T h e   H a m   A r u n d e l   N e w s

Prez Sez...

Keith Miller, AE3D

Greetings… for anyone who doesn't know me, I'm Keith Miller, AE3D. I'm 71, a retired radio DJ and have been a ham radio operator for 53 years, and first became a member of the AARC in the early 1980s. I've headed the AARC's training program for the last few years, have tried my hand as Field Day Chairman, and served as Secretary of the Board since January 2017.

Before I go further let me thank Richard Grace (KB3ZYO) for making so many things happen in 2017-2018. Rich is a real can-do kind of guy, and believes in getting things started now, not later. He took his predecessor's project of remodeling the ham shack and made it his own. But its been in the works 2 years now. So its up to the 2019 Board to take the Ham Shack project to it's logical conclusion which is: 4 operating positions, the capability of running everything from 160m through 70cm, both contest and standard logging capabilities, and ready to be put into operation with the flick of a few switches. As sports metaphors go, Bruce caught the kick off, Rich moved the ball down the field, now all we have left to do is kick it through the uprights.

We also need to complete repairs on the two 40 foot towers, adding new bolts on one, and a new base on the other. And there is quite a list after that.

As is usual for a new administration I've been reviewing how our system operates, and how we can make that system work better. I may change the committee structure some, and how they report to the Board and the Membership.

Further with the aid of a new Rules Committee I hope we can work toward creation of a "Policy Document" which will contain rules, policies, explanations, and other items as passed by the Board or the Membership with ongoing implications to normal operation of the Anne Arundel Radio Club. Too often this data is only stored in meeting minutes, where it is all but impossible to retrieve on short notice or when needed.

In fact I have a whole Presentation about what is on my mind and my agenda for 2019. If you can join me for the January 3rd Membership Meeting, I will be glad to share it all with you. I hope to see you all then.

73s…de AE3D
^^^

AARC Service Hours

Service hours are very important to any organization. The AARC is a 501C3 organization and as such we need to keep tract of our hours. This, then, is part of the report to the State of Maryland that helps us in keeping this status.

In April 2017, The Independent Sector Organization reported that the value of a volunteer hour is by 2.5%. In April 2017, each volunteer hour could be worth $24.14 for each volunteer hour.

Jim Wallace, N3ADF has done a lot of work so tht we can present the figure to the State of Maryland and give all of us recognition for the work we have volunteered over the past year.

Below are the awesome statistics for the service rendered by the Anne Arundel Radio Club for the year of 2018. Give yourselves a hand.

4713.75 hrs total
4376.50 hrs by 61 AARC Members
336.75 hrs by non members

5 received new AARC name tags given
15 received White labels for 25+ hrs
5 received Bronze labels for 50+ hrs
3 received Silver labels for 75+ hrs
11 received Gold labels for 100+ hrs
The highest hours put in by one member was 650.25 hrs
5 members put in 100 to 199 hrs
5 members put in 200 to 299 hrs
1 member put in 400 to 499 hrs
24 members put in less than 24.25 hrs each.
73
Jim-N3ADF
^^^

Happy New Year

from the
Anne Arundel Radio Club

ANNE ARUNDEL RADIO CLUB

Officers for 2019

President: Keith Miller, AE3D

Vice Pres: Tim Nagel, KB3YQK

Secretary: Steve Grimaud, (W3SWG)

Treasurer: William W Muzlera-Mooney, (KA3UQQ)

Directors:

Eric Berman, (KC3GDV)

Larry Booth, (AA3AU)

Bernard Coletta, (NK3PS)

"The 2018 Board of Directors would like to thank all the candidates,
members of the Nominating Committee, tellers and
special thanks to Chuck Tanner (K3ACT) who both chaired the Nominating Committee
and acted as Election Supervisor."
Keith Miller AE3D, Secretary

JOTA Reports 36% Growth in Scout Participation for 2018

Scouting's Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) 2018 reports that total Scout participation in the annual fall event jumped by 36% from 2017. Each year, more than 1 million Scouts and Guides get together over the airwaves for JOTA, which takes place on the third weekend of October. Since the first JOTA in 1958, millions of Scouts have become acquainted via Amateur Radio, and contacts sometimes result in relationships that extend for many years.

This year, 10,703 Scouts took part in the event, compared with 7,872 last year. Participating Amateur Radio operators topped 1,000 for the first time since 2016. At 610, the number of registered JOTA locations was way up, as was the number of JOTA stations registered, with 314. Participating JOTA stations reported contacts with stations in 99 countries, also up over 2017.

JOTA Coordinator Jim Wilson, K5ND, said he was pleased with this year's numbers and hopes that 2019's event will show a continued increase, despite a lack of sunspots.

"Looking over the numbers, a big part of the increase in JOTA Scout participation came from the World JOTA-JOTI (Jamboree on the Internet) Team's registration and reporting system," Wilson told ARRL. "We had 233 stations report results on the US system, which is comparable to last year's 226. In addition to that, 90 stations reported their results on the World system. After eliminating duplicates, this added 33 to our total of 266 station reports. That, chiefly, accounts for the increase in total Scout participation. In summary, perhaps this nice increase is due primarily to more accurate reporting."

Special Event station K4S in Jasper, Tennessee, where members of Scout Troop 5 and Cub Scout Pack 3005 participated in JOTA. [Photo courtesy of Radio Scouting]

Wilson said he's also looking forward to the final tally on US participation in JOTI. "Location registration in the US jumped from 274 last year to 610 this year," he said. "Several Amateur Radio operations reported using JOTI chat and Skype to greatly improve their ability to generate Scout-to-Scout conversations between the US and the rest of the world. Of course, VoIP modes like D-STAR, DMR, and EchoLink also helped in our solar minimum."

World JOTA-JOTI numbers are not expected until early 2019, as each country reports its results by mid-December followed by number crunching and compiling of the report, Wilson explained.

"Thanks to everyone who set up a JOTA station and helped Scouts experience the technology, fun, and magic of Amateur Radio. Let's do it again next year," he concluded.

Used with permission The ARRL Letter for December 6, 2018
^^^

US Radio Amateurs Help to Make YOTA Month Happen in Ethiopia

Two US radio amateurs helped to make Youngsters on the Air Month (YOTA Month) a success in Ethiopia. YOTA Month takes place each December, and several participating stations obtain permission to use YOTA suffix call signs for the occasion. Ken Claerbout, K4ZW, and Bob Johnson, W9XY, traveled to Addis Ababa to assist the young members of the Ethiopian Amateur Radio Society (EARS) as they transformed ET3AA at Addis Ababa University Institute of Technology into ET3YOTA, making their country available on the air during YOTA Month. A check of spots on DX Summit shows that ET3YOTA has mostly been active on 20-meter SSB, with some operation on 160 and 40 meters.

Make Ham Radio A Habit Claerbout, K4ZW (seated), and Ephrem Mebratu, KB3WWT, at ET3AA.

"The operators use SSB and FT8, although some would like to learn CW," Claerbout told ARRL. "They all do quite well actually on SSB. Bob, W9XY, worked with them a bit, to give them some pointers, but they have no problem turning on the radio, calling CQ, and facing the masses."

Several students at the university hold US Amateur Radio licenses because the Ethiopian government has not issued any licenses in some years, Claerbout explained.

In a narrative he shared with *The Daily DX*, Claerbout said the goal for the visit was to spend a lot of time on the air. "It was a chance for us to work with them, to refine operator skills, and jointly work on some station projects," he said. "This is a very enthusiastic group. They love to get on the air and operate!"

Claerbout, Johnson, and the Ethiopian operators obtained permission to stay at the university for three nights to activate 80 and 160 meters. They erected an inverted-L antenna supported with an 18-meter fiberglass pole.

"It is one of the ugliest antennas I've ever built but, boy, did it work, far beyond my expectations," Claerbout said. The antenna's location above a university building's metal roof provided an excellent RF ground, but manmade noise did turn out to be a major issue -- a steady S-9 +20 dB on 160 meters, and a mere S-9 on 80 meters. Unfortunately, using a noise-cancelling device didn't help.

"My goal for the 3 nights, along with working as many people as we could, was to see if operating [the] low bands from the club station would be feasible for future visits," Claerbout said. "I believe the noise can be dealt with to some degree, making future low-band operations a real possibility. On top band, many signals were right at the noise. Bob and I both agree that even knocking down the noise an S-unit or two would [open up another layer] of signals."

(L - R) Students Yakob, Rediet, and Robel learn about the Reverse Beacon Network (RBN).

Claerbout conceded that FT8 would be "very effective" in this sort of situation, but he said FT8 holds no interest for him. "I like the challenge this situation provides and developing solutions to overcome it, with the young engineers at the club station," he said.

The ET3YOTA call sign will be used for the rest of December, with operation on SSB and possibly some FT8. Plans call for uploading logs to LoTW.

Claerbout said, "[M]y involvement with the club is one of the coolest things I have done in Amateur Radio. I think W9XY would agree." He thanks DX Engineering and those who have helped foster the ham community in Ethiopia. "Youth and Amateur Radio in Ethiopia is flourishing," he concluded.

^^

Hamvention Seeks
2019 Award Nominees

Hamvention® is soliciting nominees for its 2019 awards -- Amateur of the Year, Technical Achievement, Special Achievement, and Club of the Year. Since the inception of the Hamvention awards program in 1955, many radio amateurs have been honored for their dedication and selfless contributions to Amateur Radio and to society.

• The Amateur of the Year Award recognizes a radio amateur who demonstrates a long-term commitment to the advancement of Amateur Radio, a history of contributions to ham radio, and a dedication to service and professionalism.

• The Technical Achievement Award honors a radio amateur who has achieved technical excellence in the world of Amateur Radio through inventions, processes, discoveries, experiments, and technical accomplishments, or through other outstanding technical achievement that has contributed to Amateur Radio.

• The Special Achievement Award goes to a radio amateur who has made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of the radio art and/or science. This award typically recognizes a radio amateur who has spearheaded a single significant project.

• The Club of the Year will be honored for clearly demonstrating its involvement in varied aspects of Amateur Radio for the greater good of their community or the nation.

Nomination forms for each award are available online and should include the information requested. The individual(s) making the nomination should provide contact information in case questions arise.

Submit nominations via email or via USPS mail to Hamvention Awards Committee, Box 964, Dayton, OH 45401-0964.

The nomination deadline is February 15. The Awards Committee will announce the award recipient after reviewing the nominations. An honors convocation will be held on the Saturday evening of Hamvention weekend, and presentations to award winners will take place on Sunday afternoon, prior to the door prize awards.

Contact the Awards Committee for more information. -- *Thanks to Mike Kalter, W8CI, and Frank J. Beafore, WS8B*

^^^

The Canadian National
Parks on the Air event

The Canadian National Parks on the Air event (CNPOTA) will begin on January 1, 2019, and continue until year's end. A volunteer group of a half-dozen hams in Nova Scotia, working with a zero budget, came up with

the notion of attempting to replicate the success of ARRL's National Parks on the Air (NPOTA) event in 2016, first created to mark the centennial of the National Park Service. Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) has announced its support for CNPOTA, in cooperation with Parks Canada. All radio amateurs are invited to activate any of Park Canada's 48 national parks and 171 national historic sites, while "chasers" attempt to land a contact. Activity for activators and chasers will be tracked on a dedicated website and a real-time leader board, and operators may compete for online awards and certificates. For updates on the program's progress, visit the CNPOTA website.
^^^

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

^^

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, tes**ting@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

Thursday, January 3, 2019 7:30pm
   AARC - Club meeting, newcomers welcome.

Thursday, January 10, 2019 7:30pm
   AARC - board meeting

Saturday, January 12, 2019 12:00pm
   AARC - Free License Exams

Tuesday, January 15, 2019 7:30pm
   AAACERT Net

Thursday, January 17, 2019 7:30pm
   AARC - Club meeting, newcomers welcome.

Sunday, January 20, 2019 1:00pm
   AARC - Mesh Networking group, Every 3rd Sunday, 1 to 4 PM at the clubhouse

Saturday, January 26, 2019 2:00pm
   Winter Field Day

Sunday, January 27, 2019 ending at 2:00pm
   Winter Field Day

FCC Tells LED Sign Marketers to Abide by Statutes and Rules

The FCC Enforcement Bureau **has called on** on marketers of light-emitting diode (LED) signs to ensure that these lights comply with FCC rules. Since March of this year, the agency has entered into 21 settlement agreements with companies that marketed noncompliant LED signs in violation of the Communications Act and FCC rules. The settlements yielded approximately $850,000 in penalties, and commitments to ensure compliance with the law going forward. Adherence to the FCC's equipment authorization and marketing rules is critical because radio frequency emissions from the signs may cause harmful interference to licensed communications, such as wireless services, the FCC said.

"In light of these recent settlements, we remind LED sign marketers of their obligations under the law," said Enforcement Bureau Chief Rosemary Harold. "The FCC takes seriously its responsibility in ensuring that energy-emitting devices like LED lights do not interfere with authorized transmissions."

LED lights are often used in digital billboards and other commercial and industrial applications, including billboards and large video displays in sports arenas. Given the electrical design of these lights, they may emit RF energy. Prior to being marketed in the US, LED sign models must be tested and comply with FCC technical standards and must include the proper labeling, identification, and user information disclosures. The FCC Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) oversees the equipment authorization **process** for RF devices, including LED signs.

The Enforcement Bureau investigated hundreds of indoor and outdoor LED sign models and discovered repeated FCC rule violations concerning the failure to market the models with the required equipment authorizations, labeling, and user information disclosures. To settle its respective investigation, each company verified that the models at issue were brought into compliance with FCC rules, agreed to pay a monetary penalty, and committed to abide by a compliance plan to improve internal procedures to avoid future violations.

The Bureau has settled 21 investigations to date, with penalties as high as $115,000. **Each settlement** is available on the FCC Enforcement Bureau home page.
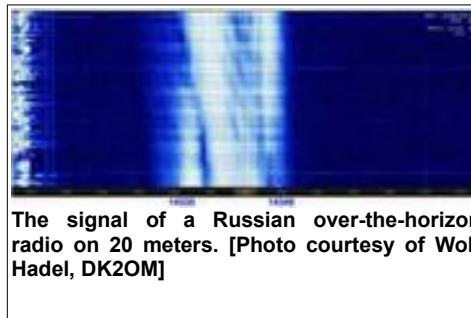
Used with permission The ARRL Letter for December 6, 2018
^^^

The Anne Arundel Radio Club

We are pleased to receive any donations over your yearly dues.

Broadcasters Intruding on Exclusive Amateur Radio Frequencies

The International Amateur Radio Union Region 1 (IARU-R1) Monitoring System (IARUMS) reports that Radio Hargeisa in Somaliland has returned to 7,120 kHz after a break of several weeks, while Radio Eritrea has been reported on 7,140 and 7,180 kHz. Radio Sudan has been transmitting on 7,205 kHz with excessive splatter, IARUMS said. German telecommunications authorities have filed official complaints.

The signal of a Russian over-the-horizon radio on 20 meters. [Photo courtesy of Wolf Hadel, DK2OM]

IARUMS has also reported digital signals attributed to the Israeli Navy on 7,107 and 7,150 kHz. In addition, a Russian military F1B signal was observed in mid-November on 7,179 kHz. A Russian over-the-horizon radar has returned to 20 meters on 14,335 - 14,348 kHz. It was monitored on November 22.

Earlier this fall, IARUMS reported digital signals from the Polish military daily on 7,001.8 kHz where Amateur Radio has a worldwide primary allocation. Telecommunications officials in Germany filed a complaint.

IARUMS has received reports of short "beeps" exactly 1 second apart, as well as frequency hopping between 10,108 and 10,115 kHz and 18,834 and 18,899 kHz. The signals are believed to emanate from a site near Chicago associated with an FCC-licensed experimental operation involved with low-latency exchange trading on HF (see "Experiments Look to Leverage Low-Latency HF to Shave Microseconds off Trade Times"). Although Amateur Radio is secondary on 30 and 17 meters, Experimental licenses may not interfere with Amateur Radio operations.

Used with permission The ARRL Letter for December 13, 2018
^^^

Jordan's first CubeSat, JY1Sat, is now JO-97.

JY1Sat, launched on December 3 from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California as part of the SpaceX SSO-A: SmallSat Express launch, has been designated as Jordan OSCAR 97 (JO-97). The 1U CubeSat is a project of the Crown Prince Foundation of Jordan. Telemetry has been received and decoded around the world since the launch. The spacecraft's name recalls the Amateur Radio call sign of Jordan's late King Hussein, JY1. JO-97 carries a 435/145 MHz SSB/CW inverting Amateur Radio transponder and a Slow-Scan Digital Video (SSDV) system to transmit stored images. The telemetry downlink is on 145.840 MHz, the transponder downlink passband is 145.855 - 145.875 MHz, with an inverting uplink on 435.100 - 435.120 MHz. -- *Thanks to AMSAT*

Used with permission The ARRL Letter for December 13, 2018

W1AW 2018 Winter Operating Schedule

Morning Schedule:

Time	Mode	Days
1400 UTC (9 AM EST)	CWs	Wed, Fri
1400 UTC (9 AM EST)	CWf	Tue, Thu

Daily Visitor Operating Hours:

1500 UTC to 1700 UTC - (10 AM to 12 PM EST)
1800 UTC to 2045 UTC - (1 PM to 3:45 PM EST)

(Station closed 1700 to 1800 UTC (12 PM to 1 PM EST))

Afternoon/Evening Schedule:

Time	Mode	Days
2100 UTC (4 PM EST)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
2100 " "	CWs	Tue, Thu
2200 " (5 PM EST)	CWb	Daily
2300 " (6 PM EST)	DIGITAL	Daily
0000 " (7 PM EST)	CWs	Mon, Wed, Fri
0000 " "	CWf	Tue, Thu
0100 " (8 PM EST)	CWb	Daily
0200 " (9 PM EST)	DIGITAL	Daily
0245 " (9:45 PM EST)	VOICE	Daily
0300 " (10 PM EST)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
0300 " "	CWs	Tue, Thu
0400 " (11 PM EST)	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 2330 UTC (6:30 PM EST), 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 0100 UTC (8 PM EST) Thursdays and 0100 UTC (8 PM EST) Fridays.

Audio from W1AW's CW code practices, CW/digital bulletins and phone bulletin is available using EchoLink via the W1AW Conference Server named "W1AWBDCT." The monthly W1AW Qualifying Runs are presented here as well. The 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.

All licensed amateurs may operate the station from 1500 UTC to 1700 UTC (10 AM to 12 PM EST), and then from 1800 UTC to 2045 UTC (1 PM to 3:45 PM EST) Monday through Friday. Be sure to bring your current FCC amateur radio license or a photocopy.

The W1AW Operating Schedule may also be found on page 94 in the November 2018 issue of QST or on the web at, http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-operating-schedule .

^^^

##

#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.

Ohio ARES Member Builds
Amateur Radio on Wheels
for Mobility on Deployments

Lucas County (Ohio) ARES is active and involved with the county's EMA, and provides communications for events such as the Glass City Marathon and the Sylvania Triathlon. ARES also supports the Northwest Ohio Healthcare Emergency Management Coalition (NWO-HEMC), which covers 18 counties. They recognize ARES as a viable tool and have included Amateur Radio in their communications plan.

Lucas County ARES also has a long term relationship with the eight local area hospitals and regularly performs communication drills using the hospitals' radio equipment. The equipment is located in a variety of areas each assigned by the individual hospital.

The equipment list at the hospital stations is extensive and includes a complete D-Star capable station minus the computer stored in a box on the wall. It is up to the operator to find a place to set up the station within reach of the antenna lead attached to the wall.

ARES member Steve Bellner, W8TER, of Maumee, Ohio, has participated in a few of the drills, assigned to patient rooms crowded with patients, families and clinical staff performing their duties. In one case, Bellner had the station set up on a chair, but he had no chair to sit in. The radio teetered and the computer laptop was also not stable. The noise in the room was loud and the operator

AROW -- Amateur Radio On Wheels. *(Steve Bellner, W8TER)*

required earphones to monitor the radio.

Bellner said he had to move the station to afford the room to extend the Incident Command table area. He came to realize that during a drill or other event there may not be any chair or table at all to operate from.

As a result, Bellner came up with the idea of using a rolling, movable station based on the Computers On Wheels (COWs) used on the hospital patient floors and units. The nurses use them to go room to room; they are easily maneuvered. The battery is located in the bottom of the COW and gives it ballast. They also have a relatively small footprint.

Bellner adapted the COW idea as a portable station to be used as a "grab and go." A Milwaukee hand cart serves as the framework skeleton and his Amateur Radio On Wheels (dubbed AROW) is incorporated into Bellner's home ham shack so it is always ready to go.

Used with permission The ARES E-Letter for December 19, 2018
^^

New Two-Ham ISS Crew Launched
Since Aborted October Flight

Three astronauts -- including two radio amateurs -- have docked at the International Space Station (ISS) on the first crewed *Soyuz* vehicle launch since a dramatic failure in October. The astronauts, from the US, Canada, and Russia, left Kazakhstan at 1130 UTC on December 3, and the Russian space agency Roscomos confirmed their successful docking at the station. On board were David Saint-Jacques, KG5FYI, a Canadian engineer, astrophysicist, and medical doctor; space veteran Oleg Kononenko, RN3DX, of Russia, and Anne McClain, of the US. Investigators have blamed a faulty sensor, said to have been damaged during assembly in Kazakhstan. Crew commander Kononenko said his crew recognized the risks of spaceflight as part of their profession and expressed confidence in the flight preparation.

(L - R) Expedition 58 crew members Anne McClain, Oleg Kononenko, RN3DX, and David Saint-Jacques, KG5FYI. [NASA photo by Victor Zelentsov]

The three-person crew's mission was originally set for later this month, but officials moved up the date to avoid leaving the space station unstaffed, when the current ISS crew of cosmonaut Sergey Prokopyev and astronauts Serena Auñón-Chancellor, KG5TMT, and Alexander Gerst, KF5ONO, return to Earth on December 20.

Meanwhile, NASA astronaut Nick Hague, KG5TMV, who was on the aborted October 11 *Soyuz* launch, is getting ready for another try. Hague, NASA astronaut Christina Hammock Koch, and cosmonaut Alexey Ovchinin are scheduled to launch from Baikonur Cosmodrome on February 28 aboard the Russian *Soyuz* MS-12 spacecraft.

The trio will join the ISS Expedition 58 crew that just went up, and they will return to Earth in October 2019 as members of Expedition 60. Hague and Koch will serve as flight engineers for Expeditions 59 and 60. Ovchinin will serve as a flight engineer on Expedition 59 and as the commander of Expedition 60. This will be Koch's first spaceflight. Hague and Ovchinin were on their way to join the station's Expedition 57 crew on October 11, when their *Soyuz*'s rocket booster experienced a malfunction shortly after launch, aborting the mission. Both returned safely to Earth. The MS-10 flight abort marked the first Russian human spaceflight booster accident in 35 years.

Investigators looking into the October 11 incident said afterward that other *Soyuz* vehicles may have been similarly defective, but pointed out that additional pre-flight checks had been introduced. NASA offered its own reassurances about continued cooperation with and confidence in the Russian space program.

Used with permission The ARRL Letter for December 6, 2018

ARRL's Logbook of The World Tops 1 Billion QSO Records

As of December 19, more than 1 billion contact records have been entered into ARRL's Logbook of The World (LoTW) system. And, while 1 billion QSO records represents a significant milestone, a more important statistic may be the nearly 187 million contacts confirmed via LoTW over its 15-year history.

The one billionth record was uploaded by 7X3WPL, the Sahara DX Radio Club, at 2332 UTC for a 20-meter SSB contact with with Davide Cler, IW1DQS, that took place on December 28, 2016. The upload resulted in a match (QSL).

LoTW debuted in 2003 after a lot of behind-the-scenes planning and development. Initially, LoTW got off to a slow start. While user numbers gradually grew to about 5,000, a lot of hams didn't fully understand what LoTW was or how it worked, and opening an account could be cumbersome.

LoTW continued with few major changes until October 2011, when a perfect storm struck -- a large ingestion of logs after the CQ World Wide DX Contest and a freak snowstorm that knocked out power for more than a week in most places.

Field Services and Radiosport Department Manager Norm Fusaro, W3IZ, said uninterruptible power source (UPS) backup power quickly depleted in the days-long power outage. "When the system came back online, it was overwhelmed with the amount of data coming in and could not keep up," Fusaro said. "The water was coming in faster than the pumps could pump it out. *Crash!*"

The disaster was a blessing in disguise, though, because it revealed weaknesses in the LoTW software and hardware.

Today, LoTW boasts some 112,000 users in all 340 DXCC entities, and 75% of all DXCC applications are filed via LoTW.

Fusaro said the League spent tens of thousands of dollars for new hardware. IT Manager Mike Keane, K1MK, implemented code changes to expedite log processing by giving priority to small- to medium-sized logs and inserting mega-files as openings occurred. Fusaro said a lot of the large files contained duplicate data, bogging down the process so much that users were resending logs already in the queue. Through all of this, not one QSO record was lost, because LoTW uses a redundant backup process, Fusaro said.

A LoTW users' group reflector and a queue-processing status page were set up. With better communication, Fusaro said, the system attracted additional numbers. Today, LoTW boasts some 112,000 users in all 340 DXCC entities, and 75% of all DXCC applications are filed via LoTW, which accounts for 86% of confirmations applied.

Now, ARRL is looking at the development of LoTW 2.0, Fusaro said. "Over the years, we have added more awards that can be applied for using LoTW QSL credits: VUCC, Triple Play, and two CQ awards -- WPX and WAZ."

"The service still has room for a lot of improvement, but it continues to grow and is the preferred method of confirming QSOs because it strives to protect the integrity of DXCC and all awards," Fusaro said.

^^

Thanks To All Who Attended The American Legion PGCERA Santafest

SantaFest is the brainchild of Jim Montgomery WB3KAS, ARRL, Maryland - District of Columbia, Emergency Coordinator and the ARRL Prince George County Emergency Coordinator. Jim thought it would be a good idea to have a hamfest before Christmas.

The purpose of SantaFest is to provide a source of funding for the Prince George County Emergency Repeater Association [PGCERA]. The American Legion provides a large in kind donation for the use of the facility.

We have just completed the third annual Santafest. All three of the SantaFests have provided a positive source of funds to PGCERA.

The Santafest can host up to thirty tables and a few hearty tailgaters. All work involved in preparing and conducting the event is volunteer.

The volunteers come from members/spouses of:
American Legion,
ARES (Prince George County),
Anne Arundel County Amateur Radio Club,
Charles County Amateur Radio Club,
Fort Washington Amateur Radio Club,
International Order of Jobs Daughters Bethel 41,
Prince George County Emergency Repeater
   Association,
Southern Maryland Amateur Radio Club, and
Southern Maryland Astronomical Society.

The Fourth Annual American Legion PGCERA Santafest will be held December 7, 2019. Everyone is welcome.

Remember the lives lost at Pearl Harbor.
Charles Hallock, AA3WS
SantaFest Chairman
"RF Can't Read"
^^

First FT8 Roundup is a Huge Hit

The first FT8 Roundup over the December 1 - 2 weekend attracted some 1,300 logs from those taking advantage of the ever-more-popular digital protocol. This,

despite its having been announced on fairly short notice and with other events such as the ARRL 160-Meter Contest on the same weekend. More than 400 of the logs were from US radio amateurs in the 48 contiguous states, plus the District of Columbia. Overall, some 131,200 contacts were recorded. Participants from 91 countries submitted logs, testifying to the fact that FT8 is not just a US phenomenon.

"The FT8 Roundup was the last shakedown for the WSJT-X 2.0-rc5 beta software," said well-known RTTY contesting enthusiast and expert Don Hill, AA5AU, an FT8 cosponsor with Ed Muns, W0YK. "It performed with no major complications." The general availability release of WSJT-X 2.0 is now out, and it's not backward compatible with WSJT-X 1.9 or earlier versions. Developer Joe Taylor, K1JT, has

urged users to upgrade by January 1 to what now is the new world standard. Muns, who's NCJ "Digital Contesting" contributing editor, said FT8 Roundup participation compared favorably with that for the ARRL RTTY Roundup, which has averaged around 1,700 logs in recent years.

Ed Muns, W0YK.

"Don and I expected the contest to be popular," Muns said, "but the participation far exceeded our expectations. I think it bodes well for future FT8 contesting. Don and I are pretty bullish about continuing the FT8 Roundup on the first full weekend of December each year." Nonetheless, Muns said he doesn't see FT8 to "really take off" and

Don Hill, AA5AU, and second op Sophie (SK).

displace RTTY until the contact rate can be significantly increased through parallel QSO techniques.

Hill agreed on the event's popularity. "I have to say it was a huge success," he said. "Ed and I never dreamed it would be this popular. It didn't make sense to continue the Ten-Meter RTTY Contest during this part of the sunspot cycle. Replacing it with an all-FT8 HF contest was the logical choice." Hill and Muns have cosponsored the Ten-Meter RTTY Contest.

Hill said final results of the inaugural FT8 Roundup should be out in a few days. "After the New Year, we hope to have downloadable online certificates available to all participants. We will definitely do it again next year," he said.

The 2019 ARRL RTTY Roundup will permit the use of FT8.

Used with permission The ARRL Letter for December 13, 2018
^^

WSJT-Z Version 2.0

WSJT-X users: Version 2.0 of WSJT-X has been released, and it's time to upgrade. See the WSJT-X for the download links and upgrade information. If you are planning on using FT8 and WSJT-X in the ARRL RTTY Roundup, you will need to use version 2.0 of the software.

The Mt. Airy VHF Society Packrats have some suggestions on how to use WSJT-X 2.0 in the January VHF Contest. They include: website

Only use FT8 for contacts that can't be made using SSB or CW. It's all about the rate!

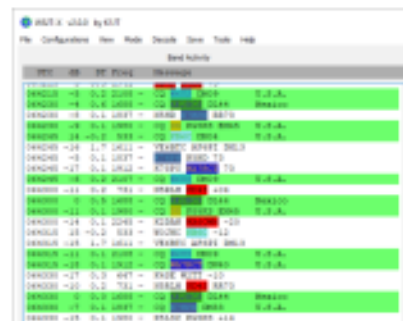Make sure you're using WSJT-X version 2.0.

WSJT-X is capable of other modes in addition to FT8. Learn how to use MSK144 and JT65.

Used with permission The ARRL Contest Update for December 12, 2018
^^^

Note: FT8 Release WSJT-X 2.0

External programs can color-highlight individual call signs using one of the new UDP packet types available in WSJT-X 2.0. This could help with the display of multiplier or dupe status from external loggers or other programs.

With the release of WSJT-X 2.0, additional UDP packet types have been added in support of use with external applications.

One new packet type provides the logged contact in ADIF format, while another type enables the highlighting of specific call signs within the WSJT-X band activity window.

Used with permission The ARRL Contest Update December 12, 2018

^^^

AARC STAFF – 2018

OFFICERS

President:
  Keith Miller / AE3D   president@w3vpr.org

Vice Pres:
  Timothy Nagel / KB3YQK   vice.president@w3vpr.org

Secretary:
  Steve Grimaud / W3SWG   secretary@w3vpr.org

Treasurer:
  William W Muzlera-Mooney / KA3UQQ
                                        treasurer@w3vpr.org

Directors:
  Eric Berman / KC3GDV   eric.board19@w3vpr.org

  Larry Booth / AA3AU   larry.board19@w3vpr.org

  Bernard Coletta / NK3PS   bernie.board19@w3vpr.org

REPRESENTATIVES

Trustee:
    Dick Mayo / WW3R   ww3r.mayo@gmail.com

Resident Agent:
    Bob Jeter / K3RSJ   jeter904@verizon.net

DFRC Rep:
    Milford Craig / N3WYG   n3wyg@w3vpr.org

Public Relations:
    Paul Bowling / W4ATN   paul@w4atn.com

Program Chairman:
    Tim Nagel / WB3YQK   vice.president@w3vpr.org

ARES/RACES:
    Ron Boller / N3WOF   n3wof@arrl.net

Joint 440 Comm:
    Gordon Davids / WJ3K   davids@verizon.net

FAR Representative
    Ed Brown / AA3EB   brownmejr@comcast.net

COMMITTEE COORDINATORS

Public Service:
    Erick Graves / WA3G   erick.g@comcast.net

Repeater Ops:
    John Williams / K8JW   k8jw@verizon.net

VE Team:
    Rick Steer - AB3XJ   ab3xj@yahoo.com

Training:
    Keith Miller / AE3D   president@w3vpr.org

Packet Radio:
    Jonathan Grafe / KB3ZVO   grhear@yahoo.com

Newsletter:
    Milford Craig / N3WYG   newsletter@w3vpr.org

Web Page:
    Mark Bova / W2PAW   w2paw@markbova.com

Field Day:
    To be determined

MDC QSO Party
    Jim Wallace / N3ADF   n3adf@verizon.net

MD Slow Net:
    Bruce Stewart / W8CPG chickenfarm9@gmail.com

ARRL MDC Section Manager :
    Martin J. Pittinger / KB3MXM   kb3mxm@arrl.net

^^^

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)

T-MARC CO-ORDINATION

Your VHF/UHF radio is tuned to a local repeater – and you push your PTT switch –

Do you realize just how much work went into making that simple act work?

Various coordinating entities work to harmonize the most efficient and effective use of the spectrum and there are legions of dedicated volunteers to respond whenever the call comes to maintain these repeaters.

Hats off to all the radio clubs and folks that bear responsibility and these expenses, as they are by no means trivial.

So next time you push your PTT say a little "Thank You" in your mind in recognition of all the hard work that it takes to maintain the system that makes it so easy for us all to communicate.

(Ed. Note Thank You Ken for your welcoming comments.)

T-MARC is The Mid-Atlantic Repeater Council and coordinates Amateur VHF and UHF repeater operations to keep interference problems to a minimum.

T-MARC areas of responsibility include the District of Columbia, Delaware, Maryland, Northern Virginia and the eastern panhandle of West Virginia.

If you have any questions about coordinating a repeater, you may send an email to the Board at tmarc@tmarc.org

- - - - - - - - - - - - - -

UHF Band Plan: The President called for comments from the floor regarding the proposed changes to the UHF Band Plan. The proposal as well as the comments received via email had been previously sent to all members along with the monthly coordination report. Hearing no comments from the floor, the President called for the vote on a motion to accept the proposed new UHF Band Plan. NW3B moved to accept as published and was seconded by K3DO. The vote was called and passed unanimously without objection.

Used with permission MDC SECTION NEWS DECEMBER 21, 2018
^^

K1CE: Scale of Disaster Response

Poses New Opportunities for ARES

Over the years, especially since Hurricane Katrina (2005), I've seen a more proactive and robust response to hurricanes and other major disasters, but I never truly grasped its scale until now. As I was browsing through my emails, I found a summary report from FEMA that captivated my attention. Hurricane Michael made landfall west of my home in the rural Suwannee River basin in Florida; since the warning area had included the Suwannee River, I evacuated to the central east coast of the peninsula. Following the devastating storm, I was amazed to read of the massive response from the "whole community," FEMA's term for everybody from federal, state, county and local governments and the military, to NGO's, faith-based organizations, American Red Cross, and including organizations like ours, the ARRL and ARES.

More than 16,000 federal employees, including over 8,000 military personnel were deployed. Search and rescue teams from FEMA, the US Coast Guard, National Guard and others, working alongside state responders and volunteers, completed 110 evacuations, 4,193 rescues/assists, 15,287 shelter in place checks, and 128 animal assists. Structural assessments were completed on 16,827 structures in Florida. Sixteen different states sent support through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact with more than 430 deployed to assist.

More than 35,000 utility workers from 26 states worked to restore power. In Florida, FEMA provided 715,000 meals and 1.5 million liters of water per day. FEMA transferred more than 350,000 meals to Georgia for feeding operations. The feds supported more than 30 distribution sites.

More than 1,600 people stayed overnight in American Red Cross shelters in Florida and Georgia. Shelter residents were able to use the Red Cross's Safe and Well site to check in and find missing individuals.

The US Department of Defense put 5,000 personnel in the field with assets including 32 helicopters, six fixed wing aircraft, 17 swift water vehicles and 160 high water vehicles to support search and rescue missions.

More than 4,000 National Guard troops in Florida and Georgia were assigned to over 50 missions that included search and rescue, engineering, route clearance and points of distribution support at 30 locations. Troops also provided support at 12 shelter locations. A Guard heavy engineering unit cleared 107 city blocks in the affected area.

US Coast Guard working with US Customs and Border Patrol, completed 355 assists/rescues and one animal rescue in Florida. Three USCG Damage Assessment Teams and two Reconstruction Teams were assessing and repairing damaged facilities.

The US Army Corps of Engineers fielded seven response programs including providing temporary emergency power in Florida, offering technical assistance on debris removal, route clearance and temporary roofing. Twenty route clearance teams cleared roads in Florida. Two Deployable Tactical Operations System Vehicles assisted with communication capabilities and connectivity. The Corps monitored and managed dams.

Eight Health and Human Services Disaster Medical Assistance Teams cared for patients at four emergency departments in Florida. The FCC provided emergency assistance to communications providers and created a web page for information and tips for communicating during an emergency. The US Department of Interior had 225 personnel conducting debris clearance and infrastructure damage assessments.

The Salvation Army mobilized 48 mobile feeding units with a combined service capacity of 72,000 daily meals. Operation BBQ Relief had field kitchens in Florida with a total meal capacity of 30,000 meals per day. The Southern Baptist Disaster Relief opened disaster kitchens for 60,000 meals per day.

The list goes on, but you get the idea. There were a couple of takeaways for me: First, was the sheer massiveness of the whole community response, so much greater by orders of magnitude from the pre-Katrina era. And second, it occurred to me that there is still an almost unlimited array of new opportunities for radio amateurs to contribute supporting radio communications to many if not

all of the entities and services described above and almost countless others.

Back in the nineties, there was concern expressed by the field that ARES and other amateur emergency services were facing diminishing demand and new opportunities to provide their radio communications support due to agencies developing and hardening their own communications systems, leaving us outside looking in. To address these concerns and gather input, I held a number of conferences around the country in connection with major conventions and hamfests. The result was a *QST* report published in the February 1999 issue, pp. 80-81, *ARES Providers, Served Agency Reps Together in Tampa*, that described non-traditional opportunities for us as ARES members. It seems to me that nothing has changed: Many more opportunities to serve can be found right in the first part of this editorial.

Think about it when your ARES team is looking for more and diverse opportunities to serve. - *K1CE*

Used with permission The ARES E-Letter for December 19, 2018
^^

Grid Chase Certificates Page
Is Now Live

The 2018 ARRL International Grid Chase (IGC) certificates page is now live. As IGC competitions are monthly, people can start generating monthly certificates to display. At year's end,

IGC will have the option to generate a certificate based on year-end tallies. For now, participants can select a month, then select up to 16 band/mode certificates they'd like to create.

Participants with more than 16 band/mode activities can choose to generate two certificates to encompass the excess (i.e., more than 16 lines), or can just generate certain band certificates, or just certain mode certificates -- even just one band/mode if desired.

This is a work in progress. Give it a try! Feedback is welcome. -- *Thanks to ARRL Contest Branch Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ*

Used with permissionThe ARRL Letter for December 6, 2018
^^^

ExseedSat Is VO-96

ExseedSat has been designated as VO-96. At the request of Exseed Space, AMSAT has designated the 1U *ExseedSat* CubeSat, launched on December 3 on a Falcon 9 vehicle from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California, as VUsat-OSCAR 96 (VO-96). *ExseedSat* was built by a team of Indian radio amateurs, including Ashhar Farhan, VU2ESE; George Philips, VU2GT; Gurudatta Panda, VU3GDP; Sasi Bhushan, VU3ELR, and Nitin Muttin, VU3TYG. Initial telemetry has

Gurudatta Panda, VU3GDP, with ExseedSat, now VO-96. [Photo courtesy of The Hindu]

been received around the world. The downlink is 145.900 MHz for the FM repeater (CTCSS = 67 Hz) and digipeater, plus telemetry, and 435.340 MHz for FM repeater and digipeater uplink. Visit the IARU Satellite Frequency Coordination page for more information. -- *Thanks to Drew Glasbrenner, KO4MA, AMSAT VP Operations/OSCAR Number Administrator*

Used with permission The ARRL Letter for December 13, 2018
^^

Planning for Field Day Starts Now

Yep, We're having pizza again. Not the real Forno Bova, but an //incredible// simulation.

If you've attended the AARC's Field Day over the last few years, undoubtedly you will recall the wood-fired brick oven pizza.

Well, I'm sorry to report that they're booked with a wedding this year. But we're not totally lost.

I've made plans to borrow two of their demo ovens. We should also be getting Forno Bova dough, Forno Bova Pizza sauce, and more than likely the same poor sucker that spun out all the pizzas last year. I've also got a commitment from one other experienced cook, and some inside notice on your favorites pizza recipes from prior years.This should be another awesome part of an already fantastic weekend event.

2019 Field Day will be held June 22-23, 2019. Field Day is always held on the *4th full weekend* in June. If you haven't made plans yet, make sure you save the date.

It's 24 hours of radio contesting, cleverly disguised as a (fun) emergency preparedness exercise, all wrapped up with a picnic, barbecue, brunch, and (optional) overnight camping trip.
See you there!
73 Mark W2PAW
^^

Winter Field Day

Well Santa's reindeer have been fed and are resting. The New Year is here.

What better time to look at your calendar and pencil in the Winter Field Day at the W3VPR club house. We will have our open shack during this event and all are welcome to stop in. We have not had a HUGE response so far and the plan is now to just open the shack, have pot luck food and let people operate on several bands and modes. This will be dependent on available operators and band conditions.

Check out the rules at
https://www.winterfieldday.com/rules.
[1] We will try to be open from 1pm (for setup) the 26th to 2pm the 27th.

All operators can work bands up to the level of the top operator while using the W3VPR call sign. So we need some Extra operators to keep the shack open to allow Technicians to get a few QSO's and learn the system.

It would also be good to have a CW operator and a digital station available to demonstrate those modes.

Mark your calendars, cook/bring something to share, come on out and have some fun.
-- Rick ab3xj@yahoo.com

SECTION TRAFFIC MANAGER'S REPORT

MDC NTS NETS:

MEPN 1811 W3YVQ QND/30 QNI/401 QTC/49 MINS/789
BTN   1811 AB3WG QND/30 QNI/366 QTC/31 MINS/478
MDD   1811 AA3SB QND/48 QNI/233 QTC/65
MINS/442MSN   1811 W8CPG QND/22 QNI/105 QTC/20 MINS/454

PSHR: NI2W 206, WB3FTQ 140, KK3F 140, W3YVQ 135, N3JET 130, W3CB 117, WB4FDT 110, K3IN 110, AA3SB 100, AB3WG 54, KB3LFG 20

TFC: KK3F 574, K3IN 146, WB4FDT 114, WB3FTQ 96, AA3SB 78, N3JET 65, W3YVQ 56, NI2W 26, W3CB 22, AB3WG 15, KB3LFG 1

===============

REMINDER OF MEPN TIME CHANGE

The MEPN moved to the winter schedule after the switch to Eastern Standard Time in early NOV. The MEPN pre-net now begins at 1630L with the formal net call at 1700L including the EchoLink rep. (The WVA and DE nets also move one hour earlier.)

The BTN and MDD net times remain the same.

HF PROPAGATION

MEPN: The winter schedule propagation was functional throughout NOV, 2018, with good signals until well after 1700L. Outbound traffic to MDD may be routed via the Digital Traffic Net if it is anticipated that MDD may not be able to conduct a net, a tricky prediction at best, but may be carried by the MDD liaison to an MDD EchoLink session as warranted.

MDD: NVIS propagation for local MDC stations on MDD early and late, and on 3RN/C4 nets, was nearly or totally non-existent for more than a dozen evenings in NOV. On some of those nights the propagation recovered enough by 2130L 3RN and/or 2200L late MDD for net sessions to be run. A number of nights the propagation was functional for all four nets. Check 1857 ± on 160m as an alternative as notified by the NM or NCS. EchoLink on WB3GXW-L may also be used to coordinate the movement of traffic, particularly to Digital Traffic Net liaisons for posting that night or the following morning for daytime distribution nation-wide. Moving traffic by DTN PacTor is still an on-air activity for SAR reporting. Moving traffic via Winlink between stations or to DTN hubs in Batch File format is permitted and may be done via radio on HF or Packet, or via internet on one or both ends if necessary. Email may be used when no other paths are available. Only the radio paths qualify for SAR points.

These are solar minimum issues being experienced by nets all over the country. Work-arounds similar to ours are in force for many nets.

Sunspot activity continued to decline with many spotless days. This is expected to continue in DEC.

BTN LOCAL NTS TRAFFIC AND TRAINING NET

The BTN continues to meet on 145.33/R (no tone) daily at 6:30PM local time and continues to welcome new amateurs. The availability of an active directed traffic net of the NTS on VHF is exactly why the BTN was established, providing a welcoming place for newcomers to the Amateur Service. Thanks to all the BTN stations checking into the MEPN via EchoLink.

MEPN/MDD/3RN ECHOLINK

MEPN representatives check for EchoLink check-ins starting at net call daily via the WB3GXW-L link node (or ***WASH_DC*** conference node backup if the -L node is not available). A number of BTN and MEPN members, as well as stations outside the area, have used EchoLink to check in when HF is not available to them. MDD operators are also welcome. Thanks to all. WB3GXW has kindly given permission for the MDD and 3RN operators to coordinate message handling on the WB3GXW-L conference bridge as needed during this solar minimum period.

MSN CW TRAINING

Remember that the MSN provides CW training daily for newcomers to the mode, or those wishing to refresh their skills, daily at 7:30 PM on 3563 kHz.

Each trainee works with an assigned instructor off the net frequency to receive radiograms containing training information. Instructors work with each student at their own desired speed and check-in schedule. All are encouraged to master the art of CW via this net or personal training in order to support and join the ranks of our MDD Section CW net. Robin, AA3SB, MDD NM, and the veteran staff, will be glad to help you advance to the evening CW full Cycle 4 of the NTS.

Thanks to all the Section traffic net NCS stations, DTN/RRI and WL2K stations, liaisons, and traffic handlers for the continuing effort to keep the nets running and traffic moving.

Thank you for your continued support of MDC integrated ARES(r) and NTS operations.

73, W3YVQ, MDC ASM, STM
w3yvq@arrl.net
w3yvq@winlink,org from WL2K

^^^

UPCOMING HAMFESTS

This is a list of Hamfests in the Maryland-DC Section and nearby Pennsylvania, northern Virginia, West Virginia and Delaware [... and nearby] as a courtesy to our neighboring Section Managers.

Please send your upcoming ARC events, suggestions and comments. Please include our ARC Events. You may view upcoming Hamfests which are being held in the MDC Section and nearby in Pennsylvania, Delaware, West Virginia and northern Virginia area by clicking on either: MDC SECTION Hamfests or the ARRL's Hamfest and Convention Calendar at Convention Calendar

I, as the MDC Section Manager, Marty Pittinger, KB3MXM, and/or a designated ARRL representative(s) will plan to attend all Hamfests in the ARRL Maryland-DC Section.

We hope to see you there and bring a fellow Ham and friends.

- - - - - - - - - - - - - -

The 6th RadioWinterFest!
Date: Sunday, January 20, 2019
Location: Location: National Electronics Museum, 1745 W Nursery Rd, Linthicum Heights, MD 21090
Sponsor: Mid-Atlantic Antique Radio Club
Website: http://www.maarc.org/
Talk-in: 146.7600(-) PL107.2, WA3DZD Jessup, MD
Near the BWI Airport, just south of Baltimore
Website: https://www.nationalelectronicsmuseum.org/
Email: email@.com
See more @ http://www.k3nem.org

- - - - - - - - - - - - -

Maryland Mobileers Post Holiday Hamfest
Date: Sunday, January 27, 2019
Location: Odenton Fire Hall, 1425 Annapolis Rd, Odenton, MD 21113
Sponsor: Maryland Mobileers Amateur Radio Club
Website:https://sites.google.com/site/marylandmobileers/hamfests-1/hamfest-2
Talk-In: 146.805(-) PL 107.2, W3CU in Millersville, MD
Public Contact: Bruce McPherson, AB3AC
Email: bmcpherson73@verizon.net

- - - - - - - - - - - - -

Roanoke Division Convention (Frostfest)
Date: Saturday, February 2, 2019
Location: Richmond Raceway Complex, 600 East Laburnum Avenue, Richmond, VA 23218
Sponsor: Richmond Amateur Telecommunications Society (RATS)
Website: http://frostfest.com
Talk-In: 146.880(+) PL 74.4, W4RAT Richmond, VA
Public Contact: Robert Marshall, KI4MCW

Used with permission MDC SECTION-WIDE NEWS DECEMBER 21st
^^

The IARU, which sponsors the Worked All Continents (WAC) award, has made clear that it does not sponsor a 5 MHz (60 meters) endorsement. "All IARU member-societies please note: the IARU Worked All Continents award is not available with an endorsement for 5 MHz," an IARU announcement from IARU Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ, said. "The only band endorsements currently available are for 1.8, 3.5, 50, 144, 432, and 1,296 MHz." The question arose after an individual displaying a purported IARU WAC 5 MHz Award certificate on QRZ.com said other IARU member-societies have been issuing WAC certificates bearing a 5 MHz endorsement under IARU auspices. Ordinarily, an ARRL member would apply for the award through the League, but this individual's membership had lapsed, and he apparently looked elsewhere. ARRL told the individual that the award, displayed over Sumner's signature, "does not match the awards we issue from ARRL, nor can we find any application that was submitted for such an award." ARRL issues no specific awards for 60 meters. Sumner did say that WAC endorsements for 135.7 kHz and 472 kHz would be available shortly, however.
Used with permission The ARRL Letter for December 20, 2018

COMMENTS FROM THE MDC SECTION MANAGER
HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR 2019

Please thank our MDC Section members, and MDC Section Staff, our ARC Executives and club members, our deepest appreciation to our ARES® Leadership and members participating in public-service communications. Your ingenuity, experience and knowledge lead to success and satisfaction; recognized by our Served-agencies and civic leaders. Through persistence, training, practice and readiness our communities can support many worth-wild civic support.

We use our voices to help others, the future of Amateur Radio is in your hands. - - - - - - - - - - - -

Lets welcome our newly elected ARRL CEO Howard Michel, WB2ITX.

Howard is still on the uphill side of the learning curve as he acquaints himself with ARRL Headquarters and the nearly 90 staffers who work there. The New Jersey native arrived at HQ on October 15 and has spent much of his time since meeting with department managers and others to get his bearings, with an eye toward building consensus and aligning people, programs, and services in the same direction.

- - - - - - - - - - - -

Please continue your support and JOIN the ARES-Connect Roll Out - next important event is in January / February - ARES® Roll-out the Section ARES® Leaderships and Teams

The new volunteer management system for the Amateur Radio Emergency Service ARES® will allow MDC Section Staff and our ECs, DECs and SEC. ARES® participants sign-up for and log hours. More about this system in the coming weeks

Your MDC Section staff needs your help - Leaders are encouraged to begin your ARES® EC or MDC Section Staff future. Contact your SM, SEC or ASM to learn how. Please email your request to KB3MXM@arrl.net

======================

Social Media is driving disaster awareness - join the trend!
Our Twitter is @MDCARRL -
https://twitter.com/MDCARRL
73,
Marty, KB3MXM
ARRL MDC Section Manager
Used with permission MDC SECTION NEWS DECEMBER 21, 2018
^^

Come to Winter Field Day
January 26-27, 2019

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
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.*

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.

Copyright © 2011 Anne Arundel Radio Club

Wednesday Night Talk Net -- All are welcome

8PM, On the AARC Repeater 147.105

Other Amateur Radio nets

Name	Frequency	Day	Time
The "Holly Net"	147.105+Mhz PL 107.2	Weekdays	0700
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