

# *The Ham Arundel News*



Providing Fellowship and Community Service through Amateur Radio Since 1951

**May 2018**

**39<sup>th</sup> Year of Publication**

# **Equipment Sale**

**Thursday, May 3, 2018 7:30 pm**

**Anne Arundel Radio Club  
Davidsonville Family Recreation Center  
Davidsonville, MD**

## 4-7-2018 (R6)

To raise funds for the Anne Arundel Radio Club (AARC or the Club) and to dispose of donated, member consigned and/or silent key consigned amateur equipment.

1. From time to time the Board of Directors of the AARC will authorize a sale at a regularly scheduled AARC meeting. The date for the sale shall be published on the W3VPR website. A spread sheet of all known items will be published on the W3VPR web site at least one (1) week in advance of the sale. This spread sheet shall be continuously updated up to the time the sale starts and shall be used for accounting purposes. The sale will start at 7:30 PM and be held in the Club house. The sale shall be open to all AARC members in good standing (Current dues paid) and their family. Guests may attend but shall be charged a \$5.00 entry fee at the door.

2. Each item will be available for viewing prior to the sale. The price and condition of each item will be clearly displayed on the item.

3. A cup will be placed near each item in which anyone interested in the item may deposit a piece of paper annotated with their call sign. Paper slips and a writing instrument will be furnished by the Club.

4. The sale shall begin when the Master of Ceremonies (MC) has a disinterested person draw one (1) call letter slip from the cup. The MC shall read the call letters and award the item to that person if he or she wants the item. If they do not want the item this procedure will be repeated until someone accepts the item. In cases where there is more than one similar item this procedure shall be followed until all items are accepted.

5. If there are no interested parties in an item at the price displayed on the item the MC may sell the item using the modified Dutch auction technique. The price paid for the item will be established by the MC continuously reducing the price of the item until a valid bid is received. At that point the MC will ask for higher bids and award the item to the highest bidder. If no other bids are received the MC will award the item to first valid bidder. Please note some consigned items may not be authorized to be sold using this procedure.

6. Each purchased item shall be paid for via cash, check or credit card prior to departing from the Club house. Each buyer is encouraged to keep track of his purchases (Item number and amount) to aid the checkout process. Each seller shall be reimbursed for items sold at the end of the sale by presenting the numbered tags to the sale treasurer.

7. Any person or organization may consign items to the sale and the Club's Equipment Sale

Procedure shall be used. The seller shall be reimbursed as follows: 1- AARC Club members, in good standing, shall be reimbursed for 80% of sale price; 2- Non AARC Club members shall be reimbursed for 75% of the sale price; 3- Deceased AARC Club member estates and other special sales, as approved by the AARC Board, shall be reimbursed at 90% of the sale price; 4- Items donated to AARC or Club assets shall be credited to the Club's treasury at 100% of the sale price. To consign an item the consignor must complete a numbered consignment tag and clearly mark the form as to the applicability of the modified Dutch auction procedure by placing a large "D" at the top of the tag. The consignor will then register the item with the sale treasurer, place the item with the numbered tag on the appropriate table before the sale begins and retain the bottom portion of the numbered tag. Access to this portion of the sale shall be on a "first come first served" basis so come early if one plans on using this part of the equipment sale.

8. Please remember all sales are final with no returns authorized and each item is sold "as is where is" with no warranty, express or implied.

[illegible]

Want to know more about what is going on in the Maryland-DC Section of the ARRL? The MDC Section Leadership has introduced a new MDC Section reflector, ARRL MDC Section Winlink Training Group for P2P and Hybrid networks, or MDCQRV for short. Please make use of this tool to sharpen skills and fine tune your configuration files.

[ <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/MDCQRV/info> ].

The new ARRL MDCSection Yahoo Reflector is now available. If you are not a member. . .you should be! We now have 93 members this month, up three from last month. I encourage you to use this to stay informed or keep in touch with the rest of your fellow ARES members. With the wide distribution of this newsletter coming out only once a month, this Yahoo Site will keep you up to date with late breaking news, including a possible disaster call up. There is very little traffic to clog your in box.

If you are not sure you are a member, please join. This is going to be the quickest way possible to inform MDC Section ARES of current incidents and impending disasters. Please do it now.

[ <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/ARRLMDCSECTION/info> ].

[illegible]

**April 19, 2018**  
**Anne Arundel Radio Club**  
**General Meeting Minutes**

**Board Members in Attendance**

Richard Grace KB3ZYO President  
David Rawley AE5Z Vice President  
Keith Miller AE3D Secretary  
Tim Nagel KB3YQK Director  
Jim Wallace N3ADF Director

**Board Members not in Attendance**

Justin Leishman KC3BJT Treasurer  
Mark Bova W2PAW Director

**Agenda:**

Pledge of Allegiance  
Introduction  
Meeting Minutes  
Membership Application  
Presidents Remarks  
Announcements  
Presentation  
50/50 Drawing

President Richard Grace (KB3ZYO) called the meeting to order at 7:31 pm.

**Pledge of Allegiance:**

**Meeting Minutes:**

It was announced that the April 5, 2018 minutes as created by Secretary, Keith Miller (AE3D) have now been posted on the club's bulletin board.

**Introduction:**

Each person present identified themselves by call sign when possible, and included information on club positions currently held.

**Applications for Membership:**

Secretary, Keith Miller (AE3D) announced that the club has received application for regular membership from 16 individuals, 15 of whom passed their Technician License Exams on April 14<sup>th</sup>, and 14 of whom completed the club's Technician License Class on that same date.

**I move we accept applications for regular membership in the Anne Arundel Radio Club from Mark Rollings (N5JJC), an Extra Class amateur and resident of Ft. Meade, Maryland; Beverly Ellwood (KC3LEQ) a Technician Class amateur from Millersville, Maryland; George Buss (KC3LES) a Technician Class amateur from Annapolis, Maryland; Jeffrey Goins (KC3LEW) a Technician Class amateur from Prince Frederick, Maryland; James A "Tony"**

**Kirk (KC3LEX) a Technician Class amateur from Annapolis, Maryland; John A Yanik (KC3LEY) a Technician Class amateur from Annapolis, Maryland; Robert S. Plimmer (KC3LEZ) a Technician Class amateur from Glen Burnie, Maryland, Jasmin E. Henderson (KC3LFA) a Technician Class amateur from Glen Burnie, Maryland; Robert Gest IV (KC3LFB) a Technician Class amateur from Upper Marlboro, Maryland; Zachary Zerby (KC3LFE) a Technician Class amateur from Severn, Maryland; Karen O'Toole (KC3LFF) a Technician Class Amateur from Severna Park, Maryland; Bruce Clark (KC3LFI) a Technician Class amateur from Bowie, Maryland; and William A. Murray (KC3LFK) a Technician Class Amateur from Greenbelt, Maryland. Further move that we accept applications for Family Membership from Michael Merrit (KC3LEU) and Jacob Merritt (KC3LEV) both Technician Class amateurs from Annapolis, Maryland; and from Braedon E. Kelly (KC3LET) a Technician Class amateur and son of current Anne Arundel Radio Club member Jeffrey C Kelly (KB3YSL) both of Arnold, Maryland, thus converting KB3YSL's membership from regular to family.**

**Maker: Keith Miller (AE3D)**

**Second: Milford Craig (N3WYG)**

Motion passed unanimously.

**President's Remarks:**

President Richard Grace, KB3ZYO greeted the membership and announced that the club had now reached 209 members. The announcement was applauded loudly.

**Announcements:**

Secretary, Keith Miller (AE3D) announced that from this point forward with either be the user's call sign, or the user's call sign followed by their name. All user accounts not currently in that format were changed this morning, and by noon the new system went into effect. Passwords were not changed. If you have any problems logging in, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretary. We want to resolve all issues as soon as possible.

Training Director, Keith Miller (AE3D) announced the Spring Technician Class for 2018 has reached completion, and a total of 17 class members have become licensed amateurs and now members of the Anne Arundel Radio Club. Others have either not yet tested or are expected to re-test shortly. The General License Class which begins April 21<sup>st</sup> has 20 students currently pre-registered. The Winter Morse Code class continues with its 3 remaining members, Jonathan Graefe (AE3GJ), Huey Treadwell (AB3GS) and John Bowes (KB3YLY) who are currently in process of gaining

speed and accuracy having finished learning the letters, numbers, pro-signs and punctuation. It was announced that the Shack Renovation Project will next be adding insulation and wallboard to the structure. It was noted that the installation of electrical outlets will follow the installation of sheet rock and insulation.

It was announced once again, that the DELMARVA Hamfest has been scheduled for Saturday, April 21 at the CHEER Community Center at the intersection of Route 9 and Sand Hill Road in Georgetown, DE. Club tables \$15, additional Club tables \$10, tailgating \$10. HRO and Satellite Sam and other vendors will be there. This Hamfest is just over an hour and a half from our club house.

The Board reminds members that we have a new recently approved AARC Equipment Sale Procedure for the May 3<sup>rd</sup> event. Members may see any Board member for details.

Keith Miller (AE3D) announced that testing of the newly constructed Antenna Tuners will commence this Sunday, 1:00 PM in the clubhouse. .

David Rawley (AE5Z) announced that he has received two bids for upcoming tower maintenance, which is now due.

#### **Board Recommendations:**

At the most recent General Membership meeting all action on recommendations from John Williams (K8JW) and Gordon Davids (WJ3K) regarding the available Yeasu Upgrade for Fusion Repeaters, possible replacement of the 147.105 repeater's antenna, and the addition of an APRS Digipeater at the clubhouse were tabled till this meeting, in order to give members both time and the ability to study the recommendations. Since that time the recommendations and a brief explanation were published by the Board on both the Club Website and via Club Listserve giving members a minimum of 6 days to study the information. Since the information on a number of these proposals are time sensitive we did not have the luxury of a longer period of time. As a result the following motions were made and seconded.

**I move we un-table all tabled actions concerning Board recommendations made at the April 5<sup>th</sup> General Meeting and allow debate and possible action to be taken at this time.**

**Maker:** Keith Miller (AE3D)  
**Second:** Richard Grace (KB3ZVO)  
Motion passed unanimously.

**I move we agree to purchase of the Yeasu Upgrade for the 442.300 repeater, which we own jointly with the Maryland Mobileers for a total of \$350, with the**

**Maryland Mobileers already in agreement to do likewise. This \$350 amount to include shipping and necessary interconnect.**

**Maker:** Jon Graefe (AE3GJ)  
**Second:** Richard Grace (KB3ZVO)  
Motion passed unanimously

**I move we agree to purchase the Yeasu Upgrade for the 440.400 repeater for a price of \$650 to include conversion to C4FM and analog FM for \$650 including shipping. Further recommend the Yeasu Upgrade for the 147.105 to 147.075 linking repeater function at a cost of \$650 including shipping. Further recommend the Yeasu Upgrade for the 147.105 and 147.075 backup repeaters for \$1300 including shipping. The total cost of these upgrades will therefore not exceed \$2600.**

**Maker:** David Rawley (AE5Z)  
**Second:** Richard Grace (KB3ZVO)  
Motion passed unanimously

**I move we purchase a new antenna system for the 147.105 repeater complete with proper PIM antenna pattern, if and only if, it can be shown that the current antenna is defective and requires replacement. Total cost not to exceed \$2500.**

**Maker:** John Creamer (KC3IZB)  
**Second:** Jim Wallace (N3ADF)  
Motion passed unanimously.

**I move we purchase replacement lightning arrestors for the repeater system, at a cost not to exceed \$200.**

**Maker:** Raven Wieland (KB3MUV)  
**Second:** Tim Nagel (KB3YQK)  
Motion passed unanimously.

**I move we purchase an Alinco DR-135T for a cost not to exceed \$170 and an Argent T3-135S TNC, which is a Tracker3 APRS board designed specifically for the Alinco DR-135T, for a cost not to exceed \$90, plus an antenna for same not to exceed \$200. All three purchases are to be used for creation of an APRS repeater for use at the Anne Arundel Radio Club club's house.**

**Maker:** David Rawley (AE5Z)  
**Second:** Eric Berman (KC3GDV)  
Motion tabled by the following motion.

**I move we table the prior motion till the May 17<sup>th</sup> meeting while research into existing materials takes place.**

**Maker:** Jon Graefe (AE3JG)  
**Second:** Keith Miller (AE3D)  
Motion passed unanimously.

## Presentation:

This week's first presenter is Bill Rynone (WB2EIG) who addressed the membership on the making LED signs, using capacitors to limit voltage to the LED's.

This week's second presenter is Will Mooney (KA3UQQ) who addressed the membership on the topic of saving money on the acquisition of Amateur Radio equipment, IE "Ham on the Cheap".

## 50/50 Drawing:

The 50/50 drawing was held. Wayne Precht (AB3RY) was the winner.

## Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned by the President, Richard Grace, (KB3ZYO) at 9:27 PM.

(Note: A quorum of 35 members was present for all votes at this meeting.)

Keith Miller, AE3D  
Secretary

## Field Day Key Positions To Be Filled

**HF Radio Rigs** - responsible for setting up and tearing down the HF rigs, (hopefully without losing any serial cables.)

**Networking** - build a network for the logging computers.

**Shelters** - set up and tear down shelters

**Press/Media** - contact media on our behalf and try to get a write up of our event

**Hospitality** - Greet visitors from 2 PM to about 8 PM and try to get them on the air. Miss Holly, N3MB has left some BIG shoes to fill here.

**Antenna Mast Erection Lead** - Work with teams of people to erect and break down the antenna masts safely (we probably want to recruit someone who has helped erect a mast in prior years if at all possible)

**Antenna Rigging** - Pulleys and guy lines for each antenna

We're happy to outline the entire scope of each job before you agree to accept it, but we do need to get all of these slots filled up fairly quickly.

The following folk are leading these groups. BUT, they need help as well. There is a job for everyone at Field Day.

What is your job?

**Food** - Set up and serve food Leads are: Mark, Eric, Chip, and Les

**Safety** - Lead is: Brian/K3HMX

**Generators** - Lead: Jamison/KB3KNH

**UHF/VHF rigs and antennas** - Lead is: Jim/N3ADF

**Logging and log submission** - Lead is: Keith/AE3D

**Overall Grand Poobah** - is: Rich/KB3ZYO

## "The Wireman" Pressley W. "Press" Jones, N8UG, of Landrum, South Carolina, died on April 10.



He was 89. The "original" Wireman and his crew have been staples of many hamfests and conventions across the US for more than 45 years, supplying attendees with coaxial cable, wire, insulators, balanced feed line, and more. "He was a great teacher and speaker with his one-of-a kind approach to communications, and a down-to-earth mentor," said a statement on [The Wireman website](#). An ARRL member, he was a technical advisor

from 1994 through 2014.

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## Wake Island Operation ... A Rare Grid Available.

Starting this month, Philip Gairson, N7NVK, will begin working on Wake Island, which is in grid RK39 for those participating in the 2018 ARRL International Grid Chase ([IGC](#)).

His schedule calls for 3 months on the island, and then 1 month off -- a pattern that will repeat over the course of about a year.



Wake is 12 hours ahead of UTC. Gairson does not yet know what days or times he will be on the air, but he plans to post his availability on his [QRZ.com profile page](#) and notify ARRL to include it in its DX bulletin. Contacting him could prove challenging. He's taking along an Elecraft KX3 along with a G5RV or Buddipole for an antenna, running low power. He will operate split, and he asks for patience because he's not used to being the focus of a pileup. Internet connectivity on Wake will be limited, but he plans to use LoTW. -- Thanks to [The Daily DX](#)

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## Radio Amateurs in Canada to Gain Access to New 5 MHz Allocation with 100 W ERP

Radio Amateurs in Canada are poised to join those in several other nations around the world who have access to a new 60-meter band, 5351.5 - 5366.5 kHz, as agreed upon at World Radiocommunication Conference 2015 (WRC-15), but with a maximum power of 100 W effective radiated power (ERP). The updated [Canadian Table of Frequency Allocations](#) includes the new allocation, although radio amateurs have not yet been authorized to use it. Canada's radio amateurs will also retain the four Amateur Radio channels that do not fall within the new allocation. These spot frequencies have been authorized under a footnote to the Table since 2014, on a secondary, non-interference basis.

In January 2017, ARRL asked the FCC to allocate a new, secondary contiguous band at 5 MHz to the Amateur Service, while also retaining four of the current five 60-meter channels and current operating rules, including the 100 W PEP ERP limit. The federal government is the primary user of the 5 MHz spectrum in the US. The FCC has yet to act on ARRL's petition.

Last August, Canada's regulatory agency, the Department of Innovation, Science, and Economic Development Canada (ISED) proposed to adopt WRC-15 decisions that included the 15 kHz Amateur Radio allocation. The proposed revisions to the Table would retain the original five 5 MHz spot frequencies with a maximum of 100 W ERP, but restrict the new 15 kHz allocation to just 15 W EIRP, accommodating the concerns of a few countries over possible interference to their domestic communications.

"Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) noted in its response to the proposed changes that there had been no reports of interference from Amateur Radio operations on the existing five 60-meter spot frequencies following their use in Canada since 2014 and in the USA for even longer," RAC President Glenn MacDonell, VE3XRA, said. "Further, the rationale for allocating the spot frequencies had been



Radio Amateurs of Canada  
President Glenn MacDonell,  
VE3XRA.

based on the value of 60 meters for emergency communication, and the low power limit adopted at WRC-15 would seriously limit this use."

MacDonell said [comments](#) from the Radio Advisory Board of Canada (of which RAC is a member organization),

the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club, the Marconi Radio Club of Newfoundland, and several individual radio amateurs also recommended 100 W.

"Radio Amateurs of Canada will be urging ISED to authorize the new 15 kHz segment as soon as possible," MacDonell said.

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## "Amateur Radio Roundtable" Host Tom Medlin, W5KUB, will once again [livestream](#) selected activities from [Hamvention®](#) 2018.

Medlin calls it his "Hamvention Marathon Webcast" -- more than 40 hours of live video from the annual show. This will mark his 17th year covering the show for those unable to attend Hamvention. "Our motto is 'Bringing ham radio to you,'" Medlin said. "We want to give everyone the experience of feeling like they are part of this ham radio event."



Medlin said viewers can not only see what's going on at Hamvention, but they can also use the chat room to communicate directly with the W5KUB group. "Astronaut Doug Wheelock, KF5BOC, is scheduled to be with us again for the 5th year as a co-host," Medlin noted. "Amateur Radio Roundtable" is webcast Tuesday evenings (Wednesday at 0100 UTC). Medlin invites radio amateurs to join the [W5KUB Facebook group](#).

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## Classes at AARC

### General License Class.

Our next General License Class will begin April 21st. It is not too early to preregister. Details are on the Training page.

### Morse Code Class

#### When Can I Start

We will set up another Morse Code Class whenever we find enough interested hams willing to put in the time to learn it.



For more information see the Anne Arundel Club's Training Coordinator, Keith Miller, AE3D, Training

# W1AW 2018 Spring/Summer Operating Schedule

## Morning Schedule:

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

## Daily Visitor Operating Hours:

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

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

## Afternoon/Evening Schedule:

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

## Frequencies (MHz)

**CW:** 1.8025 3.5815 7.0475 14.0475 18.0975  
21.0675 28.0675 50.350 147.555  
**DIGITAL:** - 3.5975 7.095 14.095 18.1025 21.095 28.095  
50.350 147.555  
**VOICE:** 1.855 3.990 7.290 14.290 18.160 21.390  
28.590 50.350 147.555

## Notes:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

All users who connect to the conference server are muted. Please note that any questions or comments about this server should not be sent via the "Text" window in EchoLink. Please direct any questions or comments to [w1aw@arrl.org](mailto:w1aw@arrl.org).

In a communications emergency, monitor W1AW for special bulletins as follows: Voice on the hour, Digital at 15 minutes past the hour, and CW on the half hour.

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

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

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**The Anne Arundel Radio Club  
is a registered 501C3 charity.**

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



## **Maryland DC Section of the ARRL** **Training Opportunity --** **ICS 300 and ICS 400**

ICS 300 and ICS 400 provide training and resources for personnel who require advanced application of the Incident Command System (ICS). This course is open to all CERT members but is not mandatory. Anne Arundel County and City of Annapolis OEMs have suggested that CERT management would benefit from the course.

**ICS 300** -- This course expands upon information covered in the ICS-100 and ICS-200 courses.

The course objectives are as follows:

- Describe how the National Incident Management System (NIMS) Command and Management component supports the management of expanding incidents.
- Describe the incident/event management process for supervisors and expanding incidents as prescribed by the Incident Command System (ICS).
- Implement the incident management process on a simulated Type 3 incident.
- Develop an Incident Action Plan (IAP) for a simulated incident.

**ICS 400** -- This course expands upon information covered in ICS-100 through ICS-300 courses. These earlier courses are prerequisites for ICS-400. The course objectives are as follows:

- Explain how major incidents engender special Management challenges.
- Describe the circumstances in which an Area Command is established.
- Describe the circumstances in which multiagency coordination systems are established.

The courses are being conducted at the Fire Department Headquarters in Millersville. ICS-300 is a 20-hour course from 8:00am-4:00pm on Monday, April 16 and 17, and from 8:00am-12:00pm on April 18. ICS-400 is a 12-hour course from 12:00pm-4:00pm on Wednesday, April 18 and from 8:00am-4:00pm on Thursday, April 19.

Keeping in mind the pre-requisites, you can take 1 course or both. You can sign up on MEMA's website: [ <https://memamaryland.csod.com> ] You must have a user ID and password (you can register for one at the website). To find the course, click on April 16 on the displayed calendar.

There is no cost for these courses.

Questions can be directed to Jim Tully at Anne Arundel County Office of Emergency Management.

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## **Historic Call Sign 'NSS'** **To Be Reactivated**

The historic NSS callsign will be reactivated on Saturday May 12th, commemorating the 100th anniversary of initial NSS operations on Greenbury Point, in Anne Arundel County, across the Severn River from Annapolis, Maryland in August 1918.

Please look for PVRC members operating on CW and SSB from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Saturday May 12th during this year's Armed Forces Day Crossband Military/Amateur Radio HF Communications Test.

Operations will take place from the location of the former Navy High Power Radio Station on Greenbury Point in Annapolis.

NSS frequencies are 4038.5, 7533.5, 9947, 14487, and 17545 kHz. We'll have four transmitters operating simultaneously.

NSS began operations in 1918 as the Navy High Power Radio Station using a Federal Telegraph Company 500 kilowatt arc transmitter and four 600 foot towers operating in the Very Low Frequency (VLF) band, at that time VLF provided the only known capability for trans-oceanic communications. NSS began continuous operations in the short wave (HF) bands about ten years later until 1976 when its HF mission was transferred to NAM in Norfolk, VA.

Visitors are welcome from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday at 150 Hooper High Road, Annapolis.

You may watch some history on the towers by clicking on:

[ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jWuJ6DB9drw> ]

The Navy will send you a QSL card on request.

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## **JOTA Event Coming Up** **For Local Scouts**

This information was passed to me by our MDC Assistant Section Manager for Scouts, Herman Niedzielski, K2AVA:

In Oct, 2017, Troop 413 in Kauffman (near Marion) Pennsylvania hosted a large number of scouts at a camporee focused on ham radio, Jamboree on the Air (JOTA), and the Radio merit badge. The youth in the troop so enjoyed this experience, they want to do it again in Oct, 2018.

**JOTA is the 3rd full weekend in Oct, 2018.**

Daniel, KB3MUN, will need hams to again help with this event, ranging from instructing radio merit badge, ham-in-a-day class, acting as VEs and in general operating as scouts do 3rd party conversations.

JOTA is like a Fall Field Day with respect to setting up antennas, stations, and operation. The site again will be the Kauffman Ruritan Club and Community Center near Marion, PA.

During the six weeks of summer camp at Sinoquipe Scout Reservation (near Ft. Littleton, PA) will be another opportunity for scouts to experience ham radio. On

Tuesday evenings, Radio merit badge will be taught, and 3rd party ham radio operation will be offered.

On Wednesday morning and afternoon, radio direction finding activities, 3rd party ham radio operation and a VE session will be offered.

Daniel, KB3MUN, will need hams to help with these six events.

You may sign up for either or both days, and for any or all of the weeks. Hams are needed for operating as scouts do 3rd party conversations, helping with RDF activities, and acting as a VE.

If you have antennas or rigs you wish to lend to this scouting activity, that would be appreciated as well.

If you have any questions, please contact Daniel, KB3MUN, at:

D. Daniel McGlothlin, KB3MUN  
6315 Gehr Road  
St. Thomas, PA 17252  
(717) 377-2337 cell

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## UPCOMING HAMFESTS

This is a list of hamfests in the Maryland-DC Section area.

I am including hamfests in nearby Pennsylvania, northern Virginia, West Virginia and Delaware as a courtesy to our neighboring Section Managers.

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

We hope to see you all there.

Delaware State Convention (Delmarva Amateur Radio & Electronics EXPO)

Date: Saturday, April 21, 2018

Sponsor: Sussex Amateur Radio Association

Location: Cheer Center, Georgetown, DE

For more info, click on:

[ <http://www.radioelectronicsexpo.com/> ]

York Hamfest

Date: Saturday, April 28, 2018

Location: Elicker's Grove Park, Spring Grove, PA

Sponsor: York Hamfest Foundation

For more info, click on:

[ <http://www.yorkhamfest.org/> ]

The Great Hagerstown Hamfest

Date: Saturday, May 5, 2018

Sponsor: Antietam Radio Association

Location: Washington County Agricultural Center

For more info, click on:

[ <https://w3cwc.club/hamfest> ]

Printable flyer:

[ <https://w3cwc.club/files/HagerstownHamfest2018.pdf> ]

Eastern Pennsylvania Section Convention

Date: Sunday, May 06, 2018

Sponsor: Warminster Amateur Radio Club

Location: Bucks County Community College

Lower Bucks Campus, Bristol, PA

Website: [ <http://www.k3dn.org/hamfest/> ]

Great Lakes Division Convention (Dayton Hamvention)

Dates: Fri. thru Sun. May 18-20, 2018

Location: Greene County Fairgrounds & Expo Center, Xenia, OH

Sponsor: Dayton Amateur Radio Association

For more info, click on: [ <http://hamvention.org/> ]

Memorial Day Hamfest

Date: Sunday, May 27, 2018

Sponsor: Maryland FM Association

Location: Howard County Fair Grounds, West Friendship, MD

For more info, click on:

[ <http://www.marylandfm.org/Hamfest.htm> ]

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## SECTION TRAFFIC MANAGER'S REPORT

MDC NTS NETS:

MEPN 1803 W3YVQ QND/31 QNI/503 QTC/48 MINS/1301

BTN 1803 AB3WG QND/31 QNI/455 QTC/41 MINS/555

MDD 1803 AA3SB QND/63 QNI/352 QTC/120 MINS/622

MSN 1803 W8CPG NO REPORT

PSHR: W3CB 140, KK3F 140, W3YVQ 135, WB4FDT 110, K3IN 110, AA3SB 100, NI2W 98, WB3FTQ 95, KC3HWU 90, N3ZOC 90, AB3WG 59;

TFC: KK3F 1705, K3IN 205, WB4FDT 129, W3YVQ 82, AA3SB 60, N3ZOC 59, KC3HWU 50, WB3FTQ 50, W3CB 42, NI2W 28, AB3WG 18

=====

## HF PROPAGATION

MEPN: Propagation was good throughout March, 2018.

MDD CW CYCLE 4, EARLY AND LATE

Propagation on MDD early and late was functional throughout March, 2018.

Sunspot activity continued to decline following a few minor flare incidents. The sun was again spotless at the end of the month.

## MDC RADIOGRAMS AND OTHER MESSAGING

Outlets in each ARES® jurisdiction are needed for daily Radiogram and Radio-email traffic for served agencies, and also for messaging welcoming new hams to the Amateur Service. Join the MEPN, BTN, or MDD nets daily to find out more about how to contribute.

## 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 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. Thanks to all.

## 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.

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Thanks to all the Section traffic net NCS stations, DTN/RR1 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® and NTS operations.

73, W3YVQ, MDC ASM, STM

w3yvq atsign arrl dot net

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## MDC Section Social Media Outlets

Get connected to our MDC Section Social Media outlets -

- Twitter @MDCARRL - weekly updates

- Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/ARRL-Maryland-DC-Section-147302645336393/>

- ARRL-MDC Web Site - <http://www.arrl-mdc.net/>

- ARRL HQ MARYLAND/DC webpage -

<http://www.arrl.org/Groups/view/maryland-dc> Used with

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## GR9RW Will Be The Call Sign For A Royal Wedding Special Event Operation.

To celebrate the marriage of Great Britain's Prince Harry to American actress

Meghan Markle, special event call sign GR9RW will be on the air May 19 - 23. It's believed that this will mark the first use of a GR9 call sign prefix in the UK. The [royal wedding](#) will take place on May 19 at St. George's Chapel in England's Windsor Castle.



Members of the Cray Valley Radio Society ([CVRS](#)) will operate GR9RW from their club station in Eltham. GR9RW will primarily use SSB and CW, with the addition of FM on VHF and UHF. Two HF stations and one VHF station will cover all bands from 80 meters to 70 centimeters. A commemorative QSL card is available upon request.

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## Logbook Of The World ([LoTW](#)) Now Has A Full-Time [Status Monitor](#).

The system's status is displayed in real time and is available offsite, offering a single spot for all users -- web, Facebook, Twitter, etc. -- to quickly check what's happening with the online repository of contacts and confirmations. At a glance, the LoTW status monitor shows if the system is up, paused, or down; overall uptime statistics, and quick stats. A green status means all systems are go, a red status means the system is down, and a black status means the system has been paused. The monitor indicates overall uptime for the past 24 hours, the past 7 days, and the past 30 days, as well as the most-recent downtime occurrence.

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## "Alexa, Help Me With Ham Radio"

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

I have had an [Amazon Alexa](#) for nearly a year now. Mostly, I just use it to listen to internet radio stations or tell me a joke, but I think it has more potential than that. For example, I've written before about how [I'd like to develop an Alexa skill](#) to control my IC-7300. I haven't gotten around to that yet, but, Joe, N3HEE, has just published an Alexa skill called [Continuous Wave](#). It's designed to help you learn Morse Code.

To use this skill, you have to first enable it. Once enabled, say, "Alexa, open Continuous Wave." This opens the skill at the main menu. You can then say any of the following at any voice prompt...

- Learn
- Practice
- Alphabet



- Common words
- Random words
- Words
- Sentences
- Call signs
- Contest
- Quick Brown Fox
- QSO
- Help
- Stop – To end your session.

I've just played around with this app for a short time, but I've found it to be quite entertaining. It does, however, have one big drawback. You can't set the speed. It's currently limited to sending at 20 words per minute only.

Also, the learn function could use a little refining. When you give the command “learn,” it asks you for a character, sends that character three times, and then asks you for another. If you could set the speed at which the skill sends characters, it could teach a character like the K7QO Code Course, first sending the character slowly, then ramping up the speed.

Overall, though, I think this is a great first shot at a usable Alexa skill for teaching Morse Code. I hope this is the first of many versions of this skill.

## Other ham radio skills

While I was poking around on Amazon, I decided to see what other amateur radio skills might be available. Here are a few that I found:

- [Ham Exam](#). Ask Alexa to ask you questions from the Technician Class question pool.
- [Ham Lookup](#). Allows you to look up amateurs by call sign. Information is provided from the callbook.info database.
- [Ham Radio Propagation Forecast](#). Reports the latest forecasts directly from HamQSL (run by NONBH).
- [ARRL Audio News](#). Adds ARRL Audio News to your Alexa flash briefing.

## Building your own voice app

The Continuous Wave Alexa skill was developed using tools found at [VoiceApps.Com](https://voiceapps.com). Two other websites—[Pullstring](https://pullstring.ai) and [StoryLine](https://storyline.ai)—also have tools to help you build voice apps. And, Amazon has an [online tutorial](#) that will teach you how to build an Alexa app. I'm just getting started with these tools, so I can't recommend one over the others, but they do look like they'll make developing voice apps easier.

Since I'm currently in the process of updating my [No Nonsense Technician Class License Study Guide](#), it occurs to me that I should also develop an Alexa skill for drilling students on test questions. I guess you could call them audio flashcards. Stay tuned for that.

When he's not trying to figure out how to build voice apps, Dan blogs about amateur radio at [KB6NU.Com](http://KB6NU.Com), teaches ham radio classes, and operates CW on the HF bands. Look for him on 30m, 40m, and 80m. You can email him about the voice apps that you like at [cwgeek@kb6nu.com](mailto:cwgeek@kb6nu.com).

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## Two Radio Amateurs Are Now On The International Space Station.

With the addition of three new crew members, the International Space Station now has a full complement of



six. Astronauts  
Ricky Arnold,  
KE5DAU, and  
Drew Feustel,  
and  
cosmonaut  
Oleg  
Artemyev  
headed into  
space on  
March 21  
aboard a  
Sovuz MS-08

vehicle, launched from Kazakhstan. The new ISS residents were welcomed as part of the Expedition 55 crew by station commander Anton Shkaplerov and crew -- Scott Tingle, KG5NZA, and Norishige Kanai. During his time in space, Arnold, a former educator, will wrap up NASA's Year of Education on Station, an initiative to engage students and educators in human spaceflight and science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) careers. Arnold and Tingle will share Amateur Radio on the International Space Station ([ARISS](#)) contacts with schools during April.

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**Low-frequency World Heritage  
Grimeton Radio Station, SAQ, will  
transmit from Sweden on May 1.**

The event will mark SAQ's participation in the European Route of Industrial Heritage's "Work It Out" observance. "As part of the event, we plan for the first SAQ



transmission since 2016," said Lars Kalland, SM6NM. The transmitter start-up will begin at 0930 UTC, with the transmission to follow on 17.2 kHz CW at 1000 UTC. A live [video stream](#) of the event will be

available. Kalland said no QSL cards will be sent, nor will SAQ post a list of reports, but SAQ does invite brief listener reports [via e-mail](#). "We sincerely hope that all the SAQ transmission on 17.2 kHz will go as planned," Kalland said. "But, as always, there is a reservation that the transmission [may be] cancelled on short notice."

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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](mailto: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](http://www.w3vpr.org)

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

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## **Free Money for AARC!** **ARRL Membership Reminder**

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

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

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



## Mark Your Calendars

### REGULAR ACTIVITIES

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

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

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

**2 meter Morning Commuter Net** on 147.105  
(Typically linked to 147.075 and 444.400) every morning  
6:30 am to 9:00 am.

### EVENT SCHEDULE

Thursday, May 3 7:30pm **SALE NIGHT**

AARC - Club meeting, newcomers are always  
welcome

Saturday, May 5 8:30am

General License Class

Thursday, May 10 7:30pm

AARC - board meeting

Saturday, May 12 8:30am

General License Class

12:00pm

AARC - Free License Exams

Sunday, May 13 7:30am

AARC (support) Cherry Pit 10 Miler

1:00pm

AARC - Mesh Networking group, at 1 to 4 PM at  
the clubhouse

Thursday, May 17 7:30pm

AARC - Club meeting, newcomers always  
welcome.

Friday, May 18 Dayton Hamvention (non-AARC event)

Saturday, May 19 Dayton Hamvention (non-AARC event)  
8:30am

General License Class

Sunday, May 20 Dayton Hamvention (non-AARC event)

Sunday, May 27 1:00pm

AARC Kit-building, troubleshooting and repair,  
at 1 to 4 PM at the clubhouse

# 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	<a href="#">Maryland Mobileers</a> Repeater.
Upper Marlboro	443.600+	103.5	SMARC 70 cm Repeater.

## Packet Stations

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

## Amateur Radio nets

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

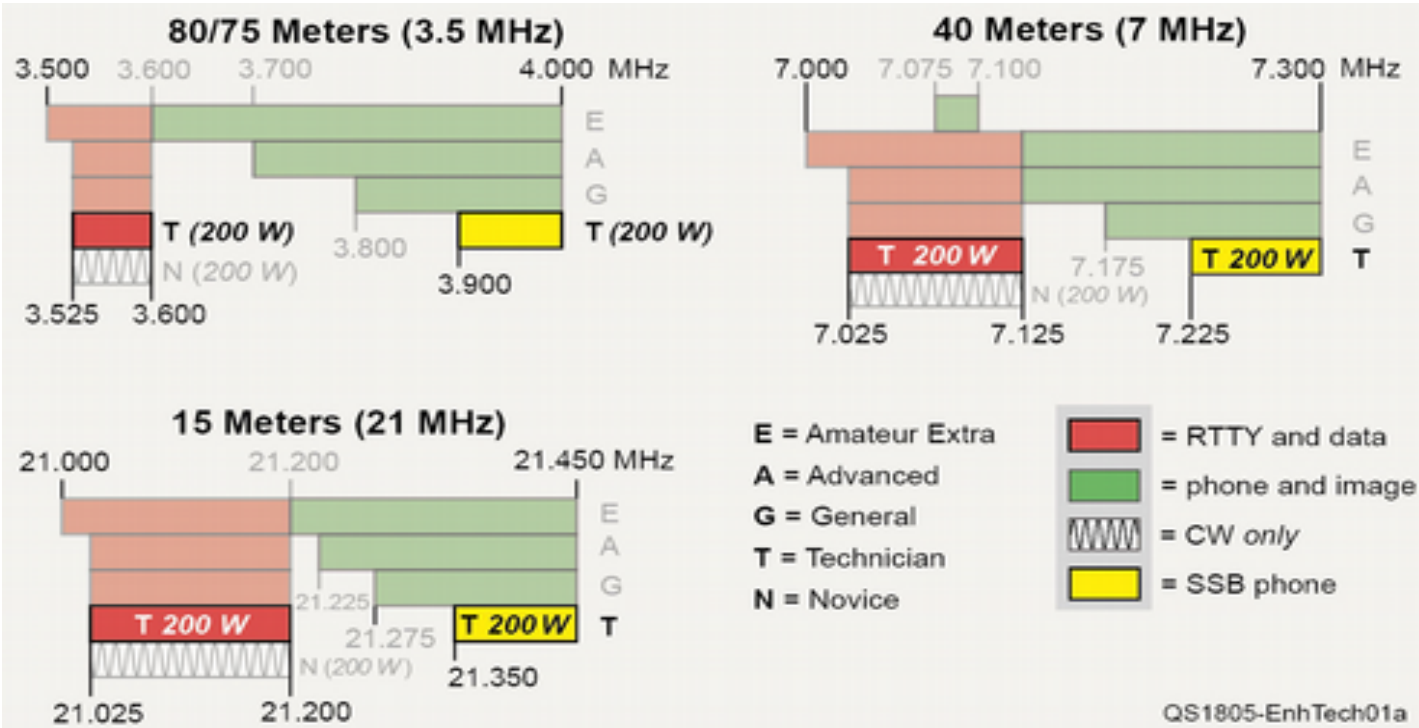
We use **simplex 146.430 Mhz** frequently enough that you should probably program that into your HT or mobile. This is the go-to frequency for many 5K race/walk volunteering efforts, local communication, Field Day setup, and the like when we're not using a repeater.

## Getting It Right

The frequency chart accompanying the article "A Value-Added Technician License" in the May 2018 issue of QST (p. 74) contained incorrect information. The [chart has been corrected](#) to reflect that the proposed 40-meter SSB segment is 7.225 - 7.300 MHz, and the proposed 15-meter SSB segment is 21.350 - 21.450 MHz.

The text of the article otherwise accurately presents the details of ARRL's [petition](#) to the FCC seeking enhanced privileges for Technician licensees. We regret the error.

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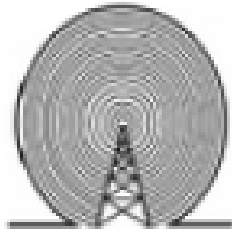


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**Mike Waterson K3MAW**  
Active Net Control Operator  
for the W3VPR Wednesday Night Net.  
Mike works cross-band repeater  
from his porch.  
Cold, what cold!



## **AARC Two-Meter Net Controller Schedule — 2018**

01/03/18	KB3ZYO	Rich	07/04/18	K3MAW	Mike
01/10/18	KB3MUV	Raven	07/11/18	AA3EB	Ed
01/17/18	K3ACT	Chuck	07/18/18	KB3ZYO	Rich
01/24/18	W3KNH	Jamison	07/25/18	KB3MUV	Raven
01/31/18	KB3YQK	Tim			
			08/01/18	K3ACT	Chuck
02/07/18	K3MAW	Mike	08/08/18	W3KNH	Jamison
02/14/18	AA3EB	Ed	08/15/18	KB3YQK	Tim
02/21/18	KB3ZYO	Rich	08/22/18	K3MAW	Mike
02/28/18	KB3MUV	Raven	08/29/18	AA3EB	Ed
03/07/18	K3ACT	Chuck	09/05/18	KB3ZYO	Rich
03/14/18	W3KNH	Jamison	09/12/18	KB3MUV	Raven
03/21/18	KB3YQK	Tim	09/19/18	K3ACT	Chuck
03/28/18	K3MAW	Mike	09/26/18	W3KNH	Jamison
04/04/18	AA3EB	Ed	10/03/18	KB3YQK	Tim
04/11/18	KB3ZYO	Rich	10/10/18	K3MAW	Mike
04/18/18	KB3MUV	Raven	10/17/18	AA3EB	Ed
04/25/18	K3ACT	Chuck	10/24/18	KB3ZYO	Rich
			10/31/18	KB3MUV	Raven
05/02/18	W3KNH	Jamison	11/07/18	K3ACT	Chuck
05/09/18	KB3YQK	Tim	11/14/18	W3KNH	Jamison
05/16/18	K3MAW	Mike	11/21/18	KB3YQK	Tim
05/23/18	AA3EB	Ed	11/28/18	K3MAW	Mike
05/30/18	KB3ZYO	Rich			
06/06/18	KB3MUV	Raven	12/05/18	AA3EB	Ed
06/13/18	K3ACT	Chuck	12/12/18	KB3ZYO	Rich
06/20/18	W3KNH	Jamison	12/19/18	KB3MUV	Raven
06/27/18	KB3YQK	Tim	12/26/18	K3ACT	Chuck



## REPEATER FREQUENCIES

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

### PL: 107.2 for all repeaters

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

**Visitors are welcome** to all meetings and nets.

*Meetings are held in the Clubhouse at the  
Davidsonville Family Recreation Center,  
Queen Anne Bridge and Wayson Roads off  
MD Route 214 near Davidsonville, MD.*

*For en-route directions, make initial contact on the 147.105 repeater.*

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## Wednesday Night Talk Net -- All are welcome

8PM, On the AARC Repeater 147.105

### Other Amateur Radio nets

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