The Ham Arundel News

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Prez Sez

Keith Miller, AE3D

As we enter the fall and creep into the last 1/3 of 2020, it occurs to me that for the first time in 4 years soon, I won't be a Board member. Now that doesn't mean I'm going to give up teaching ham radio classes, working to make the ham shack operational, editing the Roster program, stop being part of kit-building or being part of the Rules Committee. But what it does mean is I'm going to stop being "Mr. Fix-It".

Let me explain. Today when membership records get screwed up, or the mailing list is missing a name or two, a Zoom meeting needs invites sent, someone doesn't have a website account, needs something posted on the web, or a member just wants something to happen that isn't happening, I am the guy who gets the email. No matter who you actually mailed it to it somehow seems to find me. And well, the 'buck stops here'. So I try to do everything, reply to everyone (though I don't succeed) and constantly find myself way behind on stuff that still needs done. I am putting in 6 plus hours a day typically for the AARC, and most of that is me, playing "Mr. Fix-It".

So my lawn isn't trimmed, the antennas for my shack aren't fixed and haven't been touched in 2 years, nor is the work I started on my rig 2 years ago finished. I am not super happy about that and my wife isn't exactly overjoyed either. There are things I'd have to get back to at home in 2021.

Most of you don't realize it, but I have set up email 'forwarders' for almost everyone heading a committee or team for the AARC. Let me give you an example of a 'forwarder'. If you mail something to *president@w3vpr.org* it actually gets emailed to me, at my personal email address. It just runs through the club's email system along the way. This way, you don't have to remember my real email address, and my real email address does not get sold to spammers. It's a win-win. But, like a dummy, I have until now not posted all of these 'forwarders' on our web site. That's still on my to-do list, for before this article is printed. Hopefully these forwarders will let you communicate directly with those who can fix your issue most quickly.

Now I'm sure you are waiting for the other shoe to drop, so here it is. We need some more volunteers who understand our website, and how to use Drupal to keep it up to date. Note that I said "some more" and not just a single volunteer.

Maintaining a good website is a lot like printing a newspaper. In a newspaper you have a crew that maintains the presses. Similarly a web site needs people who can manage the software the web site runs on, updating it, and adding new modules with new features as needed.

Just like a newspaper you need editors. They create the web pages, keep the data current which is the key to good journalism.

We need a photography department to edit and crop photographs as needed to make the site interesting and current. There is nothing worse than checking out a web site, and finding it is exactly the same as it was 3 weeks ago. We are purveyors of information, and information is always time sensitive.

You will also need managing editors who can glean important information from other web sites, and either link our site to them, or duplicate the

information, sort of like a newspaper carries stories from the Associated Press.
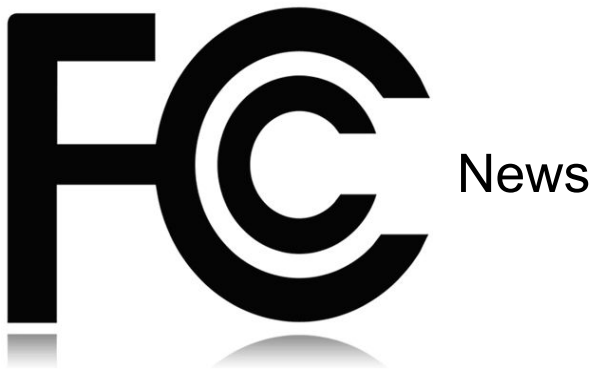
While a newspaper needs a circulation department, our website needs someone in charge of setting up and managing our access accounts, and keeping our user's access levels current. Luckily, we already have one of those, our Membership Secretary, Mike Watterson K3MAW. If access is your problem, write ms@w3vpr.org.

But there are some differences from a newspaper too. For instance we will need someone expert in creating webforms so we can receive and distribute information from our members to those who need it. This includes everything from application and renewal forms, to yearly surveys and coordination info for Field Day or the Maryland DC QSO Party.

Last, but not you-know-what, we need someone clever, who looks for new ways to serve our customers. For instance the audio link from our repeaters found on our home page, and the indicators for link up-or-down. Thanks there go to Ed Santilli, KB3YMU. We are lucky to have him.

So in short what we need a Website Committee. One that has meetings, and makes sure the web site works as expected, stays current, and gives our members the best information it can. If we can do that, maybe you won't have to call "Mr. Fix-It" any more. Your answer might just be printed on the web site. Let's hope, cause after January 1, he just may not answer.

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Proposed Fees On Amateur Radio

Amateur radio licensees would pay a $50 fee for each amateur radio license application if the FCC adopts rules it proposed this week. Included in the FCC's fee proposal are applications for new

licenses, renewal and upgrades to existing licenses, and vanity call sign requests. Excluded are applications for administrative updates, such as changes of address, and annual regulatory fees.

The FCC proposal is contained in a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* (**NPRM**) in MD Docket 20-270, which was adopted to implement portions of the "Repack Airwaves Yielding Better Access for Users of Modern Services Act" of 2018 — the so-called "**Ray Baum's Act**."

The Act requires that the FCC switch from a Congressionally-mandated fee structure to a cost-based system of assessment. In its *NPRM*, the FCC proposed application fees for a broad range of services that use the FCC's Universal Licensing System (ULS), including the Amateur Radio Service that had been excluded by an earlier statute. The new statute excludes the Amateur Service from annual regulatory fees, but not from application fees.

"[A]pplications for personal licenses are mostly automated and do not have individualized staff costs for data input or review," the FCC said in its *NPRM*. "For these automated processes — new/major modifications, renewal, and minor modifications — we propose a nominal application fee of $50 due to automating the processes, routine ULS maintenance, and limited instances where staff input is required."

The same $50 fee would apply to all Amateur Service applications, including those for vanity call signs. "Although there is currently no fee for vanity call signs in the Amateur Radio Service, we find that such applications impose similar costs in aggregate on Commission resources as new applications and therefore propose a $50 fee," the FCC said.

The FCC is not proposing to charge for administrative updates, such as mailing address changes for amateur applications, and amateur radio will remain exempt from annual regulatory fees. "For administrative updates [and] modifications, which also are highly automated, we find that it is in the public interest to encourage licensees to update their [own] information without a charge," the FCC said.

The FCC also proposes to assess a $50 fee for individuals who want a printed copy of their license.

"The Commission has proposed to eliminate these services — but to the extent the Commission does not do so, we propose a fee of $50 to cover the costs of these services," the FCC said.

The RAY BAUM'S Act does not exempt filing fees in the Amateur Radio Service. The FCC dropped assessment of fees for vanity call signs several years ago.

Deadlines for comments and reply comments will be determined once the *NPRM* appears in the *Federal Register*. File comments by using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (**ECFS**), posting to MD Docket No. 20-270. This docket is already open for accepting comments even though deadlines have not yet been set.
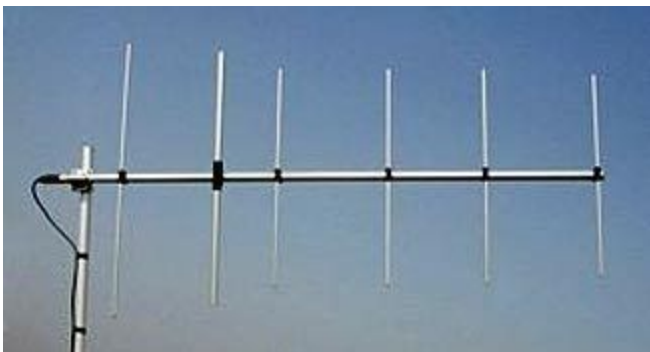
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Hurricane Laura Relief: ARES Higher Data Speed

The FCC has granted an ARRL request for a 30-day waiver to facilitate relief communications in the wake of Hurricane Laura. The waiver temporarily permits amateur data transmissions at a higher symbol rate than currently permitted under the FCC's rules. ARRL pointed out in its request that Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) members would be working with federal, state, and local emergency management officials to assist with disaster relief and may use radio modems capable of both PACTOR 3 and PACTOR 4 emissions. The higher data rates PACTOR 4 offers are critical to sending hurricane relief communications, including lists of needed and distributed supplies.

By permission, The ARRL Letter, August 27, 2020

After editing the *Ham Arundel News* for several years, Milford Craig has decided to turn over his quill and inkwell. Having done several newsletters myself, the task is one that takes some planning and vision.

There have been a few subtle changes with this issue. But nothing is in stone so therefore any suggestions on how I can improve how I handle the task can be addressed by email to newsletter@w3vpr.org and I will take all suggestions into consideration.

What Milford wanted, and I concur, is more articles from the membership. It could be something that is related to any of your current projects, committee reports, information you feel worthwhile to share, or whatever that is related to amateur radio (I, for instance, could write about how ***not*** to build an antenna, but I won't out of respect for those mechanically inclined). If you submit pictures remember to have permission from those in the photograph.

Where possible, I intend to include some contesting information. However, it will be limited as there are full pages in *QST* and *CQ*.

Phil Nelson / NO3N

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Additional Money for AARC

You can help AARC achieve its mission when you either join or renew your membership in the ARRL.

For each new member the club receives a commission of $15 (includes lapsed membership of two years or less) and $2 for a renewal.
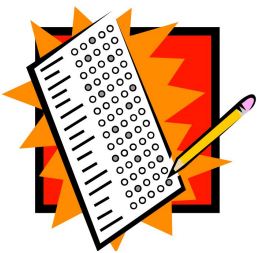
Renewals may be made at any time.

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

Congratulations to New Members

Michael R Ware, K3TEE, Amateur Extra
Emil Illian Jr., KC3PUD, Technician
Steven Tidd, KC3PUI, Technician
Travis J Keys, KC3PUH, Technician
William B "Brian" Sanders, KC3PVL, Technician

VE Testing

September 12 - Anne Arundel Radio Club, Davidsonville Family Recreation Center at the Shack, 3789 Queen Anne Bridge Rd, Davidsonville, MD. Registration starts at noon; testing at 1:00 PM. Contact David Rawley/AE5Z by e-mail (testing@w3vpr.org) for more information and to pre-register

September 18 - Laurel Amateur Radio Club, Women's Club of Laurel building, 384 Main St., Laurel, MD. Registration at 9:00 AM. Contact John Creel (WB3GXW) at 301-572-5124.

September 22 - Maryland Mobileers, National Electronics Museum, 1745 West Nursery Rd, Linthicum, MD, 6:00 PM. Arrive **no earlier** than 5:45 PM. contact Mike Montrose / KA2JAI 443-310-4907 web site is tinyurl.com/marylandmobileers

Summary of what to bring to your exam session:

1) A government-issued photo ID.
2) FRN if you have one, or SSN if you do not. FRN must be used if you have one.
3) Valid CSCE issued at a previous exam session if the exam results have not been processed by the FCC yet.

3) Acceptable material if claiming exam credit

Current conditions may affect test schedules.
Net Control Operators Needed

AARC is seeking members who are willing to volunteer to run the two premier nets:

The Holly Net is named in memory of Holly Bevan who ran the morning net for many years. It runs from 7 - 9 am Monday thru Friday, except for holidays.

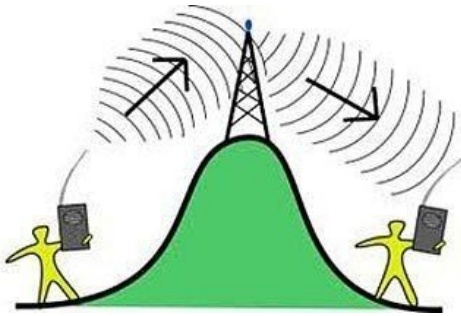The Wednesday 2-meter Net is conducted weekly starting at 8 pm.

Any assistance is welcome, one day a month a month or more.

To volunteer for the Holly Net send an email to the coordinator at holly.net@w3vpr.org

To volunteer for the weekly Wednesdat 2-meter net contact thecoordinator at wednesday.night.net@w3vpr.org

REPEATER FREQUENCIES

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

PL 107.2 is active for all repeaters

The 147.105, 147.075 and 444.300 repeaters are frequently linked. Please allow a second after the courtesy beep to allow for the link to reset.

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

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NETS

The "Holly Net" - Weekdays - 7-9 am
Wednesday Night Talk Net - Wednesday - 8 pm
Both on the 147.105 and 147.075 repeaters

Other Amateur Radio Nets

Name	Frequency	Day	Time
AA County ARES Net	147.805- MHz PL 107.2	Sunday	2200
BaltimoreTraffic Net	146.670- MHz	Daily	1830
Maryland Emergency Phone Net	3.820 MHz	Daily	1800
MD-DC-DE Traffic Net	3.557 MHz	Daily	1900 and 2200
Maryland Mobileers Net	146.805 PL 107.2	Monday	1930
Maryland Slow Nwt	3.563 MHz	Daily	1930
REACT Net	442.300+ MHz PL 107.2	1st Sunday	1930

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The Anne Arundel Radio Club

Is a registered 501(c)(3) Organization

We appreciate any contribution Over your dues

ARRL Atlantic Division

In the Atlantic Division, Director Tom Abernethy, W3TOM, who has held the seat since 2015, and Vice Director Bob Famiglio, K3RF, elected to a 3-year term (2015 - 2018) and then appointed in 2019 to fill a vacancy when the incumbent stepped down.

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ARRL Podcasts Schedule

The latest episode of the *On the Air* podcast (Episode 8) features an interview with brothers Andy, KK4LWR, and Tony, KD8RTT, Milluzzi about the ARRL Collegiate Amateur Radio Initiative. The *On the Air* podcast is a monthly companion to *On the Air* magazine, ARRL's magazine for beginner-to-intermediate ham radio operators.

The latest episode of the *Eclectic Tech* podcast (Episode 15) features a chat with Bob Allison, WB1GCM, about HF transceiver shopping -- getting the best performance for the money.

The *On the Air* and *Eclectic Tech* podcasts are sponsored by Icom. Both podcasts are available on iTunes (iOS) and Stitcher (Android), as well as on Blubrry.

Used with permission, *The ARRL Letter,* August 27, 2020

Amateur Radio Volunteers Ready as Deadly Hurricane Laura Makes Landfall

Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES®) teams along the Gulf Coast were ready to assist as needed after Hurricane Laura made landfall as a powerful and deadly Category 4 storm along the Texas-Louisiana border with sustained winds of 150 MPH. The National Hurricane Center (NHC) predicted "unsurvivable storm surge" was in the vicinity of 20 feet or greater, driving Gulf waters inland into waterways and lowlands. More than a

half-million people in Louisiana and Texas were told to evacuate ahead of the storm, but not everyone did -- or was able to leave. Widespread power outages were reported. By Thursday morning, the Hurricane Watch Net (HWN) had ratcheted its alert level up to 5 -- Catastrophic Response Mode -- and remained in operation even after the hurricane hit.

"Once Laura has been downgraded to a Tropical Storm, we will focus on helping to gather any post-storm reports from the areas that had been hit," HWN Manager Bobby Graves, KB5HAV, said. "This includes the relaying of any emergency or priority traffic."

At mid-week, ARRL South Texas Section Emergency Coordinator Jeffery Walter, KE5FGA, said, "We have begun nightly Zoom meetings with North Texas, South Texas, and ARRL Delta Division leadership. The areas directly in the path of the storm may call for mutual aid support." He assured that volunteers would be vetted and provided with necessary information and a plan put in place to define their deployment period.

Used with permission, *The ARRL Letter*, August 27, 2020

Board of Directors Elects New ARRL CEO David Minster, NA2AA

The ARRL Board of Directors has elected David Minster, NA2AA, of Wayne, New Jersey, as ARRL's new Chief Executive Officer, starting on September 28. Minster is currently Managing Partner at Talentrian Partners, a management consulting firm serving the consumer goods and luxury goods industries.

Minster began his career as a software engineer, moving into management at Unilever, as a Chief Information Officer of this globally recognized portfolio of brands that includes Elizabeth Arden Company, Chesebrough-Ponds Canada, Thomas J. Lipton Co., and others. From there, he moved to fine jewelry manufacturer and retailer David Yurman, where he served as COO and CIO. More recently, Minster served as CEO of jewelry brands Scott Kay and Judith Ripka.

"Building a culture of accomplishment and accountability is what I do best," he said. "My initial focus will be working with the Board on establishing strategic goals and concrete plans to navigate ARRL through the digital transformation required for the coming decades of its Second Century. This includes exciting and innovative ways to be engaged in amateur radio, while growing activity and membership."

Minster got his Novice license, WB2MAE, in 1977, when he was in his teens. He progressed from Advanced to Amateur Extra and, after a stint as NW2D, he settled on the vanity call sign NA2AA in the 1990s as a way to honor a mentor, N2AA, and the contest station that he used to frequent, K2GL, in Tuxedo Park, New York.

Minster's ham radio pursuits have ranged far and wide over the years. His background includes National Traffic System training and participation in public service events, as well as contesting from home, club stations, and contest stations in the

Caribbean -- particularly on Bonaire, where he is a member of PJ4G. Primarily a CW operator, Minster collects unique and vintage bugs and keys.

Minster earned a bachelor's degree in computer engineering from The Ohio State University and has a special interest in satellites, digital communications, remote operation, and ham radio computing and software. He has written keyer software for the commercial market, and contest logging, packet, and satellite telemetry software for personal use.

In addition to being an ARRL member, Minster is a member of AMSAT, the Frankford Radio Club, the Straight Key Century Club, CWops, and the North American QRP CW Club.

"I spend every day of my life, one way or another, engaged in amateur radio. It is more than just a hobby for me; it is my community. It is where I live; where I have built lifelong friendships, and friendships that span the globe. Amateur radio allows me to dream and to experiment. I can't wait to bring my energy and boundless enthusiasm in service to ARRL."

ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, said, "We are excited to welcome David as our new CEO, and look forward to his progressive leadership. His experience in management and operations, plus his activities in amateur radio, will serve our organization and members well."

Minster will succeed Barry J. Shelley, N1VXY, who was CEO in 2018, and who has been serving as ARRL's Interim CEO since January 2020. Shelley had been ARRL's Chief Financial Officer since January 1992.

Used with permission, *The ARRL Letter*, August 27, 2020

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Ham-Astronauts to Crew Boeing, SpaceX Commercial Missions for NASA

Ham-astronauts abound among crew members assigned to pioneering commercial space missions by Boeing and SpaceX. Jeanette Epps, KF5QNU, is the latest astronaut assigned to the Boeing Starliner-1, a four-passenger vehicle that will undertake its first mission to the International Space Station (ISS) in 2021. Others on the crew will include veteran Sunita Williams, KD5PLB, and Josh Cassada, KI5CRH. Another crew member is yet to be named.

**Jeanette Epps, KF5QNU.
[NASA, photo]**

Epps, Williams, and Cassada will spend 6 months on the ISS. The flight will follow NASA certification after a successful uncrewed Orbital Flight Test-2 and Crew Flight Test with astronauts. The spaceflight will be the first for Epps and Cassada and the third for Williams, who spent long-duration tours on the ISS for Expeditions 14/15 and 32/33. NASA assigned Williams and Cassada to the Starliner-1 mission in August 2018.

Four veteran astronauts are preparing to launch this fall on the SpaceX Crew 1 mission. They are Victor Glover, KI5BKC; Mike Hopkins, KF5LJG; Shannon Walker, KD5DXB, and Soichi Noguchi, KD5TVP, of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA).

Used with permission, *The ARRL Letter*, August 27, 2020

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If you have any information or have done any interesting projects that may interest the members, contact the editor by emailing newsletter@w3vpt.or

IARU Announces HF Digital Mode Band Plan Review

An International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) working group has been formed to develop solutions to reduce congestion within very popular mode segments while preventing mutual interference between "incompatible modes" as much as possible. The working group includes representatives of the three regional band-planning committees, marking the first time the three IARU regions have joined together to directly coordinate band-planning efforts.

"Because frequency allocations and amateur radio operating interests vary in different parts of the world, the development of band plans -- voluntary guidelines on the use of the spectrum that is available to radio amateurs -- is a responsibility of the three IARU regional organizations," the IARU explained in announcing the working group. "Each of the three regions has a band-planning committee to focus on this work."

The IARU says this approach to band planning has generally kept pace with the evolution of amateur radio operating, but the explosive growth in HF digital modes, particularly FT8, has led to perceived overcrowding of HF digital-mode band segments.

The new working group has already had fruitful discussions with the *WSJT* Development Group headed by Joe Taylor, K1JT. Additional discussions including other HF stakeholders will be held as part of a fundamental review of the different HF digital modes, and how they can best be categorized and arranged to share the limited spectrum available.

In recent years, moves have been made to bring the regional band plans into alignment wherever possible. Final approval of any band plan revisions typically occurs during regional conferences of IARU member-societies, held every 3 years on a rotating basis.

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New Smartphone App Can Identify Unknown Data Modes

An incredible number of digital-mode radio signals occupy the spectrum, and it's not always possible to identify the particular mode of operation. CW, PSK31, and FT8 are pretty easy, but how about CIS405, STANAG, or CHIP64? A new smartphone app can simplify things. *SignalID* can recognize about 20 signal modes (more may be on the way), in just 5 seconds of recording time. The app is open source and free.

Using it is simple. Once the frequency and bandwidth have been set, the user places the cell phone's microphone near the receiver's speaker, presses the large button, and waits for 5 seconds. The quieter the external environment is, the fewer errors.

"The algorithm is based on frequency, [so incorrect tuning] will result in an erroneous detection. The recording is limited to 5 seconds, for practical reasons. Mode recognition may require several attempts, the developer, Tortillum, said, and upgrades are already in the works. "The easiest way to try [it] is RTTY or STANAG," the developer added.

The very few comments so far from users suggest some further work may be needed, but they praised the concept. The developer invites additional comments.

The application, which includes a complete list, could prove a valuable tool in determining the types of emissions that may stray into amateur radio bands. A demonstration video is available. -- *Thanks to* Southgate Amateur Radio News *via Stephen Walters, G7VFY*

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Japanese now allowed SSB for 160-meters

The Japan Telecommunications Ministry (MIC) announced that effective August 20 all stations permitted to transmit on Japan's 160-meter allocation may now use SSB. The current Japan Amateur Radio League (JARL) band plan suggests 1848 - 1875 kHz carrier frequency for LSB. -- *Thanks to Kenji Rikitake, JJ1BDX/N6BDX*

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New Contest for Portable Stations to Debut

A new amateur radio contest for portable operators -- the Fox Mike Hotel Portable Operations Challenge (POC) -- will debut October 3 - 4. The event is aimed at leveling the competitive playing field between fixed stations and portable stations. Scoring for the POC, based upon a kilometers-per-watt metric, will be handicapped in favor of the portables. The contest is the brainchild of Frank Howell, K4FMH. Sponsors include *National Contest Journal* (*NCJ*) -- an ARRL publication -- but the POC will not be an official *NCJ* or ARRL contest.

"*NCJ*'s role is to encourage hams who don't contest to give it a try," *NCJ* Editor Dr. Scott Wright, K0MD, said. "It will encourage activity by operators who are limited by real estate and do not have a full-blown contest station. Events like this stimulate more interest in contesting, and this will have an international scope to give chances to snare some new DXCC entities."

The contest rules say scoring will be calculated using the distance between stations (Maidenhead grid squares) in kilometers divided by power output in watts. Fixed (QTH) stations will compete against portable (P) stations on 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters. Allowable modes include phone, CW, and digital.

The exchange is call sign, station class (P or Q), consecutive serial number, and four-character grid square.

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Campus Radio Clubs Face an Altered Fall Landscape

Many colleges and universities are preparing incoming students for fall classes, amid a complex landscape of re-entry plans due to COVID-19. Schools are pursuing a variety of instructional modalities, including live and asynchronous online classes, reduced-size or no in-person classes, and hybrid classes with some mix of it all. At schools where in-person attendance is allowed, the emphasis is on classes. Related student activities, such as sports, clubs, and so on may be nonexistent or extremely limited, due to the demands of social distancing and the need to repurpose facilities and rooms for lower densities. As institutions are forced to make hard choices, it's going to be more important than ever for school amateur radio clubs to find ways to continue, even if in-person meetings are impossible.Some campus radio clubs continue to sponsor training and testing of new hams by using videoconferencing and asynchronous communications to offer instruction and support.

The Hiram Percy Maxim Award

Jacob M. Nagel, AD0JA

The ARRL Board conferred the 2020 ARRL Hiram Percy Maxim Award on Jacob M. Nagel, AD0JA, of Wright City, Missouri. Licensed since 2012, the Board cited Nagel for exemplifying the spirit of amateur radio by learning new technologies, providing community service, and helping with emergency communication. ARRL's top youth honor, the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Award is given annually to a radio amateur and ARRL member under the age of 21. The award consists of a $1,500 stipend and an engraved plaque, to be presented at an ARRL convention or event.

The Board cited Nagel's involvement in providing technical assistance to the Okaw Valley Amateur Radio Club and the Egyptian Radio Club of Illinois for the installation and upgrading of their club repeaters; advising the Germantown, Illinois, Fire Department on upgrading its communication systems; speaking at the 2016 Dayton Hamvention® Youth Forum; sharing his expertise in online forums, and active involvement in projects that allow him to integrate his amateur radio knowledge with other technical ventures in electronics.

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New Australian Contest Call Signs

Australian telecommunications regulator ACMA has approved the issuance of 2 × 1 contest call signs with VJ, VK, and VL prefixes to Advanced-class licensees and to club stations for contest operation only.

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Doug DeMaw, W1FB, Technical Excellence Award

Al Rabassa, NW2M

The Board named Al Rabassa, NW2M, of Rockville, Maryland, as the recipient of the Doug DeMaw, W1FB, Technical Excellence Award.

The Board cited Rabassa's frequent contributions to the *QST* "Hints & Hacks" column and his *QST* technical articles, including "The Basics of Fan Cooling." The Board also noted that Rabassa has served as a subject-matter expert on the Yaesu FT-101 transceiver, maintaining a website devoted to the technical aspects of the vintage transceiver series.

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US Department of Defense to Share 3450 - 3550 MHz with 5G Commercial Operations

The FCC will auction sharing rights to the upper 50 MHz of the 3300 - 3500 MHz secondary amateur radio allocation to commercial 5G interests in the wake of the Department of Defense (DoD) agreement to share spectrum at 3450 - 3550 MHz. The entire band currently supports a variety of military operations, and amateur radio has a long history of peaceful coexistence with the Department of Defense as a secondary user of this spectrum.

Late last year, the FCC proposed to delete the amateur 3300 - 3500 MHz secondary allocation as well as the amateur-satellite allocation at 3400 - 3410 MHz. The FCC could auction the 100 MHz of spectrum in early 2022. This latest move makes a contiguous band of spectrum from 3450 - 3980 MHz available for commercial 5G networks.

"For a number of years, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) and FCC have focused on the 3450 - 3550 MHz band as the spectrum most conducive to sharing with commercial users," said ARRL Washington Counsel David Siddall, K3ZJ. "Monday's statements announced that a framework for sharing has been worked out."

In December 2019, the FCC adopted a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* (*NPRM*) in WT Docket 19-348 proposing to delete the 3300 - 3500 MHz secondary amateur band. ARRL strongly opposed the move in its comments on the *NPRM*, which put forward the FCC's plans to remove "existing non-federal secondary radiolocation and amateur allocations" in the 3300 - 3500 MHz band and to consider options for relocating incumbent non-federal operations.

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Radio Amateur Takes Part in Historic First Commercial Human Spaceflight to ISS

Bob Behnken, KE5GGX, was one of two NASA astronauts who made spaceflight history over the weekend. Behnken and Doug Hurley were the first astronauts since the 1970s to make a water landing, after their Crew Dragon capsule splashed down in the Gulf of Mexico on Sunday. On May 30, the pair made history as the first live crew to be launched

Bob Behnken, KE5GGX (left), and Doug Hurley after splashdown. [NASA, photo]

into space in a commercial vehicle, for a stay on the International Space Station (ISS), marking the return of human spaceflight to US soil for the first time in nearly a decade.

A SpaceX Falcon 9 vehicle carried the crew into orbit from Cape Canaveral. The so-called "Demo-2" was the last major test for SpaceX's human spaceflight system, to be certified by NASA for operational crew missions to and from the ISS. Four huge parachutes carried the Crew Dragon capsule to a safe splashdown near Pensacola, Florida, on Sunday, August 1.

"On behalf of the SpaceX and NASA teams, welcome back to planet Earth," SpaceX Engineer Michael Heiman radioed to the crew after their landing. "And thanks for flying SpaceX."

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ARRL Volunteer Monitors recognized 13 operators in 10 states with Good Operator letters during the second quarter of 2020. Among the operators recognized were CW and SSB operators on 20 and 40 meters, outstanding net operators on 2 meters (including a net control of the Central Indiana SKYWARN Net), and an operator on 40 meters who demonstrated exemplary courtesy and assistance to amateurs with technical issues.

Nearly 19,000 took part in the COVID-19 Communication Event earlier this year. In the final tally, the international on-air STAYHOME/STAYSAFE event logged 18,838 participants (with a median age of 62) in 181 DXCC entities, who used CW, SSB, and FT8 to share greetings during the 24-hour contest-like event. Thirty-nine registered STAYHOME/STAYSAFE stations, many with STAYHOME suffixes, were on the air from all continents, logging 120,181 contacts during the June 6 - 7 event. World winners were RG9A on CW; PP5JR on SSB; YO9HP on the digital modes, and LY9A on multiple modes. The STAYHOME/STAYSAFE events were organized jointly by Radio Arcala of Finland and Araucaria DX Group of Brazil. -- *Thanks to the COVID-19 Radio Communication Event Organizing Committee.*

Used by permission, The ARRL Letter, August 13, 2020

SAQ Alexanderson Day in the Age of COVID-19

Despite mid-summer conditions, at least seven US listeners, most of them radio amateurs, were able to copy the 17.2 kHz signal from the SAQ Alexanderson alternator at the World Heritage Grimeton Radio Station in Sweden. The July 5 transmission from the vintage electro-mechanical transmitter commemorated the annual Alexanderson Day. All told, more than 600 reception reports were received -- a new record.

Calendar

AARC

Due to social distancing requirements, club meetings are being held on Zoom and there have been some changes. The meeting schedule for September is:

Sept. 3: Membership Meeting, 7:30 PM, Agenda: Budget proposals for new fiscal year

Sept. 12: Board Meeting *

Sept. 17: Membership (Presentation) Meeting, 7:30 PM

Sept. 24: Rules Committee *

October 1 - Membership Meeting, 7:30 PM, Agenda: Annual Budget scheduled for vote

October 10 - Fall Technician Class, 9:00 AM. Zoom information will be set to registered students.

October 15 - Membership (Presentation) Meeting, 7:30 PM

November 5 - Membership Meeting, 7:30 PM, Agenda: Nominations for 2021 Board

November 19 - Membership (Presentation) Meeting, 7:30 PM

December 3 - Membership Meeting, 7:30 PM, Agenda:Election of Board

The AARC picnic has been canceled.

Invitations to the membership meetings will be emailed to the membership before the meetings. You must request meeting information from the President for Board meetings or the Rules Committee Chairman for the committee meeting.

Contesting

The following contests are being sponsored by the ARRL for September:

Sept. 12 (0000 UTC) - Sept. 13 (2259 UTC) - **EME - 2.3 GHz and Up** (At press time ARRL had 2019 information)

Sept. 12 (1800 UTC)- Sept. 14 (0259 UTC) **September VHF**. info at arrl.org/september-vhf

September 19 (0600 local) - September 20 (midnight local) - **10 GHz & Up**. info at arrl.org/10-ghz-up

AARC Staff - 2020

Officers

President	Keith Miller / AW3D 240-758-0423 president@w3vpr.org
Vice President	Jim Wallace / N3ADF vice.president@w3vpr.org
Secretary	Bernie Colleta / NK3PS secretary@w3vpr.org
Treasurer	Will Mooney / KA3UQQ treasurer@w3vpr.org
Director A	Eric Berman / KC3GOV eric.board20@w3vpr.org
Director B	Doug Ellmore / NA1DX doug.board20@w3vpr.org
Director C	Scott DeMatteo / W3GTR scott.board20@w3vpr.org

Support Staff

Membership Secretary	Lambert Matiss / KK3WOW
Information Orricer	Ed Santilli / KB3YMU info.officer@w3vpr.org
Safety	John Bowes / KB3YLY 443-760-1066 safety@w3vpr.org
Security	Tom Provenze / N3HLD security@w3vpn.org

Representatives

ARES/RACES	John Bowes / KB3YLY ares.races@w3vpr.org
DFRC Rep	Milford Craig / N3WYB 391-218-8867 dfrc.rep@w3vpr.org
Fox Hunt	Jim Wallace / N3ADF fox.hunt@w3vpr.org
Joint 440 Comm	Gordon Davids / WJ3K 410-647-2956 joint440@w3vpr.org
MD Slow Net	(TBA)
MDC Section Mgr	Martin Pittenger / KB3MXM arrl.sec.mgr@w3vpr.org
Public Relations	Ed Santilli / KB3YMU 301-261-6551 pr@w3vpr.org
Resident Agent	Justin Leidhmsn / KC3BJT ra@w3vpr.org
Trustee	Dick Mayo / WW3R trustee@w3vpr.org

Committees

APRS	Jon Graefe / AE3JG aprs@w3vpr.org
Beverage Supply	Jim Myrich / W3JLM beverage@w3vpr.org
Club Sale & Auction	Ike Lawton / W3IKE club.sale@w3vpr.org
Club Picnic	Jim Myrich / W3JLM picnic@w3vpr.org
Digital Networking	Ted Ruddy / KC3LMV net.leader@w3vpr.org
Facilities	Eric Berman / KC3GDV facilities@w3vpr.org

Field Day	Brian Mary / K3HMX field.day@w3vpr.org	
Station Manager	(TBA) station.manager@w3vpr.org	
Holly Net	Jim Wallace / N3ADF holly.net@w3vpr.org	
HAMM-MESH	(TBA) hamm.mesh@w3vpr.org	
Kit Building	'Raven' Weiland / KB3MUV kit@w3vpr.org	203 948 5369
MDC QSO Party	Jim Wallace / N3ADF mdcqsop@w3vpr.org	301 538 6233
Newsletter	Phil Nelson / NO3N	
Photography	Ed Santilli / KB3YMU photo@w3vpr.org	
Presentation	Jim Wallace / N3ADF presentation@w3vpr.org	
Public Service	Erick Graves / WA3G public.service@w3vpr.org	410 987 7670
Repeater Ops	John Williams / K8JW repeater@w3vpr.org	410 647 7406
Rules	Chuch Tanner / W3ACT rules.chair@w3vpr.org	301 464 2667
Service Hours	Jim Wallace / N3ADF service.hours@w3vpr.org	301 538 6233
Tower	(TBA) tower@w3vpr.org	
Training	Keith Miller / AW3D 240-758-0423 learn@w3vpr.org	
VE Team	David Rawley / N3AT ve.team.leader@w3vpr.org	
Video	Ed Santilli / KB3YMU video@w3vpr.org	
Webmaster	Mike Bova / W2PAW webmaster@w3vpr.org	240 274 6294
Wed. Nite Net	Mike Waterson / K3MAW wednesday.night.net@w3vpr.org	
Winter Field Day	Rick Steer / AB3XJ winter.field.day@w3vpr.org	
Workshop	(TBA) workshop@w3vpr.org	

Groups

Board of Directors board@w3vpr.org

Kit Building Committee   kitbuilding@w3vpr.org

Rules   rules@w3vpr.org

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Ham radio operators do it til their gigahertz

AARC Repeaters and Nets

2 Meter Rwpeaters

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
The "Holly Net"	147.105+ PL 107.2	Weekdays	0700
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.*

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 1928 The Radio Amateur's Code