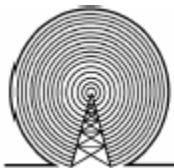


The Ham Arundel News



A HAPPY
NEW YEAR

Providing Fellowship and Community Service Through Amateur Radio Since 1951

30th Year of Publication

Anne Arundel County's Premier Radio Club January 2007



The Prez Sez . . .

As your new President, let me share a little information about myself and the Board. Members have said, "We need to keep adding some new blood, new ideas", "we need club officers who have a lot of club experience."

Congratulations!! The board you elected, has it all. As President I have been a Ham for only 2 years growing quickly in the hobby. Last year I served as your Club Secretary. Our new Secretary, Kim Delamarter/KB3NGU and our new Treasurer, Manaen Schlabach/KB3NQG are both new Hams.

That's a lot of new Blood. Plus, we have a great group of experienced Hams like John Williams, Oscar Ramsey, Fred Koester and Lisa Fairbank. The culmination of this group should make some exciting things happen this year. And to top that off, our new DFRC Representative is Bob Delamarter/KB3MPR and he is a new ham as well. I want to personally thank Rob Hurd and Tony Young for leading the Board and club last year.

I have lived in Maryland my entire life. I am married with two grown children and six grandchildren. It doesn't get any better than that! I retired from the Supermarket Industry after 30 years as the Corporate Director of Deli & Seafood. I have recently gone back to work as a buyer for a local company that sells candy and theatre supplies. I enjoy working and enjoy the challenges this company presents. I know a tremendous amount about Grocery Stores and running big business, but not as much about Ham Radio. I have a lot of drive and energy and will try to bring this excitement to the club this year as President. I ventured into Ham Radio by attending the Tony and Oscar Technician training classes as many of you did. I love Radio, Electronics, and tinkering.

I want to thank everyone who made the Christmas Party such a great success. If you attended you know a good time and good food was had by all. Our picnics and parties are a great time to socialize and meet those people face to face that you talk to and hear on the radio. I find they rarely look like I imagined.

We have many challenges as we move into the New Year. The new board will soon be hard at work planning this year's activities and trying to initiate ways to expand our membership. We are in need of teachers for our Ham Radio Classes. Our classes are a vital part of contributing to our growth. Please support the club by volunteering for public service events and helping out at Field Day.

We will again this year offer the winter Kit Building Project. I built the CW Transceiver last year and had a great time putting it together. And best of all, it really works! There will be plenty of experts there who can help, so you don't need to have kit building experience. For more information about the Kit Building Project, contact Barry Lazar/K3NDM.

We invite you to come out to the meetings and get involved, you will have a great time!

Bob Montagne, K3REM

The ***Ham Arundel News*** is the monthly official publication of
The Anne Arundel Radio Club, Inc.
(ARRL Club No. 0484).

Editor: Andrea Montrose / KB3YLW

Send newsletter articles, questions and information to Andrea at
kb3ylw@comcast.net

Deadline for submissions - the last 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:

\$20 per year, payable December 1st
Discounts available for family members and students

World Wide Web:

www.w3vpr.org

AARC Supports The Maryland Slow Net:

3.717 MHz CW 7:30 P.M. Daily

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 except Davidsonville 440 which is 156.7

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 of MD Route 214 near Davidsonville, MD. For en-route directions, make initial contact on the 147.105 repeater.

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Calendar of Events

Meetings

January 4	Business Meeting
January 11	Board Meeting
January 18	Program Meeting

VE Testing Schedule

Second Saturday of each month - AARC - Robert Rose / AA3RR, 410-437-8193

Third Saturday of each month - Laurel ARC - John Creel, 301-572-5124

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 (e.g., FCC letters, old licenses or unexpired Certificates of Successful Completion of Examination-CSCE).

ARRL Membership Reminder

Free Money for AARC!

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 anytime, even before their current membership term expires.**

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



Tom Dove/K3ORC was married on September 23rd to Kathy Bennett. They have known each other for years, but just re-met last Fall.

Tom/K3ORC and Kathy Dove who have just become grandparents for the fourth time. Alan and Laura Dove have adopted little Sophie Pamela Zheng Dove in China.

**Reminder: If you haven't renewed your AARC membership, please do so ASAP!
There is a form included in this newsletter.**

AARC STAFF - 2006

OFFICERS

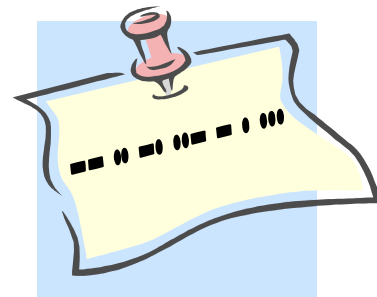
President:	Robert Montagne / K3REM	301-464-4377	bobles537@verizon.net
Vice Pres.:	Lisa Fairbank / K3LUV	410-741-1022	lisa.fairbank@eds.com
Secretary:	Kim Delamarter / KB3NGU	410-867-4678	
Treasurer:	Manaen Schlabach / KB3NQD	410 551-4524	
Directors:	Fred Koester / K3LMR	410-643-2020	fkoester@friend.ly.net
	Oscar Ramsey / NV3G	301-262-3392	nv3g@juno.com
	John Williams / K8JW	410-647-7406	k8jw@toad.net

REPRESENTATIVES

Trustee:	Buck Watson / KC3Y	410-255-0896	kc3y@aol.com
DFRC Rep:	Bob Delamarter / KB3MPR	410-867-4678	rdelamarte@aol.com
Public Relations:	Holly Bevan / N3MB	410-923-0229	n3mb@arrl.net
ARES/RACES:	Lew Hendrixson / N3IJK	301-261-3447	
Joint 440 Comm:	Butch Marshall / N3KVP	410-295-7244	n3kvp@earthlink.net

COMMITTEE COORDINATORS

Facilities Mgr.:	Bill Rynone / WB2EIQ	410-263-0794	rynone_eng@juno.com
Public Service:	Ted Redick/K3TED	410-647-2795	tredick@verizon.net
Training:	Oscar Ramsey / NV3G	301-262-3392	nv3g@juno.com
Repeater Ops:	John Williams / K8JW	410-647-7406	k8jw@toad.net
Programs:	Bill Rynone / WB2EIQ	410-263-0794	rynone_eng@juno.com
Shack Ops:	Gerald Burdette / N3ADY	410-956-6216	glburdett@comcast.net
	Robert Rose / AA3RR	410-437-8193	aa3rr@verizon.net
	Eric Fairbank / N3EF	410-741-1022	fairbank@usna.edu
VE Team:	Robert Rose / AA3RR	410-437-8193	aa3rr@verizon.net
Packet Radio:	Barry Lazar / K3NDM	410-757-5510	k3ndm@arrl.net
Newsletter:	Andrea Montrose / KB3YLW	410-987-3858	kb3ylw@comcast.net
Web Page:	Skip Johnson / K3FOR	410-349-2950	k3for@arrl.net
	Dave Evartt / N6TAU	410-439-2319	davee@wehali.com
Weathernet:	Margie Currey / KA3PQP	301-261-4011	ka3pqp@comcast.net
	Lew Hendrixson / N3IJK	301-261-3447	
Field Day:	Lisa Fairbank / K3LUV	410-741-1022	lisa.fairbank@eds.com
	Eric Fairbank / N3EF	410-741-1022	fairbank@usna.edu
MD Slow Net:	Bruce Stewart / W8CPG		stewarts@countryroadswv.com
ARRL Affil.:	Anthony Young / WA3YLO	301-262-1917	tonny3@verizon.net



AARC Board Meeting for December 7, 2006

Officers present for the meeting were:

Tony Young / WA3YLO	Vice President	Bob Montagne / K3REM	Secretary
Lisa Fairbank / K3LUV	Treasurer	John Williams / K8JW	Director
Bill Rynone / WB2EIQ	Director	Fred Koester / K3LMR	Director

Tony Young brought the meeting to order at 6:15 P.M.,

Tony reviewed for the board the procedures for the election of Officers and Directors at the business meeting. Lisa created the paper ballots to be used.

Fred Koester and Bill Rynone gave an update on the progress with this year's Christmas Party. The group discussed the amount of food needed and the estimate of people that will attend. They are still looking for additional volunteers from the membership to come forward and help set up and take down.

Bill Smith/AB3BZ sent a request to use the repeater for Skywarn activities. Bill could not give any of the details at the time and said he would put the information on his website for us to review later. The board decided to hold on any decisions until we know what the actual request is.

John Williams updated the group on the new AARC ball caps.

Bill Rynone has put together some great presentations for the club, and he has done an outstanding job finding some great guest speakers. Bill is now asking for some help, he is looking for some new topics that interest the membership and any contact information you can find to help Bill set up some new programs. We will publish this request in the newsletter.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Bob Montagne, AARC Secretary

AARC Business Meeting for December 7, 2006

Officers present for the meeting were:

Tony Young / WA3YLO	Vice President	Bob Montagne / K3REM	Secretary
Lisa Fairbank / K3LUV	Treasurer	John Williams / K8JW	Director
Bill Rynone / WB2EIQ	Director	Fred Koester / K3LMR	Director

Tony Young brought the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. Fred Koester reminded everyone about the Christmas Party. Santa Claus will be there again this year with presents for the kids. Fred talked about the side dishes needed and that it looked like there were sufficient desserts volunteered. Fred and Bill are still looking for additional volunteers from the membership to come forward and help set up and take down.

Every year the AARC uses Ford Hall for the Christmas Party and we give the DFRC a donation of \$100.00. Stan Stanek our current DFRC Representative will present the check at the next DFRC meeting.

Bill Rynone gave a presentation on batteries to keep everyone entertained while The Election Council counted the ballots and validated the election. Bill talked about batteries, how to check them, how to use a Hydrometer, charging, and specific gravity -- basically everything you always wanted to know about batteries.

Tony Young reviewed the slate of officers for next year. He reviewed the procedures for the election. Tony then asked the Election Council to come forward to pass out and count the ballots, and officiate the elections. (Andrea Montrose/KB3LYW, Barry LaZar/K3NDM, and Stan Stanek/N3PPJ)

Officers for 2007 The officers were all running unopposed

President: Bob Montagne/K3REM	Vice President: Lisa Fairbank/K3LUV
Secretary: Kim Delamarter/KB3NGU	Treasurer: Manaen Schlabach/KB3NQD

There were 6 Directors running to fill 3 positions. The following Directors were elected:

Oscar Ramsey/NV3G	Fred Koester/K3LMR	John Williams/K8JW	Director
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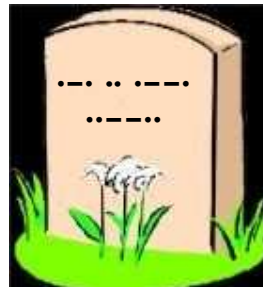
Barry Lazar made a motion to accept the Slate of Officers and Directors, The motion was seconded by Stan Stanek. The membership voted to accept.

A very important role is our Representative to the DFRC, these meetings must be attended for us to continue to use and occupy the Club House. Bob Delmarter/KB3MPR will be representing the AARC as Stan Stanek retires from this position.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Bob Montagne, AARC Secretary

ARRL Bulletin 30 ARLB030
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT December 16, 2006
To all radio amateurs



SB QST ARL ARLB030
ARLB030 FCC to Drop Morse Testing for All Amateur License Classes

In an historic move, the FCC has acted to drop the Morse code requirement for all Amateur Radio license classes. The Commission today adopted a Report and Order (R&O) in WT Docket 05-235. In a break from typical practice, the FCC only issued a public notice at or about the close of business and not the actual Report and Order, so some details -- including the effective date of the R&O -- remain uncertain. The public notice is located at, http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-269012A1.pdf.

Also today, the FCC also adopted an Order on Reconsideration, in WT Docket 04-140 -- the "omnibus" proceeding -- agreeing to modify the Amateur Radio rules in response to an ARRL request to accommodate automatically controlled narrowband digital stations on 80 meters in the wake of rule changes that became effective today at 12:01 AM Eastern Time. The Commission said it will carve out the 3585 to 3600 kHz frequency segment for such operations. Prior to the long-awaited action on the Morse code issue, Amateur Radio applicants for General and higher class licenses had to pass a 5 WPM Morse code test to operate on HF. The Commission said today's R&O eliminates that requirement for General and Amateur Extra applicants.

"This change eliminates an unnecessary regulatory burden that may discourage current Amateur Radio operators from advancing their skills and participating more fully in the benefits of Amateur Radio," the FCC said. The ARRL had asked the FCC to retain the 5 WPM for Amateur Extra class applicants only. The FCC proposed earlier to drop the requirement across the board, however, and it held to that decision in today's R&O.

Perhaps more important, the FCC's action in WT Docket 05-235 appears to put all Technician licensees on an equal footing: Once the R&O goes into effect, holders of Technician class licenses will have equivalent HF privileges, whether or not they've passed the 5 WPM Element 1 Morse examination. The FCC said the R&O in the Morse code docket would eliminate a disparity in the operating privileges for the Technician and Technician Plus class licensees. Technician licensees without Element 1 credit (ie, Tech Plus licensees) currently have operating privileges on all amateur frequencies above 30 MHz.

"With today's elimination of the Morse code exam requirements, the FCC concluded that the disparity between the operating privileges of Technician Class licensees and Technician Plus Class licensees should not be retained," the FCC said in its public notice. "Therefore, the FCC, in today's action, afforded Technician and Technician Plus licensees identical operating privileges."

The wholesale elimination of a Morse code requirement for all license classes ends a longstanding national and international regulatory tradition in the requirements to gain access to Amateur Radio frequencies below 30 MHz. The first no-code license in the US was the Technician ticket, instituted in 1991. The question of whether or not to drop the Morse requirement altogether has been the subject of often-heated debate over the past several years, but the handwriting has been on the wall. A number of countries, including Canada, no longer require applicants for an Amateur Radio license to pass a Morse code test to gain HF operating privileges. The list has been increasing regularly.

The FCC said today's R&O in WT Docket 05-235 comports with revisions to the international Radio Regulations resulting from the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03). At that gathering, delegates agreed to authorize each country to determine whether or not to require that applicants demonstrate Morse code proficiency in order to qualify for an Amateur Radio license with privileges on frequencies below 30 MHz.

Typically, the effective date of an FCC Order is 30 days after it appears in the Federal Register. That would mean the Morse requirement and the revised 80-meter segment for automatically controlled digital stations would likely not go into effect until late January 2007.

The ARRL will provide any additional information on these important Part 97 rule revisions as it becomes available.



Links of the Month:

Last month, I provided a link to help those who are about to take the CW code test. Looks like that will no longer be a requirement soon, so here's one to help you get started out right on the CW bands as I'm sure some of you are still interested in getting started in this wonderful mode. This article originally appeared in the November, 1956 issue of QST. http://www.qsl.net/kc7eqw/novice_accent.htm

Eric N3EF

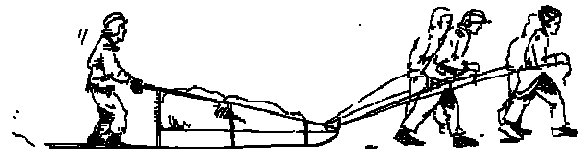
If you have a link to a website of interest to ham radio email it to: kb3ylw@comcast.net

Ideas Needed!

Bill Rynone / WB2EIQ has put together some great presentations for the club, and he has done an outstanding job finding some great guest speakers. Bill is now asking for some help. He is looking for some new topics that interest the membership and any contact information you can find to help Bill set up some new programs.

If anyone has any ideas or contacts please let Bill know at 410-263-0794 or rynone_eng@juno.com

Radio Ops Needed for the Klondike Derby



Hi Guys,

Sorry for sending this request out so late this year.

The 4Rivers Boy Scout District's Klondike Derby is going to be held on January 20th at Blob's Park in Jessup.

As usual I am looking for HAM Radio operators to help coordinate the event and report back "patrol scores" during the day.

If you know of folks that would like to volunteer but do NOT have a HAM license, they can operate on the MURS frequencies. I have 10 MURS radios if we need them. We used MURS last year in order to cover all the Boy Scout stations.

Also, if you know of other people who are not on my list please pass this message on to them.

Please let me know if you will be able to volunteers this year and if so, the times that you will be available.

Thanks,
Gary Mauler
rgmauler@comcast.net
410 551 8856

Shack of the Month!

John/WB3KDB

I was first licensed as WV2VJA & WA2VJA in 1961. I have been WB3KDB since 1975. I have collected equipment since go. I was awarded DXCC this year upon submission. I am a mostly a CW Operator.



Shown as the VHF/UHF rig is the ICOM IC-910H all mode base station for 144, 440, & 1296 Mhz operations.

Both the HF and the VHF/UHF rigs have an Astron SS-30M power supply, a HEIL Heritage microphone, a HEIL noise canceling headset, and a Bencher Hex Key. Also available is a Bencher straight key and a Vibroplex "Original" bug.

My two most used handhelds are kept with this station, a Kenwood F6A and an ICOM T90A.

Not shown here is an ICOM PCR-1500 Software Defined Receiver, all mode with DSP, for 10 Khz (?) to 300 Ghz.

HF antennas include a Cushcraft R8 20' Vertical on a 20' pole, 80M dipoles, 80M windoms, a 160 M long wire tree top to tree top, and a 144 Mhz Ringo and a 440 Mhz Ringo.

On top of my bedroom roll top desk, I have a Kenwood PS-50 power supply between a TS-140S and a TS-440S. Each rig has a MFJ 464 keyer and a LDG AT-11MP auto tuner. On top of these are an ICOM 706 with tuner box, and an ICOM 703.

In my radio room I keep over 500 overflowing bins of parts and a workbench. There is also located here a Ten Tec



My present shack is shown here. It is my retirement shack with my dream equipment. It is on the first floor. Looking out the window in front of me is a view of the South River across from Quiet Waters Park. The view to my right is of our in ground pool area. During the day I keep track of all of the ducks, squirrels and blue jays. At night I turn on the flood lights and monitor the rabbits and raccoons. I go through a lot of peanuts and corn!

Shown as a HF rig is the Ten Tec Orion II, with 302 Remote Encoder/Keypad, 238B High Power Antenna Tuner, 417 Titan III amplifier, 307 speaker, and a Daiwa CN-801 Power/SWR meter on output.

I also have a Rig Blaster Pro here.



Jupiter, Ameritron AL-572 amp, and a LDG AT-1000 high power auto tuner. There is a Mirage B25 160W 2M amp. I have a rebuilt, refurbished, and have a functional Hallicrafters SX-71 receiver with Q-Multiplier and also a Johnson Viking II transmitter with VFO, circa 1952. I have in storage an Elmac mobile transmitter and a Morrow Converter, circa 1952. Anyone for a VFO on 11meters!!! I threw away my AC/DC transmitter I made when I was 13. About killed myself with ground planes & coax!

Kits I have built and still use are a Heathkit "Twoer" with dynamoter, a Heathkit HW-8, Ten Tec 1220 2M transceiver with amp, MFJ 30M Cub, Elecraft K1 6 bands, Small Wonders 40M SST, and to be built Elecraft KX1 4 bands.

I collect telegraph sounders & repeaters. Obsessed? Certainly not

Skywarn - Anne Arundel County, MD

William E. Smith, AB3BZ, Coordinator



Introduction

The purpose of Anne Arundel County Skywarn Subnet is to feed information on weather conditions to The National Weather Service Office in Sterling, VA. Skywarn observers provide "ground-truth" and supplement the data received from Doppler radar and other tools.

The main Skywarn net will be activated (Bluemont, VA, 2-meter repeater, 147.300+) when severe weather is in the Baltimore-Washington forecast area. The county subnet will be activated only when severe weather is occurring in, or is approaching, Anne Arundel County, so as not to unnecessarily tie up the local repeaters. The subnet will be activated at the request of The National Weather Service, the Northeast Maryland net manager, or by the county coordinator when severe weather is actually present.

The role of Skywarn is not to provide forecast products to other amateur operators or the general public. There are better channels of communication to provide that information.

Procedures

It has been proposed that the Davidsonville 2-meter repeater (147.105+) of The Anne Arundel Radio Club be used as the primary repeater, with the north county machine (147.075+) as the back-up machine.

When the net is activated, the net control operator will establish another station as an alternate net control. The net criteria will then be announced and check-ins will be logged. All operators will be accepted even if they are untrained and/or unregistered Skywarn observers. The National Weather Service values all observations. Observations are then recorded. The net will be handed off to the alternate net control while the primary reports to The National Weather Service. The alternate will take observations and then report, etc.

Reports to The National Weather Service Office in Sterling, VA, are made directly to the Bluemont repeater or by telephone.

Weather conditions should be monitored by net control using either TV or the internet. Once severe weather has moved out of the county, the subnet will be closed. If a watch or warning is still in effect for the county, it will be announced that the net may come up again if conditions warrant.

If there is a concurrent ARES or RACES net, the Skywarn net control will check into that net to make a request for weather observations. This will be done as briefly as possible so as not to interfere with emergency net operations.

Observers should not proceed to locations where severe weather is occurring to collect data, nor should they be encouraged to do so.

Weather Reports

Observers should give their Skywarn ID (if assigned), and location (this includes city AND state, nearest town, road or intersection). Landmarks should not be used as a method of location. Major highways are acceptable. Observers should not check-in if they have nothing to report.

During the summer months, The National Weather Service is interested in the following weather phenomena:

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☛ Tornadoes, funnel clouds or rotating wall clouds. | ☛ Roads or streets that are made impassable due weather conditions |
| ☛ Hail (size in terms of U.S. coins: e.g., dime size, quarter size, etc.) | ☛ Rainfall in excess of 1 inch/hour as measured in an approved rain gage |
| ☛ Wind gusts in excess of 50 m.p.h. | ☛ Any damage caused by wind or lightning |
| ☛ Flooding of streams, creeks or rivers. | ☛ Downed trees, large branches or power lines |

During the winter months, they include the above conditions and:

- ☛ Wind gusts in excess of 35 m.p.h.
- ☛ Snow accumulation in inches
- ☛ Any ice accumulation on trees, streets or power lines
- ☛ Sleet or freezing rain

Any licensed amateur radio operator, with knowledge of general net operations and Skywarn, may volunteer for net control. Any licensed amateur may check into the net to give their weather reports. It is not necessary to be a trained Skywarn observer to check into the net. Please contact William Smith, AB3BZ (bill.ab3bz@verizon.net) if you would like to participate.

MARYLAND SLOW NET NEWSLETTER

December 2006

November Honor Roll (15+ check-ins)
KA3AKC, VE1CB, W8CPG, WE2G, KG2HA

November Statistics
Sessions: 30 Minutes: 835
QTC: 49 QNI: 232

TO: MSN
FROM: W8CPG

Student News

- Welcome to Carl, KD3FJ, Perry Hill, MD, Bob, KX0T, Dubuque IA, Jim, KG6FFJ, Folsom, CA, and Mike/K2OUD, Riverdale, NY. It's great to have you folks join the MSN and hope you enjoy the training course. Bill/AA3YR is on the NCS segment. Almost there, Bill, and the cake is ordered.
- **NOTE: New students are needed.** Please make a concerted effort to contact potential students and advertise the MSN and its benefits, mention the website, and encourage them to take the course.

Net Protocol

- Net frequency although usually 3717 is finally set by the NCS who is guided by QRM and other conditions. Many modern transceivers have different offsets and its good practice to actually QNZ NCS. This will also affect your QNY location when sent off net to meet another station for tfc/tng.
- **NEW MSN FREQUENCY** is tentatively set for 3563 from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. effective Friday Dec. 16, 2006. We are on the national matrix developed by W3YVQ, W0UCE and others. It may change, but if you do not hear from me via email or Radiogram, this will be our new QTH. When there is a heavy training load, we may schedule some training during the second half of the net. We'll make it work. Please direct your questions to the Net Manager; I'll do my best in the sea of chaos.
- Good manners and professional etiquette require that you notify the NCS when you need to leave the net. Just ask for QNX and s/he will do it. This way we all communicate and understand net operations.
- Remember how useful we found QRK? It saved time and words inquiring about signal strength. Try QNK when sending stations off net for traffic or training: e.g. W3XXX K3XX QNY down 3 QNK Tng Msg Nr 7. This may cause some review of The Pink Card, but it's a winner. Again, think of the basic net rules – brevity and clarity are keys to communication.
- Don't forget to identify your station. Even with a QNY you must ID your station when calling a receiving station. Don't forget there are LIDS loose in the ether looking to cause trouble.

Around The Net

- Many thanks to Milt, K4OSO for continuing to fill in as NCS on Wednesday nights. Are there any volunteers willing to take on responsibility and support the MSN? Just call or Radiogram me.
- **Note:** Bruce/W8CPG has a new email address – wvchickenfarm@aol.com. Please update your records.

Cryptoquips and Philosophy du Jour

When a prison in-group revolves around one inmate, I imagine this would constitute a con-centric circle. To make a long story short, there's nothing like the boss walking in. Give a man a fish and he eats all day. Teach him to fish and you get rid of him all weekend. You're fooling yourself if you argue with a fool – others may not know the difference.

MSN NET ASSIGNMENTS

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
MSN NCS	K4OSO	N3WK		WB9LBI	K3IN	N3ZOC	AA3SB
ALT. NCS		AK4GY					KB3HOO
MDD REP	W3CB	N3WK		N3ZOC	K3IN	KC3Y	AA3SB

73, Bruce/W8CPG AR

2006 VE Report

By AA3RR

On behalf of the AARC VE Team I hope you all had wonderful Christmas and best wishes for a happy New Year! Also, Good Luck on any exams you make take.

2006 was a much better year than 2005 in terms of the number of applicants and the number of new hams and upgrades. The table to the right summarizes the past seven years. 2002 was our best year ever in terms of new hams and upgrades. Since then there has been a consistent decline in the number of applicants, new hams and upgrades. As you can see, 2005 was our worst year in the past seven years. (*Note: The data for 2000 was from an 8 month period*)

Year	Applicants	New Hams	Upgrades
2000	91	38	26
2001	127	70	40
2002	159	71	49
2003	118	68	28
2004	102	46	39
2005	64	31	15
2006	97	41	22
Total	758	365	265
7-Yr Avg	108	52	31

Strangely, 2005 had the highest pass rates for the Technician, General and Extra class exams as well as the highest overall pass rate in the past seven years. The pass rates for 2006 on the other hand, were not very good. The Technician pass rates had shown a steady increase since 2000 but last year that trend stopped rather dramatically. A new Technician question pool was implemented on July 1st. During the first six months of 2006 the Technician pass rate was 64%. During the last six months of last year the Tech pass rate rose to 82%. I can find no rational explanation as to why the pass rate dropped so drastically during the first half of 2006.

Pass Rates					
Year	Code	Tech	General	Extra	Overall
2000	64	69	73	59	67
2001	68	78	73	71	75
2002	60	79	78	68	73
2003	92	81	65	53	75
2004	48	84	78	68	73
2005	50	89	89	70	77
2006	52	73	72	62	68
7-Yr Total	62	79	74	65	73

The table below shows the number by type of exam given for each year. As you can see, 2002 was the most prolific year and 2005 was the least prolific. In fact, the numbers for 2005 were almost half those for the 7-year average.

With the exception of the code exam, the average number of exams over the past three years in each license class has dropped from the 7 year averages shown below.

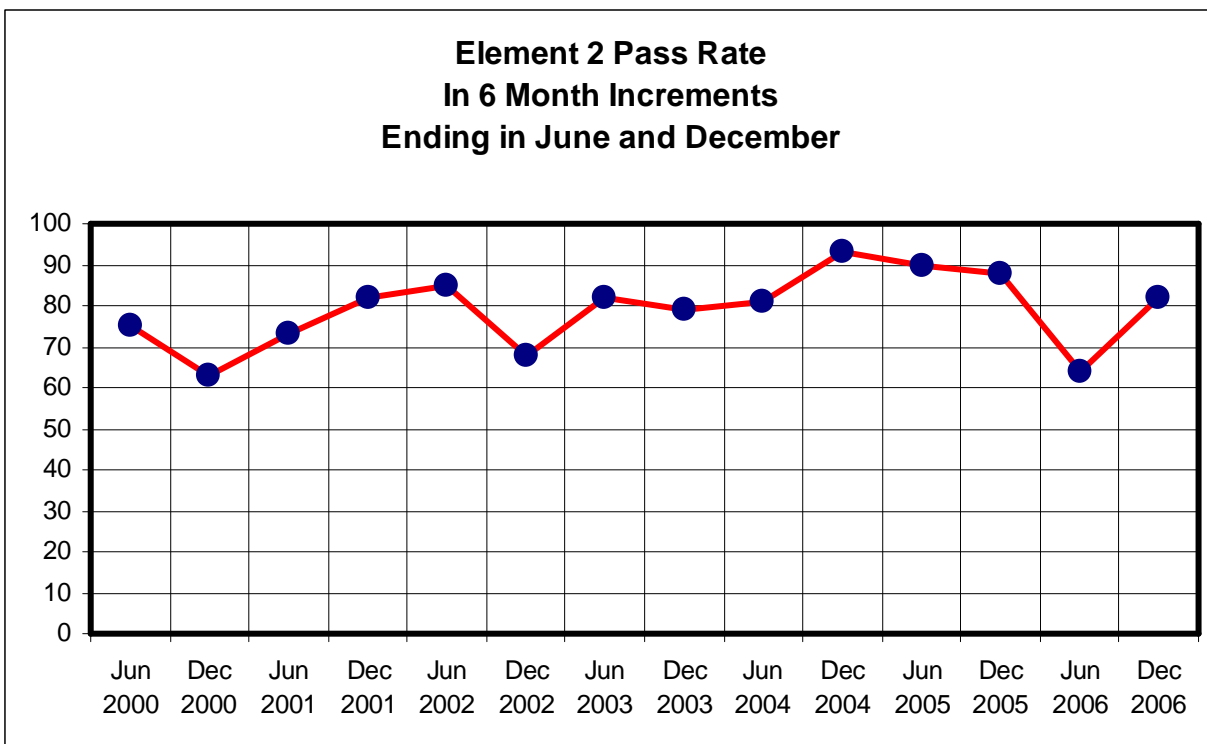
Total Exams Given					
Year	Code	Tech	General	Extra	Overall
2000	25	55	22	17	119
2001	25	92	37	21	175
2002	47	91	49	31	218
2003	26	82	46	17	171
2004	25	55	32	25	137
2005	22	36	18	10	86
2006	25	56	29	13	123
Total	195	467	233	134	1169
7-Yr Average	28	67	33	19	167
Avg exams per session past 7 yrs	2	6	3	2	14
Avg exams per session past 3 yrs	2	4	2	1	10

Between 1 January and 30 June 2006, we administered 39 Element 2 exams (Technician) to 36 applicants including eight female applicants. Fourteen applicants (11 men and 3 women) failed the Technician exam for an average pass rate of 64%. Two females and one male failed the exam twice. One woman passed the exam during an exam session the following month. The average passing score on the exam during this period was 81%.

Between 1 July and 31 December 2006, we administered 17 Element 2 exams (Technician) to 17 applicants including two female applicants using the new Element 2 question pool. Three applicants (all males) failed the Technician exam during this period for an overall pass rate of 82%. The average passing score during this phase was 83%.

The only possible explanation for the lower pass rate during the first half of the year is a lack of preparation.

The table below shows, in six month increments, the pass rate for the Technician exam since June 2000. After a rather rocky start, the pass rate for Technician exams based upon the new question pool (effective July 1st), has risen dramatically from the previous six months. As mentioned earlier, I can find no reasonable explanation for the decline in the pass rate during the first six months of 2006 or the increase during the last six months. It's worth noting that the pass rate for the first 3 months of the new question pool was only 70%.



As most of you know, the FCC has published its *Report and Order (R&O)* announcing the elimination of the code test as a prerequisite for a General or Amateur Extra license. The R&O directs this rule change to be implemented 30 days following publication in the Federal Register. Historically, this can take a few weeks or several months. Unlike the licensing restructure of 2000, there probably won't be a lot of time for Technicians to prepare for and pass the General exam prior to the implementation of the new rules. Therefore I don't anticipate the need for a special paperwork upgrade session similar to the one we conducted in April 2000.

There are approximately 4500 Technician licensees in Maryland. I expect less than half of them will or have already started to prepare for the General exam. I also anticipate that we will see a slight increase in the number of people taking the General exam over the next few months.

While I was researching information for this article, what I found particularly interesting is the similarity between the test results for the year 2000 and the results for 2006. The tables shown below show the similarities between the two years. The number of applicants, the number of exams given, passed and failed as well as the number of Technicians, Generals, Extras and new hams are nearly identical. Note that the number of Exams given in each element is also nearly identical as are the overall and element pass rates. I can offer no explanation for these intriguing similarities occurring 7 years apart. Interestingly, a similar phenomenon, with some slight variations, occurred in 2001 and 2003.

Exams given in 2000																	
Date	Applicants	1		2		3		4		Exams Given	Exams Passed	Exams Failed	Pass Pctg	New Class			New Hams
		P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F					T	G	E	
29-Apr	18	9	3	15	1	2	0	0	0	30	26	4	87%	15	1	0	15
13-May	15	2	0	6	6	4	1	0	2	21	12	9	57%	6	4	0	6
10-Jun	6	1	1	0	0	0	2	3	0	7	4	3	57%	0	1	3	0
8-Jul	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	100%	0	0	2	0
12-Aug	10	0	0	3	0	3	1	3	0	10	9	1	90%	3	3	3	3
9-Sep	6	2	0	1	0	3	0	1	1	8	7	1	88%	1	4	1	1
18-Sep	8	0	2	5	3	0	2	0	0	12	5	7	42%	5	0	0	5
14-Oct	8	0	2	1	4	1	0	0	1	9	2	7	22%	1	1	0	1
11-Nov	7	0	1	3	0	1	0	0	2	7	4	3	57%	3	1	0	3
9-Dec	11	2	0	4	3	2	0	1	1	13	9	4	69%	4	2	0	4
Total	91	16	9	38	17	16	6	10	7	119	80	39	67%	38	17	9	38
Element Pass Pctg		64%		69%		73%		59%									
Total Pass Pctg		67%															

Exams given in 2006																	
Date	Applicants	1		2		3		4		Exams Given	Exams Passed	Exams Failed	Pass Pctg	New Class			New Hams
		P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F					T	G	E	
14-Jan	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	100%	3	0	0	3
11-Feb	10	1	1	6	2	2	1	1	0	14	10	4	71%	6	1	1	6
11-Mar	13	2	0	7	2	1	2	2	0	16	12	4	75%	7	0	2	7
8-Apr	13	2	1	6	4	3	1	0	1	18	11	7	61%	6	3	0	6
13-May	13	3	1	3	3	3	1	1	2	17	10	7	59%	2	3	1	3
10-Jun	5	0	0	2	1	1	0	1	0	5	4	1	80%	2	0	1	2
8-Jul	10	0	1	6	1	2	2	0	1	13	8	5	62%	6	0	0	6
12-Aug	10	2	0	0	1	5	1	1	1	11	8	3	73%	0	4	1	0
9-Sep	4	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	4	3	1	75%	1	2	0	1
14-Oct	6	0	1	5	0	1	0	0	0	7	6	1	86%	5	0	0	5
11-Nov	4	1	4	0	0	1	0	1	0	7	3	4	43%	0	1	1	0
9-Dec	6	0	2	2	0	2	0	1	0	7	5	2	71%	2	1	1	2
Total	97	13	11	41	15	21	8	8	5	122	83	39	68%	40	15	8	41
Element Pass Pctg		54%		73%		72%		62%									
Total Pass Pctg		68%															

In closing, I want to recognize the Volunteer Examiners who participated in our test sessions during 2006. I am extremely grateful for their dedication and demonstrated professionalism whether they participated in ten sessions or one:

Ray/W2KBR, Holly/N3MB, Sherrill/AA3KS, Gerry/N3ADY, Brenda/KB3ATI, Rich/AB3BQ, Tom/K3TH, Larry/K3SZN, Steve/K3BAY, Dana/AB3AF, "Ham"/N3FDH, "Skip"/W3VQY, Oscar/NV3G, Rob/N3HU, George/K3GV, Ellen/N3EMI, John/K8JW, "Skip"/K3FOR, Doug/NA1DX, Bruce/WR3Q, Dudley/AB3DW, Jack/AB4FO, Sean/N3EBJ, Rob/W3RUM, and Rich/WW3ZZ.

Choose one:

- New Member
 Renewal

**ANNE ARUNDEL RADIO CLUB, INC.
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM**

Name: _____ Nickname: _____ Spouse: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work/Cell Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____ **Announcements and newsletters are distributed via e-mail**

FCC Call Sign: _____ License Class: _____ (Tech, Gen, Extra, etc.)

How would you like to receive the Monthly Newsletter? ___ Electronically at www.W3VPR.org ___ U.S. Mail

Membership Type: (check all that apply) ___ Full (\$20.00) ___ * Student (\$6.50) ___ * Family (\$10.00)

*Add-on a Family or Student Membership: Name: _____ Call Sign: _____

* Same Home Addr. License Class: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

If you would like to make an additional donation to help support other club functions, please indicate amount and purpose. Amount: \$ _____ MSN ___ Postage ___ General Fund ___

TOTAL Amount Included with this Application: \$ _____ Check # _____

Membership Interests: Your support is vital for the club to prosper. Please check all areas that interest you.

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|
| ___ Public Service Events | ___ Field Day Participation | ___ CW |
| ___ Weather Net Controllers | ___ Shack Operations | ___ VE Team |
| ___ Bldg & Grounds Maintenance | ___ AARC Junior | ___ Contesting |
| ___ Repeater Service/Maintenance | ___ Programs (Give presentation) | ___ Elmer |
| ___ DX | ___ MARS | |

AARC Bylaws and Rules, Waiver and Discharge of Liability, Assumption of Risk.

As a member, I agree to abide by the Bylaws and rules of the Anne Arundel Radio Club, Inc. ("Club"). I know that participating in Club activities and using Club facilities are potentially hazardous and that I should not enter into or participate in such activities unless I am physically able and properly trained. I assume all risks associated with my participation and use, including volunteering, but not limited to falls, contact with other participants, the effects of the weather, the condition of facilities, and all such risks, property damage, illness, or injury being known and appreciated by me. I have read this waiver and knowing these facts, and in consideration of your acceptance of my application for membership, I for myself and anyone entitled to act on my behalf, waive and release the Anne Arundel Radio Club, Inc., American Radio Relay League, and all sponsors, their representatives, members, and successors from all claims or liabilities of any kind arising out of my participation in club activities and use of club facilities even though that liability may arise out of negligence or carelessness on the part of the persons identified in this waiver. Further, I hereby grant full permission to any of the foregoing to use any photographs, videotapes, and any other record of club events for any legitimate purposes.

I have read and fully understand this application. (Each adult member must sign)

Signature: _____ Date: _____

On behalf of minor applicant listed above, I have read and fully understand this application.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

* Family and Student memberships are available at a discount when another family member maintains a full membership.

Please make checks payable to AARC. Put your call sign on your check and return with this form to:

AARC PO Box 308 Davidsonville, MD 21035

***** Please Print Clearly and Complete the Entire Form, INCLUDING SIGNATURE *****

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