0000Z (TUESDAY MARCH 17, 2026 8 PM EST)

B. SEPT. 9, 0000Z (TUESDAY SEPT. 10, 2026 8 PM EDT)

<https://affiliated-clubs.arrl.org>

Hello, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from your Kentucky ARRL Section. As we move through the holiday season, planning for the AMERICA250 operating event 2026 for Kentucky has begun. Each Section will have two opportunities to operate W1AW/X. KY will be operating W1AW/4. The first event will be March 18 0000z – March 24 2359z.

This event is centered around each affiliated club. During the event, it is encouraged that each operator that will be operating, be an ARRL member. Each operating event, the operator should log their contacts with N3FJP or N1MM or similar logging software to log their contacts and form an ADIF log. That log will be sent to me concluding your operating event. Please see additional information regarding contact operation on page 2.

It is very important that your club has up to date information regarding the contact person, officers etc. for your club. If your club has been affiliated, or is currently not on the club list, your club maybe on the inactive list. Request to be moved from inactive list from HQ. It is not to late become an affiliated club. Please go arrl.org/club-update or the above ACC club page in the header. If not affiliated, seek the link for application in club resources. As an affiliated club, you are required to update annually. Please note there are several clubs that have bad contact information for their club.

Shortly, there will be posted a url link to register for operating. For the event, each club will seek a 4 to 8 hour window. During this window, you will be operating available modes from LF to Satellite. We have approximately 42 clubs at this time. Using a 4 hour time slot, would give each club one bite of the apple. Remember, there will be two operating events for the year. This is not a contest. QSLs will be not be exchanged. Contacts will be uploaded to LOTW by HQ. Also, remember if you happened to work a DX or grid location that you need, it cannot be used for personal use.

Good luck – Have Fun representing W1AW. Watch for the URL registration and updates.

Steve Morgan W4NHO, ACC

Operating W1AW/Portable (0-9, KG/KH/KL/KP, etc),

Guidelines for 2026 United States Semiquincentennial

ARRL WAS-250 Worked All States Award

Summary: In a fashion similar to the 2023 Volunteers on The Air (VOTA), ARRL will be celebrating the **Year of The Club**, as well as the **100th Anniversary of the ARRL Field Organization**, and we will be holding a **Year-Long Worked All States (WAS-250)** operating event to recognize the 250th Anniversary (Semiquincentennial) of the Declaration of Independence.

To seek the operating event WAS-250 Award, all QSOs must be uploaded to, and confirmed by both QSO Partners, within Logbook of The World (LoTW).

This Award will be applied for within LoTW, and usual WAS Award Processing Fees will be applicable. There will also be Endorsements that include working all 50 States: The Endorsements include WAS by Band, by any or all of the three Modes (CW/Phone/Digital), Satellite, Working all 50-States contacting W1AW/Portable Stations, and Working all 50 States by Contacting ARRL Affiliated Club Stations (ARRL will look at the call signs confirmed and compare it against the Club Affiliations Club Call Sign data base to determine how many of the stations worked represented Affiliated Clubs).

As an operating event, ARRL will be seeking to identify W1AW/Portable stations to activate twice during the year from each States (and US Territories). We will also be on-the-air with W1AW (not portable) from Connecticut throughout the year with guest operators, and activation by staff (especially during the IARU HF Contest {2nd weekend in July}).

In the coming weeks, ARRL HQ will be working with the Section Managers and their Affiliated Club Coordinators to identify Stations in their Sections/States to activate a period of two (2) 7-day weeks (beginning midweek on a Wednesday at 0000 UTC and running through the following Tuesday at 2359 UTC) activating as many bands (excluding 60 Meters) as possible (on the three modes of CW, Phone and Digital) within their respective States (coordinating with adjoining SMs/ACCs in States with multiple sections) to have no more than three (3) W1AW/Portable Stations (one on each mode) on the air at a given time from the State (one on CW, one on Phone and one on Digital). [This is to ensure that there is no overlapping multiband/multimode operations, particularly where any possible interference to non-Amateur Services might be identified by FCC, but we would not be able to immediately determine where the interference was emanating if two different stations were on the same band and mode, both using the same W1AW/Portable# call sign.]

Operating Etiquette: Use of the W1AW call sign (just as you would with your own call sign) is a privilege, and you want to show best practices and courtesy when operating. Operators must be polite at all times. Operators must operate using the privileges granted only by their personal license class

serving as a control operator (or within the operator privileges of the highest-class Control Operator

present and observing operations – Eg, a Novice/Technician Class license holder, however, can operate on General Class or above bands provided a properly licensed Control Operator is present with them at all times.)

Goodwill: While the object of the WAS-250 Worked All States event is to hand out as many contacts with W1AW/Portable States as possible, operators are encouraged to explain the celebrations of 2026 (Semiquincentennial ARRL WAS-250 Worked All States Award {together with the Year of The Club and 100th Anniversary of the Field Organization} to the degree that your operating time may allow. Encourage other operators to get on the air, make contacts, and have fun. Calling “CQ WAS-250” is a great way to draw attention.

Operating frequencies must be selected carefully to avoid conflicts. Even if a frequency sounds clear, the operator should ask at least two times if it is in use before calling CQ [eg, complaints about being too close to a net or SSTV frequency (ie: the 14.300 MHz International Maritime Net, or frequencies that may be needed during weather related emergencies such as the Hurricane Watch Nets on 14.325 MHz or 7.268 MHz, and SATERN Net on 7.262 MHz) must be resolved by QSYing, not by arguing.] **Operators must avoid operating too close to license class or band edges as well.**

Bands: Activity is encouraged on as many bands (including WARC band) from 2200 Meters LF through all of HF; all of VHF/UHF/SHF, all of the Microwave bands and via Light (excluding 60 Meters), on each of the three modes (CW/Phone/Digital), as may be possible. Please balance CW and Phone activations against the ease of just making digital contacts.

Goodwill: While the object of the VOTA Operating Event is to hand out as many contacts with W1AW/xx as possible, operators are encouraged to briefly detail the event and its purpose should operating time allow. Encourage other operators to get on the air, make contacts, and have fun. Calling “CQ VOTA” is a great way to draw attention.

QSLs: There are NO QSL cards available (from ARRL HQ) for any of the W1AW/Portable WAS-250 operating event stations during this event. All W1AW/Portable contacts will be confirmed via LoTW. Stations who contact W1AW at ARRL HQ can either upload such contacts to LoTW and/or can send QSL

Cards (with SASE) to W1AW, ARRL HQ, 225 Main St, Newington CT 06111 -- for contacts only made

directly with the W1AW Hiram Percy Maximum Memorial Station.

As soon as ARRL has LoTW update and announcements made for the WAS-250 Award, applying for the WAS-250 Award can be made via LoTW once a minimum of 50 State QSO Confirmations appear in LoTW. After the initial WAS-250 Award and Certificate are issued, Endorsements can be sought (these will be supplied as WAS-250 Endorsement Stickers to apply onto your WAS-250 Award Certificate).

Very Important:

Logging: As it is expected that a W1AW/Portable operations will make hundreds of QSOs over the course of their operating periods, it is important that logging be done by computer using ADIF format.

ELECTRONIC LOGGING MUST BE PERFORMED DURING THE COURSE OF THE OPERATING EVENT! NO PAPER LOGS WILL BE ACCEPTED!

MAKE PERIODIC BACKUPS OF THE LOGGING FILE THAT YOU HAVE IN USE.

Commonly used logging software such as N1MMLogger+ is recommended, but any software that will generate an ADIF-formatted file is acceptable.

Ensure that each band/mode operating station is prepared to supply ALL station data in every QSO line (such as county, grid square, CQ/ITU zones, etc.)

ARRL HQ will perform the ADIF file uploads to LoTW, as only we have the LoTW call sign certificates to sign and upload W1AW logs.

SUBMITTING LOGS TO ARRL HQ IMMEDIATELY AFTER EACH PORTABLE ACTIVATION

Within 10 days after the operating event, participating States/Host-Coordinationators must upload their

single/final log to w1aw@arrl.org ARRL is the holder of all W1AW/# TQSL Call Sign Certificates used for

signing and uploading files to Logbook of The World. Your individual band/mode ADIF-formatted log

files can be imported/assembled using this tool – this will allow each State Host/Coordinator to assemble one single W1AW/# log for transmission to w1aw@arrl.org Be sure to enter the call signs of

ALL operators of all stations when using the log-assembly tool.

See next two pages for details of the tool with links in the below to follow (As used with VOTA in 2023, this procedure will be used for submitting your logs):

KY AFFILATED CLUBS DEC 2025

Amateur Radio Community Services
Amateur Radio Emergency Team Of Northern Kentucky Inc
AMATEUR RADIO TRANSMITTING SOCIETY INC
ANDERSON RADIO CLUB
Bath County High School
Big Sandy ARC
Bluegrass ARS
BULLITT AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
CENTRAL KENTUCKY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
CENTRAL KENTUCKY ARC
DERBY CITY DX ASSOCIATION
Fulton County Amateur Radio Club
GREATER CINCINNATI AMATEUR RADIO ASSOC
GREATER MASON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSN
HANCOCK AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION
Hardin County Amateur Radio Communications, Inc
Harrison County Amateur Radio Club
JESSAMINE AMATEUR WIRELESS SOCIETY INC (JAWS)
Kentucky Colonel Amateur Radio Club
KENTUCKY CONTEST GROUP
KENTUCKY DX ASSOCIATION
Kentucky Mountains ARC
KENTUCKY RADIO OPERATORS
Kosair ARC
KY DISTRICT 7 AR EMERGENCY TEAM, INC.
Lake Cumberland Amateur Radio Association
Louisville American Red Cross Radio Club
Midland Trail Radio Club
Morehead Amateur Radio Society
Murray State Univ ARC
Nelson County KY Post 42 American Legion Amateur Radio Club
Northern Kentucky Amateur Radio Club
OWENSBORO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
PADUCAH AMATEUR RADIO ASSN
Purchase Area Amateur Radio Society, Inc.
RIVER CITIES AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION
SCOTT COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO AND EMERGENCY
Simpson County Amateur Radio Society
SIMPSON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

Southern Kentucky Amateur Transmitting Society

STUBBLEFIELD REPEATER CLUB

Western KY DX Association

WILDERNESS OUTBACK DX CREW

Wilderness Road Amateur Radio

WOODFORD COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB