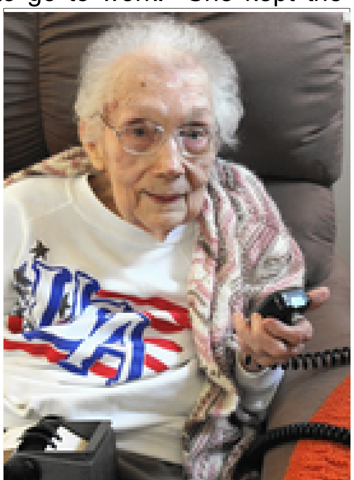
The Ham Arundel News

Providing Fellowship and Community Service through Amateur Radio Since 1951

November 2018 ***40th Year of Publication***

Welcome To the "HOLLY NET" "Are there any lurkers out there?"

This phrase was frequently heard on the "morning net" as Miss Holly would try to contact those hams up early to go to work. She kept the 'morning net' going for more than 3 decades almost every work day. Occasionally, but not very often, she may miss one of the morning travel nets. Miss Holly gave everyone that cheerful voice over W3VPR repeater 147.105 MHz greeting all the travelers she could talk with. It was an informal net and everyone enjoyed it. Many others would simply be listeners and looked forward to each work day travel.



Miss "Holly" Bevan, N3MB (sk)

Margaret Holloway was born on March 20, 1916 in White Pine TN,, which lies between Roanoke, Va and Knoxville, TN. According to Wikipedia, the motto of the town now is "Honoring our history, preparing for our future".

Our 'Miss Holly' was in the first group to enlist in the U.S. Navy Waves (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service) a WWII branch of the Navy Reserve. "In her billet, four of the 8 ladies were named Margaret", according to an article from the Arundel Camera Club, So Margaret became 'Holly', during her time in the WAVES. This was better than 'Maggie', as Miss Holly said that "she never had a nickname".

So 'Holly' came from her last name. She was reported to have said, "I don't know why, but it (changing her name to 'Holly') made me more outgoing "

She married Wilbur Bevan on October 27 1944. Then in 1951, Wilbur and Holly moved to California. Their son Michael was born there in 1952. In 1953, the family moved to Maryland where they lived except for a two year period in the 1960's when Wilbur worked on Maui, Hawaii.

Holly's son, Mike, is 'blamed' for bringing her into the lives here at the Anne Arundel Radio Club. He happily signed her up for the Amateur Radio License class many years ago.

"Holly' was a lifetime member of the AARC. She was 101 years young and participated as a member for decades when she past away.

Holly was also an ARRL MDC Assistant Section Manager." says Marty Pittinger, KB3MXM, MDC Section Manager, ARRL.

With that as the background, the Anne Arundel Radio Club decided to honor "Miss Holly" by re-activating the 'morning net' and to commemorate her over 30 years of active service the the AARC the net will be known as THE HOLLY NET.

To keep in the same track as Miss Holly, we are opening the net up to other operators who would like to help out as Net Control Operator. As with Miss Holly, this is an informal net. Welcoming all hams in the area.

If you would like to join the band of Net Control Operators, please contact Jim Wallace, N3ADF, at N3ADF@verizon.net.

The Anne Arundel Radio Club Newsletter, November 2018
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APRS Digipeater Is Now Operational at Anne Arundel Radio Club

Gordon Davids (WJ3K) reports that he and John Williams (K8JW) installed and set up the Automated Automated Packet Reporting System (APRS) Digipeater at the AARC clubhouse on Friday 26 October, using the high west side antenna. It operates on the normal APRS network frequency of 144.390 MHz, beaconing every five minutes with a beacon text string of

!3854.19N/07639.15Wr147.105MHz T107 +060

That includes the geographical coordinates of the site, and the frequency, PL tone, and offset, of the 147.105 wide-area repeater. The radio is an Alinco DR-135, with an nternal Terminal Node Controller (Argent Data Systems OT-135)..

Some of its functions can be controlled remotely by designated operators sending APRS messages properly ddressed and formatted. I will monitor it regularly to make ure that it properly fills its purpose.

It can be seen and monitored on the Internet with:
https://aprs.fi/#!call=a%2FW3VPR-1&timerange=3600&tail=3600.

This digipeater will fill a major gap in the APRS network between Annapolis and Bowie.

73,
Keith Miller, AE3D
AARC Club Secretary
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ANNE ARUNDEL RADIO CLUB

Slate of Officers for 2019

In accordance with the bylaws, this serves to notify AARC members of the upcoming Election of Directors.

The slate for the upcoming election is as follows:

Please vote for only ONE candidate for each office.

President: Keith Miller, AE3D
Vice Pres: Tim Nagel, KB3YQK, or
Bruce Strackbein, (WR3Q)
Secretary: Steve Grimaud, (W3SWG)
Treasurer: William W Muzlera-Mooney, (KA3UQQ)

Directors: (**Vote for 3)**
Eric Berman, (KC3GDV)
Larry Booth, (AA3AU)
VACANT

Information on each candidate should be available on the web site via a link on the page where the nominee list is. Provision will be made for write-in candidates when the election is held.

The election will be held at the "Annual Meeting", December 6, 2018, at 7:30 p.m. at the AARC Clubhouse.

Amateur Radio Assets Active as Category 4 Hurricane Michael Makes Landfall

An array of Amateur Radio public service assets was active as Hurricane Michael -- now a tropical storm -- made landfall near Mexico Beach on the Florida Panhandle on October 10, with devastating 155 MPH winds. The storm is believed to be the first Category 4 or stronger hurricane to hit the Florida Panhandle, and the National Hurricane Center (NHC) warned of life-threatening storm surge as well as hurricane-force winds and heavy rainfall.

The Hurricane Watch Net (HWN) activated on October 10 and closed operations the following day.

WX4NHC, the Amateur Radio at the National Hurricane Center, was active to receive observed weather information and data via Amateur Radio to aid forecasters.

The VoIP Hurricane Net activated on October 10 to support communication with the National Hurricane Center.

The Southern Territory Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN) stood down on October 11. SATERN was requested to provide Amateur Radio operators for Pensacola, Panama City, Tallahassee, and Tampa, as well as some local units in Georgia, and at Divisional Headquarters in Atlanta.

The ARRL North Florida and West Central Florida sections assisted SATERN with additional operators in Pensacola, Panama City, Tallahassee, and Tampa. North Florida Section ARES was at Level 1 (full) activation.

Miller Norton, W4EMN, the Communications Watch Officer at the Duval County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in Jacksonville, Florida, was monitoring SARnet -- a UHF-linked repeater network in Florida -- when he heard an urgent call for help that needed to be sent to the State EOC in Tallahassee. All other forms of communication were out, and Norton was able to relay the message to via Amateur Radio. He also passed along messages and requests from the Jackson County EOC to the American Red Cross. Norton said officials in Tallahassee and Jackson County were both incredibly grateful for the way the SARnet system functioned during the weather emergency.

Jackson County Emergency Coordinator Ricky Whittington, KD4AST, is deployed to the county EOC in Marianna.

"We took a direct hit by the center of the storm at 140 MPH," he told Clay County ARES Assistant Emergency Coordinator and Public Information Officer Scott Roberts, KK4ECR. "[The] county maintenance building across the road from the EOC was picked up and slammed into the north side and over the roof of the EOC just prior to the eye passing over."

The incident took out the HF antenna, which has since been restored. Whittington said the internet failed, as did cell service for a while. Hams have been passing material and resource orders to the State EOC via HF and SARnet. Whitting reported "total devastation of Bay, Jackson, and Gulf counties," with loss of electrical power and water service, in addition to damage in Franklin, Holmes, and Leon counties. "[The] *only* mode of communications after the eye came across was ham radio, until we got minimal cell service a few hours ago," he reported.

The ARRL Emergency Response Team has been coordinating with Field Organization leadership in ARRL Sections affected by the storm, as well as with WX4NHC, the HWN, VoIP Hurricane Net, Department of Homeland Security SHARES, and US Army MARS.

Used with permission The ARRL Letter for October 11, 2018

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Ham Aid Kits Positioned to Deploy as Typhoon Yutu Ravages Central Pacific Islands

In a little more than one day, the cyclone that became Super Typhoon Yutu grew from tropical storm to a Category 5 monster. Yutu is said to be the strongest storm on record to hit the Northern Mariana Islands, home to about 55,000 people. The storm made landfall on Wednesday evening (October 24), destroying homes, wreaking severe wind and storm-surge damage and flooding, and knocking out water, power, and telecommunications on the islands. Utilities could remain down for an extended period.

Before reaching the islands, Yutu's sustained winds were reported to be 175 MPH. The storm is now tracking northwest toward the Philippines and Taiwan.

ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager Mike Corey, KI1U, said that four ARRL HF/VHF **Ham Aid** kits in Guam are available for use in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), a US territory. Another

seven kits are positioned in Hawaii. Corey said that radio amateurs in Guam and Hawaii are attempting to get in touch with hams who can assist on Saipan, part of the CNMI. Amateur Radio teams that had planned to operate in the CQ World Wide DX SSB Contest from Saipan this weekend have cancelled their trips.

"There is a small group of radio amateurs on Saipan who do VHF work," Corey said. "We are in process of reaching out to them, as well as to radio amateurs who go to Saipan and Tinian for the CQ WW DX SSB event."

While Guam is reporting no serious communication issues, public service communication on Saipan is offline. Several stations in Hawaii, including large contest stations, have HF capability to Guam and Saipan, and three stations have agreed to pass traffic to Guam/Saipan if needed, Corey said. These include the five-position contest station station of Lloyd Cabral, KH6LC, on Hawaii's Big Island; the station of Doug Morgan, KH6U, on Oahu, and the six-position contest stations of Kimo Chung, KH7U, and the Koolau Amateur Radio Club, KH6J, on Oahu.

According to information received by ARRL from the Amateur Radio community in Hawaii, Guam, and Saipan, one station was showing up on DMR, but that would likely be of little use if the internet is down. One PACTOR-4-equipped station is available on Guam, and Winlink (radio email) gateways exist in Hawaii.

"There are no transportation arrangements available to ARRL at this time to move Ham Aid kits from Hawaii to Guam," Corey said. "We don't intend to move them unless we have operators in Guam/Saipan to use them."

The Marianas Amateur Radio Club (AH2G) in Guam has **posted photos and updates** from Saipan on its website.

Used with permissionThe ARRL Letter for October 25, 2018

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US Ham-Astronaut, Russian Cosmonaut Safe in Wake of *Soyuz* Launch Failure

A Russian *Soyuz* spacecraft crew launch to the International Space Station (ISS) suffered a booster failure that resulted in an emergency flight abort shortly after lift-off from Kazakhstan on October 11, but the crew is safe. On board the *Soyuz* MS-10 were US Astronaut Nick Hague, KG5TMV, and Russian Cosmonaut Aleksey Ovchinin. NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine promised "a thorough investigation."

"Shortly after launch, there was an anomaly with the booster and the launch ascent was aborted, resulting in a ballistic landing of the spacecraft," Bridenstine said. "Search-and-rescue teams were deployed to the landing site. Hague and Ovchinin are out of the capsule and are reported to be in good condition." The pair has since been transported to the Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Center in Star City. This was Hague's first launch and Ovchinin's second.

Early this month, NASA issued a statement regarding the late-August discovery of a 2-millimeter hole in the wall of the *Soyuz* capsule that is now docked to the ISS. The resulting air pressure leak has since been repaired. There is no indication the launch failure and the mystery hole in the last *Soyuz* launched are connected.

Roscosmos said the hole was not drilled by accident, and posited that it may have been drilled by a technician on the ground. Roscosmos Director General Dmitry Rogozin earlier had ruled out a manufacturing defect.

"[This] indicates that this is an isolated issue which does not categorically affect future production," the NASA statement said. "This conclusion does not necessarily mean the hole was created intentionally or with mal-intent."

NASA and Roscosmos launched an investigation, and a November spacewalk was planned to gather more information.

In the wake of the *Soyuz* failure, operations to transport ISS crew members have been suspended. The current ISS crew of cosmonaut Sergey Prokopyev and astronauts Serena Auñón-Chancellor, KG5TMT, and Alexander Gerst, KF5ONO, is scheduled to return to Earth in December.

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The Anne Arundel Radio Club is a registered 501C3 charity. We are pleased to receive any donations over your yearly dues.

Anne Arundel Radio Club NEWS

The *Ham Arundel News* is the monthly official publication of

The Anne Arundel Radio Club, Inc.
(ARRL Club No. 0484).

Editor: Milford Craig / N3WYG
Send newsletter articles, questions and information to **Milford** at **newsletter@w3vpr.org**
Deadline for submissions – The Saturday after the 3rd Thursday of the month

Mailing Address:
Anne Arundel Radio Club
Post Office Box 308
Davidsonville, MD 21035

Meetings:
General Business 1st Thursday at 7:30 PM
Board Meeting 2nd Thursday at 7:30 PM
Program/Activity 3rd Thursday at 7:30 PM

Dues:
$30 per year, payable December 1st
Discounts available for family members and students

World Wide Web: **www.w3vpr.org**

AARC Supports The Maryland Slow Net:
3.563 MHz CW 7:30 P. M. Daily

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Free Money for AARC!
ARRL Membership Reminder

ARRL affiliated clubs receive a commission for every new ARRL membership and renewal they submit to ARRL Headquarters. Clubs retain a portion of the dues for each regular or senior membership submitted to ARRL Headquarters:

Clubs retain $15 for each new membership OR lapsed membership (of two years or more).
Clubs retain $2 for each renewal,
A RENEWING MEMBER can renew at any time, even before their current membership expires.

Send your application and payment (made out to AARC) to the club treasurer.

Mark Your Calendars

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Club Meetings are held on the first and third Thursdays of the month from 7:30 to 9PM at the clubhouse located at the Davidsonville Family Recreation Center in Davidsonville, MD

Free License Exams every 2nd Saturday of the Month - Check in at Noon, Exams at 1PM - At the clubhouse - Contact Rick Steer AB3XJ, testing@w3vpr.org

Weekly AARC 2-Meter Net on 147.105 (Typically linked to 147.075 and 444.400) every Wednesday at 8 PM - All Welcome

2 meter "HOLLY NET" on 147.105 (Typically linked to 147.075 and 444.400) every morning 7:00 am to 9:00 am. All hams are welcome.

EVENT SCHEDULE

Saturday, November 3 8:30am
Technician License Class
Thursday, November 8 7:30pm
AARC - board meeting
Saturday, November 10 6:00am
AARC (support) Rosaryville Veterans Day 50k
8:30am
Technician License Class
12:00pm
AARC - Free License Exams
Thursday, November 15 7:30pm
AARC - Club meeting, newcomers always welcome.
Sunday, November 18 6:00am
AARC (support) Cold Turkey Run
1:00pm
AARC Open Shack hours
Tuesday, November 20 7:30pm
AAACERT Net
Sunday, November 25 1:00pm
AARC Kit-building, troubleshooting and repair, at 1 to 4 PM at the clubhouse

FAA Re-authorization Act of 2018 Overhauls Marking Requirements for Short Rural Towers

Thanks to ARRL efforts on Capitol Hill, language in the 2018 Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Reauthorization Act, just signed by President Donald Trump, resolves the issue of problematic or preclusive rules affecting some rural Amateur Radio towers. The previous FAA Reauthorization Act of 2016 had instructed the FAA to enact tower-marking requirements, similar to those in some state statutes, aimed at improving aircraft safety in the vicinity of meteorological evaluation towers (METs). These towers are typically between 50 and 200 feet and set up in rural areas, often on short notice. In the wake of fatal crop-dusting aircraft collisions with METs, the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) had recommended that states institute laws, sometimes called "crop-duster" statutes, requiring marking and registration of METs. While some state crop-duster laws exempted ham radio towers, federal regulations dating to the 1996 FAA Reauthorization Act did not, and ARRL had expressed its concerns since.

"There is no evidence whatsoever that even one Amateur Radio antenna below 200 feet has ever been involved in an aviation accident," ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, said. "To impose painting and lighting requirements on Amateur Radio antennas between 50 and 200 feet tall would preclude many, if not most, of the exurban, rural, and, in some cases, suburban Amateur Radio antennas that are and will be sited outside incorporated towns and cities. This would ironically defeat the entire reason such antenna facilities are sited in those environments: because rural and exurban areas are where such antennas are permitted and the few areas where antennas are not precluded entirely by private land use regulations."

Prior to 2017, per long-established FAA regulations, unless such short radio towers were located within the glide slope of airports or heliports, they were not required to be painted or lighted.

After attempting to address the issue through the FAA, ARRL's legislative team met with staff members of Senator Jim Inhofe (R-OK) and other lawmakers and their staffs associated with the congressional committees of jurisdiction. Senator Inhofe -- himself a pilot -- was of the view that the 2016 legislation was excessive and that exemptions should exist for both broadcast and Amateur Radio antennas and support structures. "We worked with our close allies at the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB), [who were] afraid that this legislation would have a large adverse effect on short broadcast towers," Imlay recounted. "We also worked with the Association of American Railroads, which has hundreds of short towers along rail lines in rural areas that would have been affected."

Imlay said Section 576 of the large 2018 FAA reauthorization now requires that the only towers less than 200 feet tall that have to be painted and lighted are meteorological aids and those within the glide slope of an airport or heliport. The remainder of such towers in rural or agricultural areas lower than 200 feet need to only be included in an FAA-maintained database, which will be updated by the owners of such towers.

Imlay credited members of the ARRL Legislative Advocacy team, as well as Senator Inhofe and ARRL's broadcast and land mobile association partners for getting the language revised in the new, 5-year Reauthorization Act. "We consider this a big success for Amateur Radio," Imlay said, "and it would not have been possible but for the visibility that has been achieved for ARRL through our active Capitol Hill advocacy for the Amateur Radio Parity Act."

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Climber Dies in Amateur Radio Tower Collapse

A young Tennessee father of five is dead after the Amateur Radio tower on which he was working collapsed due to a guy anchor letting go. Thirty-year-old Ken Waddell was killed on September 29 while attempting to erect a 70-foot Rohn 25G tower on the property of Dale Darling, W9WBA, in Cookeville, Tennessee. A professional tower climber, Waddell handled the tower job on a freelance basis, rather than for his employer.

Kenneth Waddell.

According to media accounts, Waddell and Darling checked the new guy anchors in advance of putting up the tower. Waddell was getting ready to attach a second set of guys at 70 feet when a guy at the 40-foot level let go, taking him to the ground on the section where he was attached. He was the only person on the tower when it fell, and died at the scene.

Waddell was the sole financial provider for his family, and a GoFundMe campaign has been established. The Tower Family Foundation and the Hubble Foundation have also reached out to assist Waddell's widow, Cadie, and their five children. Both the Tower Family Foundation and the Hubble Foundation are dedicated in part to providing financial assistance and support to the families of tower workers injured or killed in tower-climbing mishaps.

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W1AW 2018 Spring/Summer Operating Schedule

Morning Schedule:

Time	Mode	Days
1300 UTC (9 AM ET)	CWs	Wed, Fri
1300 UTC (9 AM ET)	CWf	Tue, Thu

Daily Visitor Operating Hours:

1400 UTC to 1600 UTC - (10 AM to 12 PM ET)
1700 UTC to 1945 UTC - (1 PM to 3:45 PM ET)

(Station closed 1600 to 1700 UTC (12 PM to 1 PM ET))

Afternoon/Evening Schedule:

2000 UTC	(4 PM ET)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
2000 "	"	CWs	Tue, Thu
2100 "	(5 PM ET)	CWb	Daily
2200 "	(6 PM ET)	DIGITAL	Daily
2300 "	(7 PM ET)	CWs	Mon, Wed, Fri
2300 "	"	CWf	Tue, Thu
0000 "	(8 PM ET)	CWb	Daily
0100 "	(9 PM ET)	DIGITAL	Daily
0145 "	(9:45 PM ET)	VOICE	Daily
0200 "	(10 PM ET)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
0200 "	"	CWs	Tue, Thu
0300 "	(11 PM ET)	CWb	Daily

Frequencies (MHz)

CW: 1.8025 3.5815 7.0475 14.0475 18.0975 21.0675 28.0675 50.350 147.555

DIGITAL: - 3.5975 7.095 14.095 18.1025 21.095 28.095 50.350 147.555

VOICE: 1.855 3.990 7.290 14.290 18.160 21.390 28.590 50.350 147.555

Notes:

CWs = Morse Code practice (slow) = 5, 7.5, 10, 13 and 15 WPM
CWf = Morse Code practice (fast) = 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 WPM
CWb = Morse Code Bulletins = 18 WPM

CW frequencies include code practices, Qualifying Runs and CW bulletins.

DIGITAL = BAUDOT (45.45 baud), BPSK31 and MFSK16 in a revolving schedule.

Code practice texts are from QST, and the source of each practice is given at the beginning of each practice and at the beginning of alternate speeds.

On Tuesdays and Fridays at 2230 UTC (6:30 PM ET), Keplerian Elements for active amateur satellites are sent on the regular digital frequencies.

A DX bulletin replaces or is added to the regular bulletins between 0000 UTC (8 PM ET) Thursdays and 0000 UTC (8 PM ET) Fridays.

Audio from W1AW's CW code practices, and CW/digital/phone bulletins is available using **EchoLink** via the W1AW Conference Server named "W1AWBDCT." The monthly W1AW Qualifying Runs are presented here as well. The CW/digital/phone audio is sent in real-time and runs concurrently with W1AW's regular transmission schedule.

All users who connect to the conference server are muted. Please note that any questions or comments about this server should not be sent via the "Text" window in EchoLink. Please direct any questions or comments to w1aw@arrl.org .
In a communications emergency, monitor W1AW for special bulletins as follows: Voice on the hour, Digital at 15 minutes past the hour, and CW on the half hour.

FCC licensed amateurs may operate the station from 1400 UTC to 1600 UTC (10 AM to 12 PM ET), and then from 1700 UTC to 1945 UTC (1 PM to 3:45 PM ET) Monday through Friday. Be sure to bring your current FCC amateur license or a photocopy.

The complete W1AW Operating Schedule may be found on page 90 in the March 2018 issue of QST or on the web at,http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-operating-schedule .

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AARC Mesh Networking Group
1:00 to 4:00 PM monthly,
on the 3rd Sunday of the month
AARC Clubhouse, Davidsonville, MD
(Next Meeting will be January 20, 2019.

International Space Station Crew Member Fires Up NA1SS to Seek Random Contacts

"Hello, America. This is the International Space Station. Who's out there?"

And with that "CQ" of sorts on 145.800 MHz, NASA astronaut Serena Auñón-Chancellor, KG5TMT, M.D., spent some time at the helm of NA1SS on October 6 making casual, random contacts -- something that's fairly rare these days. The ISS was on a pass that took the spacecraft up along the east coast of the US at the time. In response to a question, Auñón-Chancellor, who has been on station since June, told one caller that she's been floating the entire time she's been in space.

Serena Auñón-Chancellor, KG5TMT, at work on the ISS. [NASA photo]

"We float every day. Float to work, float back to sleep. It is awesome," she said.

Scott Chapman, K4KDR, of Montpelier, Virginia, edited a clip of downlink chatter by the 42-year-old flight surgeon and flight engineer.

"During most passes of the ISS where I'm working with the packet digipeater on 145.825, I also monitor 145.800 just in case there is any activity on that frequency," Chapman said in a post to AMSAT-BB. "For the first time in my personal experience, today one of the astronauts was randomly calling to see if anybody was listening. Of course I tried to reply on 145.800 simplex, but there are a number of possible uplinks, and none of them were programmed into my radio. They are now! It was a real thrill and, like so much of this hobby, a learning opportunity."

Auñón-Chancellor is aboard the ISS as part of the Expedition 56/57 crew and is scheduled to return to Earth in December.

The Amateur Radio FM voice frequencies for stations in ITU Regions 2 and 3 are 145.800 MHz down and 144.490 MHz up. For stations in Region 1, the uplink frequency is 145.200 MHz.

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Rosaryville Veteran's Day 50K

Good afternoon, this is the first call for operators to help with the Rosaryville Veteran's Day 50K. This event is held at the Rosaryville State Park. The race begins at 0800 so we need operators as early as 0700 to begin setting up. The race goes late into the afternoon, I've been there as late as 1730.

Event Details:

Veteran's Day 50K (AKA Rosaryville 50K) Run
Saturday, 10 November 2018
0700 – 1700 (or half day)
This race is limited to 200 participants.

We need a minimum 9 operators for the following:

Net Control----------2 operators
Aid-1----------2 Operators
Mile-18----------2 Operators
Aid-2----------2 Operators
Race Director-------1 Operator

If we can get additional operators there are two additional areas the race director would like help.

Strider's provide some food however, for those working the entire day I usually provide Subway sandwich lunch (sub, chips and drink).

Please let me know ASAP if you can help out and indicate: Full Day, 0700-1200 or 1200-1700.

Paul, W4ATN
paul@w4atn.com

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Amateur Radio Volunteers in Indonesia Link Earthquake Zone with Outside World

Following a devastating 7.7-magnitude earthquake and tsunami in Central Sulawesi Island in Indonesia, on September 28, members of International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) member-society ORARI and other volunteers have been providing emergency communication for community and government interests. The quake and tsunami destroyed the city of Palu, completely cutting power and telecommunications.

Satellite view of the stricken City of Palu. [Google Crisis Response image]

New IARU Region 3 Disaster Communication Coordinator Dani Halim, YB2TJV, said Amateur Radio operators in Indonesia immediately responded to the unfolding disaster, establishing an emergency net on 7.110 MHz. Amateur Radio volunteers from other regions also pitched in to support radio communication for emergency news on 7.110 MHz and 7.065 MHz. ORARI has asked that radio amateurs not involved in the emergency response avoid those frequencies. ORARI also activated the LAPAN-ORARI IO-86 satellite as a backup communication channel. Some radio amateurs with mobile stations have traveled to the affected region to help.

According to Budi Santoso, YF1AR, on Java Island, the local Palu ORARI representative Ronny Korompot, YB8PR, was among the first contacted. Through his mobile station, he reported on conditions and

the response, including evacuations. Sutrisno Sofingi, YB8NT, was also heard on 7.110 MHz using an emergency station he assembled at the disaster site. He said Amateur Radio was the only available communication with the outside world.

Amateur Radio also has assisted government agencies following severe damage to the telecommunication infrastructure. Hams operating on 2 meters were communicating information on which roads were open to allow traffic from the outside.

Halim reported that communication was established from the Luwuk Disaster Management Agency some 430 miles from the earthquake's epicenter to obtain information on landslides and blocked roads and highways.

Salmin Sahidin, YB8IBD, in Southeast Sulawesi has been live streaming audio of the activity on 7.110 MHz via his Facebook page.

The earthquake and subsequent tsunami has claimed more than 1,400 people and caused widespread devastation. Some victims remain trapped in the debris. -- *Thanks to IARU Region 3 and Budi Santoso, YF1AR*

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ARRL Updating its Website Security Software

The ARRL website will update its security software on October 15 to meet standards required to continue accepting credit cards for internet purchases.

"For the vast majority of our members, there will be no impact other than a guarantee of better security when logging into and making purchases on the ARRL website," said ARRL Headquarters IT Department Manager Mike Keane, K1MK. "Only those using old browsers or outdated operating systems will encounter a browser error message when trying to log in or make a purchase on the website."

These browsers are among those that are safe to continue using:

- Google Chrome 30 or higher (version 40 or higher recommended)
- Mozilla Firefox 27 or higher (version 34 or higher recommended)
- Microsoft Internet Explorer 11 or higher
- Apple Safari 7 or higher (Safari 5 or higher on mobile)
- Microsoft Edge, all versions
- Opera 17 or higher (version 27 or higher recommended)

The vast majority of our website users will not have to take any action. Most modern browsers and operating systems will not be affected by the change, as they already support the new security standards. If you *are* affected, go to your browser vendor's website and download an up-to-date version of your browser.

To check if your browser will be affected by this change, you can use the site How's My SSL? This will advise you of your version.

"We know it is common for some radio amateurs to keep older computers for logging or radio control," ARRL Marketing Manager B browser's ob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, observed. "If the computer is connected to the internet, ARRL recommends that users keep their computers up to date in terms of operating system, software updates, and hardware to protect you and your personal information from online security vulnerabilities."

The Deeper Dive

In order to comply with PCI Security Standards Council requirements, all payment processors, merchants, service providers, and other stakeholders must use *TLS* 1.1 or higher to ensure the transmission and receiving of secure communications. *TLS* is a cryptographic protocol that provide authentication and data encryption between different endpoints (e.g., a client connecting to a web server). On October 15, ARRL will disable support for the outdated *TLS* 1.0 protocol. Visitors seeing an error message need to update their browsers to a version that supports *TLS* 1.1 or higher.

ARRL is making this change to ensure that we are adhering to best industry practices, thereby providing our members, our clients, and other website visitors with a higher level of security for their browsing sessions.

"This the same thing that every other website that requires a username and password or accepts credit cards is doing or has already done," Keane said. "We're meeting an industry security standard."

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Winter Field Day

The AARC is going to participate in Winter Field Day 2019 from the club house on January 26/27 2pm-2pm. We are trying to get an early head count on how many will be taking part, so we can better plan the event. As well, we are looking for an event chairman. So if you either wish to participate in Winter Field Day, or wish to participate and serve as the

Event Chairman for it, please go to http://www.w3vpr.org/node/518 for check the web site for details.

Keith Miller, AE3D
AARC Club Secretary

VP6D Ducie Island 2018 DXpedition Team Under Way aboard the *Braveheart*

After 18 months of intensive planning, the 14-member international VP6D team now is en route on the long voyage to Ducie Island from Mangareva, French Polynesia, aboard the MV *Braveheart*. Team members have been heard operating as VP6D/mm on 40- and 20-meter CW, according to *The Daily DX*. The team rendezvoused in Tahiti before flying to Mangareva and set sail on October 16. The DXpedition is scheduled to begin on October 20 and continue until November 3. VP6D will use DXA to post contacts on a near real-time basis. Logs will be uploaded daily to VP6D (there is no leader board) and, ultimately, to Logbook of The World (LoTW).

VP6D will be using FT8 protocol (*WSJT-X* version 1.91) as a "fox" on all bands except 16 meters, where DXpedition mode will not be used. The team has posted FT8 operating guidelines on its website. Software should be configured in "hound" mode. Operators hoping to work VP6D on FT8 must add the DXpedition's frequencies to *WSJT-X*.

"Your only email route to VP6D is through the pilot team," a DXpedition release advised this week. "The pilots do not have the logs. Please don't ask them about NiL, busted calls, skeds, etc. Do send them helpful suggestions."

In a first for Ducie Island, VP6D will be active on 6-meter moonbounce.

The MV *Braveheart* docked during loading of the VP6D DXpedition gear.

Among its goals, VP6D has listed conducting extensive digital operation, logging as many unique call signs as possible, and offering a contact to as many as possible, including all-time new ones and band fills.

Stu Phillips, K6TU, has developed customized propagation prediction tools, available on the VP6D website. Stations may take advantage of these forecast tools to predict conditions for working Ducie Island based on your location and your equipment.

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Know someone thinking about Ham Radio?
http://www.arrl.org/what-is-ham-radio

ARRL Website Security Software Update Could Affect Certain LoTW ADIF Downloads

The ARRL website updated its security software on October 15 in order to meet standards required to continue accepting credit cards for internet purchases. ARRL Information Technology Department Manager Mike Keane, K1MK, said that the upgrade should not affect the vast majority of members, beyond a guarantee of better security on the website. It's possible that those using old browsers or running outdated operating systems could encounter a browser error message when trying to log in or make a purchase on the website. To check if your browser will be affected by this change, you can use the "How's My SSL?" website to advise you of your browser's version. Also affected by the upgrade was the ability of certain logging software running under Windows 7, 8, and 10 to continue downloading ADIF reports from Logbook of The World (LoTW). Uploads via *TQSL* are not affected.

"Affected users should report the issue to their logging application software vendor," Keane said. "In several cases, logging application vendors have already released updates of their products that resolve the problem."

Keane said the security update and any possible disruption in service are for the sake of progress, "and represent the reasonable efforts that our members expect from us in order to secure their private information." The updates completed this week were mandated security-related changes that allow ARRL to continue to accept credit cards for purchases and memberships via the website. "These security changes are no different than what is required by other organizations and vendors performing online transactions," Keane noted.

The updates were carried out in order to comply with PCI Security Standards Council requirements.

Among the browsers that are safe to continue using are Google Chrome 30 or higher (version 40 or higher recommended), Mozilla Firefox 27 or higher (version 34 or higher recommended), Microsoft Internet Explorer 11 or higher, Apple Safari 7 or higher (Safari 5 or higher on mobile), all versions of Microsoft Edge, and Opera 17 or higher (version 27 or higher recommended).

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VE Testing Schedule

Second Saturday of each month – Noon – AARC – Rick Steer / AB3XJ **testing@w3vpr.org**

Third Saturday of each month – 9AM – Laurel ARC **–** John Creel, 301-572-5124

Fourth Tuesday of each month – 6PM – MMARC – Mike Montrose / KA2JAI 443-310-4907 web site is tinyurl.com/marylandmobileers

To all exams bring:

- Picture ID
- Social Security Number or FCC Registration Number (FRN)
- **ORIGINAL** and a **COPY** of current FCC amateur radio license
  ORIGINAL and a COPY of all element credits (eg., FCC letters, old licenses or unexpired Certificates of Successful Completion of Examination-CSCE)

Successful Ham Radio Contact between Students and Space Station Excites and Inspires

"My best day as a teacher!" was educator Kathryn Craven's exuberant reaction following a successful October 22 ham radio contact between International Space Station (ISS) crew member Serena Auñón-Chancellor, KG5TMT, and youngsters at Ashford School in Ashford, Connecticut. ARRL Headquarters provided equipment for the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS)-sponsored event, and several ARRL Headquarters staffers were among those assisting in setting up the station, working with teachers, students, and the media, shooting photos, and offering other support.

ECARA's Bernard Dubb, KD1DGY, holds the microphone as Amena Perry asks astronaut Serena Auñón-Chancellor, KG5TMT, her question. [Michelle Patnode, W3MVP, photo]

The entire student body of the kindergarten-through-eighth grade school in northeastern Connecticut sat in rapt attention during the event, as a dozen of their classmates spoke directly to Auñón-Chancellor, who was at the helm of NA1SS on the ISS. Using ARRL's equipment, members of the Eastern Connecticut Amateur Radio Association (ECARA) set up the Earth station (KZ1M), with technical and hands-on help from W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, who also assisted in summoning NA1SS for the approximately 10-minute pass.

One reporter asked Carcia what was being displayed on the large screen. "I explained that the program we were using -- *SatPC32* -- allowed us to see where the ISS is located and controlled the rotators with respect to our location," he said.

W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, sets up Earth-station gear in advance of the ARISS event at Connecticut's Ashford School. [Michelle Patnode, W3MVP, photo]

Some Ashford School students have been studying microgravity and are working on a research project that they hope will eventually be selected to be conducted on the ISS. Auñón-Chancellor, the Mission 56/57 flight surgeon, answered 16 student questions that ranged from "Do you wear sunscreen into space?" to "What is the hardest thing about having zero gravity?" and "How many flips can you do?"

Others attending on behalf of ARRL were ARRL Lifelong Learning Manager Kris Bickell, K1BIC; Lifelong Learning and Knowledge Department Administrator Ally Riedel, KM3ALF; ARRL Communications Content Producer Michelle Patnode, W3MVP, and ARRL Communications Manager David Isgur, N1RSN.

"It was great!" Patnode said afterward. "The space station responded right away, and everyone instantly got so excited."

Crews from four local television stations and print publication reporters joined an audience of more than 400.

"We are so incredibly grateful to ARISS, ECARA, and ARRL for making this possible for the entire Ashford School community," a statement on the school's website said.

"Our students were literally bursting with excitement at the end of the contact. Look out universe -- here comes the Mars generation!"

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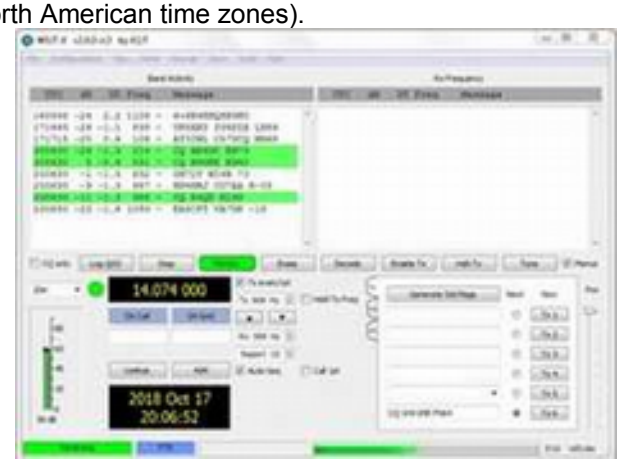
Practice Makes Perfect with FT8 and Other WSJT-X Protocols

FT8 co-developer Joe Taylor, K1JT, recommended in a recent post to the **Pack Rats reflector** that those planning to use FT8 or other ***WSJT-X*** protocols, such as MSK144, should practice using the software before jumping into a contest or other activity. A short **FT8 demonstration contest** will take place for Thursday, October 25, 0200 – 0300 UTC (Wednesday, October 24, in North American time zones).



"[O]ne thing is for sure: Downloading the software and trying it out a week before the contest is *not* a good plan, either for you or for those of us who write and polish the software," Taylor said. "You need practice and experience with the software, before the contest." Taylor reminded readers that the original motivation for developing nearly all of the *WSJT-X* modes was VHF DXing and contesting, however, the software became very popular on HF. A couple of major DXpeditions have included FT8 in their mix of modes, and FT8 lately has been edging into the

FlexRadio CEO Gerald Youngblood, K5SDR

contesting arena, with its inclusion in the ARRL RTTY Roundup in 2019.

A 1-hour FT8 demonstration contest is set for Thursday, October 25, 0200 – 0300 UTC (**Wednesday, October 24, in North American time zones**). Use dial frequency 7.078 kHz, moving up in 2 kHz increments if interference is too great. To participate, you must use ***WSJT-X* version 2.0.0-rc3**, a beta-test version. Taylor suggests reading the revised ***Quick-Start Guide*** before using *WSJT-X* 2.0.

FlexRadio CEO Gerald Youngblood, K5SDR, recently **suggested** that FT8 has attained "killer app" or "tipping point" status in Amateur Radio. The protocol permits working stations on seemingly "dead" bands, countering the current dearth of sunspots, Youngblood pointed out, and also lets operators of modest or antenna-restricted stations work HF DX, just like Big Guns.

"In my humble opinion, FT8 is at the very heart of what Amateur Radio has been about from its inception — amateurs who love the art of radio enhancing the art of radio," Youngblood wrote. He continued, speculating, "what will ultimately kill Amateur Radio is not FT8. To the contrary, FT8 is an example of what will keep it alive and relevant. What will kill Amateur Radio is if we cease to innovate, become old and grumpy, and no longer bring new blood into the hobby."

Taylor believes that digital modes, such as FT8, can significantly boost contact and multiplier totals in contests that permit its use, not to mention in efforts to attain DXCC and other awards. "How best to merge digi-modes into your operating plan, along with CW and SSB, will be different for each station and each operator," he said.

Taylor has invited feedback regarding what works for FT8 users and what does not. "We get tons of useful feedback from thousands of HF users of *WSJT-X*," he said. The best way to get help in setting up your station or configuring *WSJT-X* is by reaching out to the **WSJT Group**, he said.

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FT8 to be Permitted in 2019 ARRL RTTY Roundup

[UPDATED 2018-10-19 @ 1550 UTC]

The ARRL Contest Branch has announced that participants in the 2019 **ARRL RTTY Roundup** will be permitted to use the new FT8 protocol, which is part of the ***WSJT-X*** software suite. The RTTY Roundup takes place January 5 - 6, 2019. A "Practice Contest" has been set for Wednesday, October 24, in North American time zones. **Details are below.**

"Even though digital modes other than RTTY have been permitted in the RTTY Roundup for 30 years, FT8 was excluded in 2018, because it could not manage the required exchanges," ARRL Contest Branch Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, said. "Through the work of the *WSJT-X* development team, the latest version of FT8 can handle the necessary exchanges that earlier versions were unable to do."

Some limitations will apply to FT8 entrants. Participants must use ***WSJT-X* version 2.0** or later to ensure they are able to transmit and receive the exchange messages the event requires. No unattended operation, including QSO/macro automations, will be allowed. Neither is FT8's Fox-and-Hounds mode; each contact must be carried out in a one-to-one mode, manually accepting/logging each contact.

Since ARRL contest rules regarding spotting assistance prohibit the use of "automated, multi-channel decoders" by Single-Operator entrants, stations using software that decodes *more than one* FT8 signal at a time will have to enter as Single-Operator Unlimited or as Multioperator, just as PSK participants have had to do in the past when using *fldigi* or *DigiPan* software.

Logging software developers have been advised that "DG" will be accepted as a mode abbreviation for all digital QSOs other than RTTY, which will continue to be designated as "RY." This will assist the ARRL Contest Branch in distinguishing RTTY from other digital-mode contacts in order to assess the popularity of each. Logs designating all contacts with "RY" will be accepted, however.

The Contest Branch is encouraging all participants to make the use of FT8 a success in RTTY Roundup by managing frequency selection and being patient with new contest operators. FT8 users also are advised to spread out to help increase decoding and contact success. The FT8 users' groups and online discussions will offer information about alternate carrier frequencies for FT8.

"This is a great opportunity for beginners interested in digital mode contesting," Jahnke said. "If you are a first-time RTTY, FT8, or other digital-mode contester, understand that high power and large antennas are not necessary for successful decodes."**Complete rules** are on the ARRL website.

Short "Practice Contest" Set for ARRL RTTY Roundup Participants Planning to Use FT8

A 1-hour "practice contest" will be held next week on Thursday, October 25, 0200 – 0300 UTC (Wednesday, October 24, in North American time zones) . Use dial frequency 7.078 kHz, moving up in 2 kHz increments if interference is too great.

To participate you must use ***WSJT-X* version 2.0.0-rc3**. Installation packages for Windows, Linux, and macOS are near the bottom of the page. This version is "Release Candidate 3," a beta-test version. A full release of *WSJT-X* 2.0 is targeted for release on December 10. There's also a revised ***Quick-Start Guide*** to WSJT-X 2.0-rc3. FT8 co-developer Joe Taylor, K1JT, advises reading the entire document before using *WSJT-X* 2.0. (Changes in RC3 relative to RC2 are described starting on page 7.)

Some important reminders:

- On the "Settings/Advanced tab", check the boxes that say "Always generate 77-bit

messages," "Decode only 77-bit messages," and "ARRL RTTY Roundup." In the field labeled "Exch," enter the 2- or 3-letter abbreviation for your state or province (US/Canadian stations), or enter DX if you are not in the US or Canada.

- Be sure that 7.078 appears in your drop-down frequency list for FT8 mode. You might need to do a reset on the Settings/Frequencies tab. If the subband starting at 7.078 becomes overcrowded, move to a higher dial frequency in 2 kHz increments — 7.080, 7.082, etc. Type Ctrl+Shift+F12 to move up by 2 kHz, or Ctrl+Shift+F11 to move down by 2 kHz.
- Do not use a compound or nonstandard call sign in this event.

Planning is underway for one or more dedicated FT8 contests to be held in the next few months. — *Thanks to Joe Taylor, K1JT*

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Peggy Sue

Peggy Sue Gerron, ex-K5PSG, of Lubbock, Texas, who inspired singer Buddy Holly's 1957 rockabilly hit "Peggy Sue," died on October 1. She was 78. First licensed in 2004 as KE5AKW, she later obtained the vanity call K5PSG. Her license expired in 2014, and K5PSG has since been reissued.

Gerron went to high school with Holly and later married The Crickets drummer, Jerry Allison. As rock 'n' roll history has it, Holly originally titled the song "Cindy Lou," but Allison convinced the singer to change the tune's name to "Peggy Sue." In a 2004 interview, Gerron said that story is close to the truth, but not entirely accurate. After Holly's death in 1959, Gerron toured with The Crickets when the band got back together.

Over the years, Gerron made public and media appearances all over the country. She said her participation in the 2004 W5B special event in Lubbock commemorating Holly helped inspire her Amateur Radio aspirations. "You can do TV specials, and you can be interviewed by the very best DJs," she said, "but there is nothing like the feeling of putting your finger down, and transmitting your call sign, and having somebody answer back."

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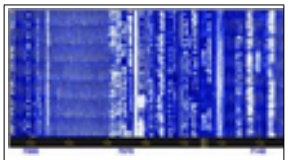
Interference On 40 Meters

The International Amateur Radio Union Monitoring Service (IARUMS) reports interference on 40 meters from various Russian sources.



The Russian "Sunflower" radar. [Wolf Hadel, DK2OM, screenshot]

The Russian coastal over-the-horizon (OTH) radar "Sunflower" was very active on 40 meters and audible in Europe in the evenings, transmitting FM on pulse. The site is believed to be northeast of Vladivostok. IARUMS Region 1 Coordinator Wolf Hadel, DK2OM, said it was monitored in September. In addition, a Russian ship was observed transmitted on 7,110 kHz on F1B with 50 baud and 200 Hz shift.

The vessel was believed to be in the vicinity of Cyprus and on the air daily in September. Another Russian ship was heard on September 18, transmitting AT3004D with 12 × 120 baud PSK2A on 7,179 kHz with a 2.6 kHz bandwidth, also in the area of Crete. And a Russian military system, believed to be near Moscow, was heard transmitting on 7,198 kHz in AT3004D test mode. Elsewhere, fishing crews often were monitored on 3,500; 3,535; 3,540; 3,560; 3,585; 3,590; 7,000 kHz, and 14,320 USB.

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Fundrazr Campaign For Critical Ham Radio Infrastructure Upgrades Iss

ARISS and AMSAT are supporting a FundRazr campaign to raise $150,000 for critical ham radio infrastructure upgrades on the International Space Station (ISS). "ARISS is in critical need of infrastructure upgrades to ensure that programs such as talking to astronauts in space using Amateur Radio can continue," ARISS International President Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, said. ARISS seeks several upgrades, including new Amateur Radio communication and experiment capabilities, such as an enhanced voice repeater, updated digital Automatic Packet Reporting System (APRS), and slow-scan television (SSTV) with image uplinks and downlinks in both US and Russian segments. They're also looking for next-generation radio systems that will support easier mode and capability transitions, and a multi-voltage power supply to support present and future radio capabilities. Bauer points out that ARISS needs to build 10 next-generation radio systems to support the development of on-orbit operations, training, and longterm maintenance. This includes two units for on-orbit use (one unit each for the US and Russian segments), two flight spares, three units for training, one unit for testing, and two units for ground-based maintenance and troubleshooting. -- *Thanks to* AMSAT News Service *via Frank Bauer, KA3HDO*

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More Amateur Radio Resources

http://www.arrl.org/youth

http://www.arrl.org/getting-licensed

Repeaters and Nets

2 Meter Repeaters

Location	Frequency	Tone	Notes
Davidsonville	147.105+	107.2	AARC Repeater with morning traffic net.
Glen Burnie	147.075+	107.2	AARC repeater Located in Northern AA County.
BrandyWine	147.150+	114.8	SMARC Repeater.
Prince Frederick	145.350-	156.7	SPARC/CARC Repeater.
Laurel	147.225+	156.7	Laurel ARC Repeater.
Millersville	146.805-	107.2	Repeater.

1.25 Meter Repeaters

Location	Frequency	Tone	Notes
Davidsonville	223.880-	107.2	AARC 1.25M repeater *check to see if tied into 7.105...
Millersville	224.560-	107.2	AARC repeater Located in Northern AA County.

70cm Repeaters

Location	Frequency	Tone	Notes
Davidsonville	444.400+	107.2	AARC 70 cm Repeater.
Annapolis	442.300+	107.2	AARC 70 cm repeater
Laurel	442.500+	156.7	Laurel ARC 70 cm Repeater.
Millersville	449.125-	107.2	Maryland Mobileers Repeater.
Upper Marlboro	443.600+	103.5	SMARC 70 cm Repeater.

Packet Stations

Location	Frequency	Call	Notes
Davidsonville	145.050	W3VPR	AARC Club packet node running JNOS
Davidsonville	145.010	W3VPR-5	Digipeter Relay to EOC Winlink
Millersville	145.010	W3AAC-5	Digipeter Relay to EOC Winlink
Glen Burnie	145.010	W3AAC-10	EOC Winlink system and digipeter

Amateur Radio NETS

Name	Frequency (in Mhz)	Day	Time
Morning Commuter Net	147.105+ PL 107.2	Weekdays	0600
AARC Talk Net	147.105+ PL 107.2	Wednesday	2000
AA County ARES Net	146.805- PL 107.2	Sunday	2000
Baltimore Traffic Net	146.670-	Daily	1830
Boating Net	146.805- PL 107.2	Wednesday	1930
Maryland Emergency Phone Net	3.920	Daily	1800
Maryland-DC-Delaware Traffic Net	3.643	Daily	1900 and 2200
Maryland Slow Net	3.563	Daily	1930
React Net	442.300+ PL 107.2	1st Sunday	1930

*We use **simplex 146.430 Mhz** frequently enough that you should probably program that into your HT or mobile. This is the go-to frequency for many 5K race/walk volunteering efforts, local communication, Field Day setup, and the like when we're not using a repeater.*

Detained Norwegian Radio Amateur Allowed to Leave Chad

A tense situation involving a Norwegian radio amateur that reached the diplomatic and foreign ministry level in the African Republic of Chad has now been resolved. Kenneth Opskar, LA7GIA, had only operated as TT8KO for about a day before security police shut down his station on October 10. At that point, he'd logged and uploaded 2,150 contacts and had installed all antennas except a 160-meter vertical. Opskar considered the incident a minor distraction, until he was told that he had to remain in Chad pending undetermined scrutiny of his station and activity. Now, after having been detained in Chad for more than a week, Opskar said on October 24 that he's free to go.

"I received the news that I can leave Chad immediately," Opskar told *DX-World*, which has been posting updates on a running basis. His solo DXpedition is over, however.

"I am not allowed to transmit. All antennas are to be taken down today before sunset, because there is a presidential event at the hotel tomorrow, and he will be here," Opskar said. "[The] hotel is now packed with VIPs, police, and military personnel. I am done with sightseeing, so my flight is booked for tomorrow."

Initially, Opskar had remained optimistic that all would be well after the security police chief's personal inspection of his equipment. Things got more stressful on October 13, however, after he underwent two interrogations by the security police. "My gear has been disconnected," he said at the time. "The antennas on the roof are locked down, [and] I cannot access them even for visual inspection or maintenance. I am not allowed to touch anything."

On October 14, Opskar reported that the security police had deemed all of his documents to be in order, but then was told that the security police needed to confer with ARCEP, Chad's telecommunications regulator.

Opskar made plans to leave Chad on October 18, but he was not permitted to disassemble his equipment until an inspection was completed. However, on October 18, Opskar reported that a police order had been issued preventing him from leaving Chad, even without his equipment. The Norwegian embassy and foreign ministry then stepped in to work on the matter.

Opskar said the many encouraging emails every day from DXers around the world helped to keep up his spirit, in addition to the support he received from his hotel's staff.

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Achieving a "Clean Sweep" is the Brass Ring of ARRL November Sweepstakes

ARRL November Sweepstakes (SS) is just ahead. The popular operating events -- one for CW and the other for phone (SSB) -- typically attract approximately 3,000 logs combined. For this 77th running ARRL November Sweepstakes, the CW event is November 3 - 5 (UTC), and phone is November 17 - 19 (UTC), each starting at 2100 UTC on that Saturday and running through 0259 UTC on that Monday. Stations may operate 24 of the available 30 hours. ***Logs are due within 7 days after the event is over.*** Last year saw 1,275 entries for the CW weekend, while the phone weekend attracted 1,674 logs.

The challenge of SS -- or "Sweeps" -- is to work as many stations in as many of the 83 ARRL and Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) sections as possible within the 24 hours available to operate. The number of sections worked is a score multiplier. Making a "clean sweep" is the goal of many SS aficionados -- working all 83 of the available US and Canadian multipliers, and qualifying for a clean sweep coffee mug. In the 2017 CW event, only 10 operators managed to work them all. Phone participants had better luck, with 78 clean sweeps. Last year, Puerto Rico (PR) and the US Virgin Islands (VI) were still reeling from devastating hurricanes, making those sections rare.

At one time, the most difficult SS multiplier was Northern Territories (NT) in Canada, where J. Allen, VY1JA, in Yukon Territory, was often the only station available. That's changed now that the VY1JA station not only has been thoroughly upgraded but can be remotely operated (as VY1AAA), although by a Canadian operator, thanks to Gerry Hull, W1VE/VE1RM, who told ARRL this week that VY1AAA is ready for SS action.

Other hard ones in 2017 appear to have been Alberta (AB), Northern New York (NNY), US Virgin Islands (VI), and Wyoming (WY).

SS is a "domestic" contest with broad appeal, and even stations with modest equipment and antennas can enjoy success. Many stations like to operate in the QRP category (output of 5 W or less), although that challenge is more daunting at this point in the solar cycle.

SS and the Traffic-Handling Tradition

ARRL November Sweepstakes is the oldest domestic radiosport event (the first was in 1930). The SS contest exchange has deep roots in message-handling protocol and replicates a radiogram preamble. In SS, stations exchange:

- A **consecutive serial number** (NR). Operators do *not* have to add leading zeros on numbers less than 100.
- **Operating category** -- **Q** for Single Operator, QRP; **A** for Single Operator, Low Power

(up to 150 W output); **B** for Single Operator, High Power (greater than 150 W output); **U** for Single Operator, Unlimited, regardless of power; **M** for Multioperator, regardless of power, and **S** for School Club.

- **Your call sign.**
- **Check** (CK) -- the last two digits of the year of first license for either operator or station.
- **Section** -- ARRL/RAC Section.

"Casual operators are very important to SS, so I would advise that if you come across [operators] who just want to help you out with a QSO, take the time to walk them through the proper exchange sequence, and encourage them to work other stations and to submit a log," said now-retired SS Manager Larry Hammel, K5OT. "Your patience might be rewarded with a motivated op next year!"

The SS *Operating Guide* package, available for download, explains how to participate in the Sweepstakes, including all rules and examples of log formatting. Read more. -- *Thanks to Gerry Hull, W1VE; Larry Hammel, K5OT, and Bart Jahnke, W9JJ*

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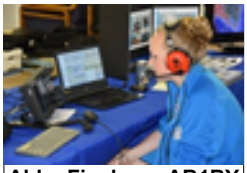
A Science And Technology Exposition For Young People

The New England Amateur Radio Festival (NEAR-Fest) and the Deerfield Fair Association will present a science and technology exposition for young people. The event at the Deerfield Fairgrounds, in Deerfield, New Hampshire, will take place Friday, October 12, and Saturday, October 13, as part of NEAR-Fest XXIII. Each spring and fall, the New England Tech Trek (NET^2) provides middle- and high-school students with an informal, hands-on introduction to real-life applications and the fun of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). The display will feature Amateur Radio and other technology, including a high-altitude balloon with radio telemetry, robotics, Raspberry Pi projects, radio direction finding, and software-defined radios. The Nashua (NH) Area Radio Society (NARS) will offer five "Get on the Air" stations that attendees can use. Admission to the NET^2 expo is free.



Abby Finchum, AB1BY, at the helm of one of the Get on the Air stations during NET^2 in May 2018. [Photo courtesy of NET^2/NEAR-Fest]

Used with permission The ARRL Letter for October 11, 2018

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DO NOT FORGET
December 6, 2018
ELECTION OF CLUB OFFICERS
We would like everyone to participate in the election.

A radio amateur is returning to Earth

A radio amateur is among the International Space Station crew returning to Earth. Flight Engineer Ricky Arnold, KE5DAU, will join Expedition 56 Commander Drew Feustel and Flight Engineer and *Soyuz* Commander Oleg Artemyev on an October 4 return voyage to Earth after more than about 6 months in space. They will travel in a *Soyuz* MS-08 spacecraft heading for a parachute-assisted landing on the Kazakh Steppe some hours later. The crew is completing a 197-day mission. At an October 3 change-of-command ceremony, Feustel will formally hand over command of the ISS to crewmate Alexander Gerst, KF5ONO, of the European Space Agency. Gerst, Serena Auñón-Chancellor, KG5TMT, and Sergey Prokopyev will hold down the fort for one week until Nick Hague, KG5TMV, and Alexey Ovchinin launch from Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan for a 6-hour journey to the ISS aboard the *Soyuz* MS-10 spacecraft, to round out the five-person Expedition 57.

(L-R) Ricky Arnold, KE5DAU; *Soyuz* Commander Oleg Artemyev, and Drew Feustel will return to Earth on October 4 after 197 days in space. [NASA photo]

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US Senator Again Spotlights Ham Radio's Disaster Response Role

US Senator Roger Wicker of Mississippi has tweeted about the work radio amateurs have been doing in assisting with disaster response efforts in Florida after Hurricane Michael.

Wicker noted that the trained volunteers help maintain critical communication to areas with no electricity, phone, or internet service. Wicker, a Republican, and Senator Richard Blumenthal, a Connecticut Democrat, sponsored the US Senate version of the Amateur Radio Parity Act (S. 1534). "Amateur Radio continues to be a critical part of our emergency communications operations,"

Wicker said at the time. "Mississippians learned firsthand after Hurricane Katrina how Amateur Radio operators can provide a resilient, distributed network to first responders and disaster relief organizations when other communications tools fail."

Used with permission The ARRL Letter for October 18, 2018

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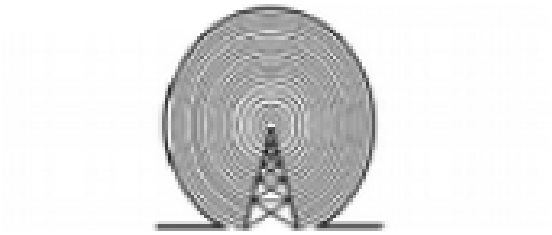
HELP WANTED—Net Control Operators for the **Holly Net**. 7:00 – 9:00 am ANY Work Day Morning. No experience necessary. Experienced gathered will be very valuable. Please contact Jim, N3ADF (n3adf@verizon.net) for full job description.

AARC Two-Meter Net Controller Schedule — 2018



01/03/18	KB3ZYO	Rich
01/10/18	KB3MUV	Raven
01/17/18	K3ACT	Chuck
01/24/18	W3KNH	Jamison
01/31/18	KB3YQK	Tim
02/07/18	K3MAW	Mike
02/14/18	AA3EB	Ed
02/21/18	KB3ZYO	Rich
02/28/18	KB3MUV	Raven
03/07/18	K3ACT	Chuck
03/14/18	W3KNH	Jamison
03/21/18	KB3YQK	Tim
03/28/18	K3MAW	Mike
04/04/18	AA3EB	Ed
04/11/18	KB3ZYO	Rich
04/18/18	KB3MUV	Raven
04/25/18	K3ACT	Chuck
05/02/18	W3KNH	Jamison
05/09/18	KB3YQK	Tim
05/16/18	K3MAW	Mike
05/23/18	AA3EB	Ed
05/30/18	KB3ZYO	Rich
06/06/18	KB3MUV	Raven
06/13/18	K3ACT	Chuck
06/20/18	W3KNH	Jamison
06/27/18	KB3YQK	Tim

07/04/18	K3MAW	Mike
07/11/18	AA3EB	Ed
07/18/18	KB3ZYO	Rich
07/25/18	KB3MUV	Raven
08/01/18	K3ACT	Chuck
08/08/18	W3KNH	Jamison
08/15/18	KB3YQK	Tim
08/22/18	K3MAW	Mike
08/29/18	AA3EB	Ed
09/05/18	KB3ZYO	Rich
09/12/18	KB3MUV	Raven
09/19/18	K3ACT	Chuck
09/26/18	W3KNH	Jamison
10/03/18	KB3YQK	Tim
10/10/18	K3MAW	Mike
10/17/18	AA3EB	Ed
10/24/18	KB3ZYO	Rich
10/31/18	KB3MUV	Raven
11/07/18	K3ACT	Chuck
11/14/18	W3KNH	Jamison
11/21/18	KB3YQK	Tim
11/28/18	K3MAW	Mike
12/05/18	AA3EB	Ed
12/12/18	KB3ZYO	Rich
12/19/18	KB3MUV	Raven
12/26/18	K3ACT	Chuck

REPEATER FREQUENCIES

Davidsonville	Millersville	Glen Burnie	Annapolis
147.105+		147.075+	
223.880-	224.560-		
444.400+			442.300+

PL: 107.2 for all repeaters

The 147.105 and 147.075 repeaters are frequently linked. Please leave an extra second after the courtesy beep to allow the link to reset as well.

Visitors are welcome *to all meetings and nets.*
Meetings are held in the Clubhouse at the
Davidsonville Family Recreation Center*,*
Queen Anne Bridge and Wayson Roads off
MD Route 214 near Davidsonville, MD.
For en-route directions,make initial contact on the 147.105 repeater.

Wednesday Night Talk Net -- All are welcome

8PM, On the AARC Repeater 147.105

Other Amateur Radio nets

Name	Frequency	Day	Time
Morning Commuter Net	147.105+Mhz PL 107.2	Weekdays	0600
AA County ARES Net	146.805- Mhz PL 107.2	Sunday	2000
Baltimore Traffic Net	146.670- Mhz	Daily	1830
Maryland Emergency Phone Net	3.820Mhz	Daily	1800
MD-DC-DE Traffic Net	3.557Mhz	Daily	1900 and 2200
Maryland Mobileers Net	146.805 PL107.2	Monday	1930
Maryland Slow Net	3.563 MHz	Daily	1930
REACT Net	442.300+Mhz PL107.2	1st Sunday	1930

The Radio Amateur Operator is...

CONSIDERATE

...He/[She] never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL

...He/[She] offers loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs, the IARU Radio Society in his/[her] country, through which Amateur Radio in his/[her] country is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE

...He/[She] keeps his/[her] station up to date. It is well-built and efficient. His/[Her] operating practice is above reproach.

FRIENDLY

...He/[She] operates slowly and patiently when requested; offers friendly advice and counsel to beginners; kind assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the marks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCED

...Radio is a hobby, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

PATRIOTIC

...His/[Her] station and skills are always ready for service to country and community.

- adapted from the original Amateur's Code, written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA, in 1928The Radio Amateur's Code