



The Ham Arundel News



Providing Fellowship and Community Service through Amateur Radio Since 1951

32nd Year of Publication

Anne Arundel County's Premier Radio Club

December 2009



The Prez Sez . . .

Murray Green/K3BEQ's presentation about repeater interference brought out a nice crowd to the clubhouse on a rainy November night.

Two weeks earlier we had a used equipment sale that brought in over \$1300 for the club. Many people took home new treasures. John WB3KDB reports that he has already restored an old Gonset and worked the sweepstakes CW weekend with it. This thing was so dirty and partially disassembled I almost did not put it in the sale, but now

it's on the air again. Thanks to everyone who worked to take down and haul equipment (George N3YSA, Mike K3MAW, and myself) set up and hold the sale (Bob KB3MPR, Kim KB3NGU, and Robbie KB3PEB), and especially to those who donated items over the past year.

The clubhouse was really humming on the November Sweepstakes Phone weekend. See a contest report from Bob AA3RR elsewhere in this newsletter.

Thursday evening, December 3, we have the officers and directors election but no one is running opposed so that won't take long. We are planning to have a demo about a really neat way to solder PL-259s that really works well. There may also be a short demo of a balloon data tracker circuit.

The Holiday party is on Friday night Dec. 18 at the Ford hall down the hill from the clubhouse. Dinner is at 6 PM with door prizes and other activities to follow. I have some volunteers to help set up but we could use a few more and some for clean up afterwards too. The club will buy the main courses, some sides, and drinks. Please bring a side or dessert.

Santa will need to know if you are bringing a child so we will have an age and gender appropriate gift available (email me kk4gv@w3vpr.org and I'll tell Santa).

Remember to renew your membership before or at the party and be eligible to win great prizes (Hint, hint: radios and books). It is really easy to renew on-line now. You can even pay on line or just print the application and mail it in. Here is the link: <http://www.w3vpr.org/node/35> The treasurer Steve K3BAY and secretary Nick N3CK will be set up to collect dues at the party.

The following paragraph is my regular blurb encouraging everyone to use the club website but did you know that items listed for sale on the AARC site usually sell in a matter of hours, sometimes minutes?

Don't forget to check the website <http://www.w3vpr.org/> often for all the latest AARC news and information. Many clubhouse events on the weekends and meeting topics are listed as they are announced so stay informed and join the fun. Sign up on the site to get automatic e-mails of announcements and posts to the forums. Remember the site is interactive. You can post your own questions, comments, items for sale, items wanted, and things of general interest to the members.

73, Rick – KK4GV AARC President

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

Editor: Andrea Montrose/K3YLV

Send newsletter articles, questions and information to Andrea at
k3ylw@w3vpr.org

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:

3.563 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

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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Mark Your Calendar!

Meetings: Thursday, December 3, 7:30 PM - **Board of Directors Election**

The only nominee is Bob Frierson/WA3HOO to replace Bob/K3REM as a director. The rest have agreed to serve for another year.

Friday, December 18 - Holiday Party - Dinner at 6PM At Ford Hall down the hill from the clubhouse. If you pay your 2010 dues before or at the party you will be eligible for door prizes!

AARC Jr. (The AARC Farm Team) 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the Month at 3PM - Also meets on dates when specific contests are scheduled. They are available to assist club members, especially new hams, in getting on the air and operating the club's HF station.

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

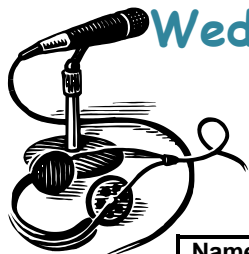
Fourth Tuesday of each month - MMARC - Harold Nichols/WB4OGP, 410-757-0493

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).

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+ 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	147.105+Mhz PL107.2	1st Sunday	1930



It's time to renew!

Paying your dues is now easier than ever. Not only can you renew on-line, you can even pay on line. Or you can renew on-line and bring a check to the clubhouse or party. Or mail it in or renew at the party. There is even a "renew with no changes" short form that you can if all your information is the same. The most common change we need to know about is if your e-mail address changes. We are going almost totally electronic with newsletters, announcements, and rosters. This really saves the club a lot of money and keeps you informed with more timely information. Thanks to Steve/K3BAY, Nick/N3CK, and the other board members for all they have done to make this possible.

Renew here: <http://www.w3vpr.org/node/35>

If you received a paper copy of the November newsletter, a renewal form was enclosed.

Area Hamfests

2010		
27 Jan	FREE Mini-Fest - Baltimore Amateur Radio Club Talk-In: 146.67 Contact: Bill Dobson, N3WD Phone: 443-590-1444 Email: w3ft67@yahoo.com or click on: http://www.gbhc.org	Maryland State Fairgrounds 2200 York Road Timonium, MD
31 Jan	2010 Post Holiday Hamfest Maryland Mobileers Amateur Radio Club Talk-In: 146.805 / 146.205 Mhz Contact: Frank Winner, N3SEO Phone: 410-647-3335 Email: n3seo@aol.com or click on: http://www.mobileers.org	Odenton Volunteer Fire Department Hall 1425 Annapolis Road (Route 175) Odenton, MD
27-28 Mar	MD State Convention (Greater Baltimore Hamboree & Computerfest) - Baltimore Amateur Radio Club Talk-In: 146.67- (PL 107.2) Contact: Bill Dobson, N3WD Phone: 443-590-1444 Email: w3ft67@yahoo.com or click on: http://www.gbhc.org	Maryland State Fairgrounds 2200 York Road Timonium, MD
1 May	Great Hagerstown Hamfest Antietam Radio Association Talk-In: 147.09 & 146.94 (backup) - no tones Contact: Herman Niedzielski, K2AVA Phone: 301-791-5841 Email: k2ava@myactv.net or click on: http://www.w3cwc.org/HamFests.html	Washington County Agricultural Center MD State Route 65 South Sharpsburg Pike Hagerstown, MD

From: <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests.html?dosel=1&selsect=MDC&subtype=section>

2009 Sweepstakes – Phone

by Bob Rose/AA3RR

Wow! And what a great time! What a finish! What a wonderful weekend – Good food, friends and ham radio – It just doesn't get any better.

In my opinion, the three best operating activities are Field Day, the MD QSO Party and the November Sweepstakes. Each of these events offers something unique.

- Field Day – a fun, family-oriented, group-friendly operating event (not a contest) that offers a lot of challenges from set-up through the event to take-down..
- MD QSO Party – a laid back contest that offers unique challenges and is exciting and fun without a lot of pressure.
- November Sweepstakes - This contest is the next step up by combining the fun and excitement of Field Day with the challenges and excitement of contesting. Like Field Day, you can operate a total of 24 hours but unlike Field Day, you are limited to a single transmitter.

This year we operated two separate entries during the contest:

AARC YL Group (KB3ATI) consisting of Brenda/KB3ATI, Kim/KB3NGU and Margaret/KB3GLC. They were joined for a while by Nick's (N3CK) XYL (Antonietta).

AARC Jr (K13DS) consisting of Bernie/AF3US, Robbie/KB3PEB, Jim/KB3NQY, Bob/KB3MPR, Mark/KA3RNW, Steve/K3BAY, Nick/N3CK, and Bob/AA3RR. Tom/K3TH, George/N3YSA, and Jimmy/KB3PGY were also at the club and provided moral support.

Despite our best plans which were overcome by events, each station got on the air about an hour after the contest officially started.



KB3ATI and KB3NGU operating the YL station (KB3ATI)

For those of you who do not know anything about the November Sweepstakes let me pause and provide an explanation. The November Sweepstakes is sponsored by the ARRL and is conducted in two separate categories: Morse code (CW) and Voice (Phone). The goal of each contest is to score as many points as possible by contacting as many stations as possible as well as “multipliers”. In the Nov SS the multipliers are the ARRL and Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) sections. The ARRL has 71 Sections and RAC combines some territories and provinces to produce 9 sections for a total of 80. There are two goals for the Sweepstakes contests:

1. Score as many points as possible in order to win your operating category and
2. Achieve a “Clean Sweep” by working a station in each of the 80 sections.

Of course you have to correctly enter all of the exchange information in your log and hope that the other station gave it to you correctly. Otherwise those contacts with busted calls, incorrect serial numbers, etc will be tossed out and you could incur additional penalties.

Neither group held any pretensions of winning the contest so our focus was on getting the Clean Sweep.

At about 6:30pm we stopped for dinner. Special thanks to Nick/N3CK who was my Sous Chef and I couldn't have gotten dinner prepared and served as efficiently if he hadn't jumped in to help.

Our dinner was Thanksgiving themed:

We served a spring salad with raspberry vinaigrette, turkey, prime rib, and ham with mashed potatoes, mashed yams, corn, green beans, dressing, cranberry

AF3US and KB3PEB operating KI3DS
sauce, berries and a relish, and rolls.



For dessert we served Tiramisu (thanks to Nick), apple and pumpkin pies, cookies and cranberry muffins (thanks to Margaret and Jim for the mashed yams and the muffins). Needless to say, we ate well like we always do with KI3DS is playing on the radio.

As I mentioned earlier, we set up two stations – the YLs were in the ham shack and used the Yagi on a tower and the Windom stretched between the guys on the repeater tower. The OMs were in the main room adjacent to the wall by the kitchen and repeater room. They used a G5RV and a vertical.

Sometime around 0200, Brenda/KB3ATI and Bob/AA3RR were the only people left to operate the two stations so they quietly began to pick off lots of missing sections.

Around 1000 a few more people returned to the clubhouse and Bob grabbed a quick 20-30 minute nap to recharge his batteries.

By 11:30 the girls needed only six sections for their "sweep" (NLI, SNJ, DE, AK, BC, and NL) and the guys needed only four sections for theirs (VI, DE, ID and AK).



AA3RR operating KI3DS at 0530 (self portrait)

Both groups shared what they needed and we used the combined resources of both groups to search for and find those elusive sections both groups needed. Both groups made a few more contacts but most of the time was spent searching for the needed sections.

- 11:32 The girls nab New York/Long Island (NLI) – only 5 left
- 12:18 The guys log in the US Virgin Islands (VI) – three left
- 13:04 The guys get Delaware – only two more to go
- 13:10 The ladies grab the same Delaware station – down to four
- 13:26 The guys get Idaho and the girls get British Columbia (BC) – The guys only need Alaska and the girls need three more sections (AK, SNJ and NL)
- 14:51 The Alaskan station we've been pursuing goes off the freq only to relocate up the band **and no one** is responding to his CQ. Brenda finds him and puts him in her log.

- 14:52 Brenda alerts the guys and Bob/AA3RR makes the contact and the guys complete their Sweep! Now everyone is focused on getting the YLs their last two sections.
- 15:35 Southern New Jersey is found and after several attempts is finally in the YL Log. Only Newfoundland remains to be worked.
- 15:53 Newfoundland is found. The signal is weak but getting stronger and the pile-up is huge. After numerous attempts with the Yagi Brenda changes to the vertical and on her second attempt she completes the sweep for the YLs almost an hour after the guys completed their sweep. Lots of smiles and congratulations

While both groups were operating as separate entities, it was a team effort on several levels. During the contest both teams exchanged tips on needed Sections, calls and freqs. On a couple occasions we swapped/shared antennas to make a needed contact and near the end it was one team working toward a common goal.

Below are the projected scores and QSO information for both entries.

2009

Call	Score	QSOs	Mult	Class	Section	Check	Hours	160	80	40	20	15	10
KB3ATI	28,960	181	80	M	MDC	93	20	0	51	51	73	6	0

2009

Call	Score	QSOs	Mult	Class	Section	Check	Hours	160	80	40	20	15	10
KI3DS	32,000	200	80	M	MDC	01	22	0	81	92	15	12	0

In summary, we had a great time with friends, had a lot of fun and enjoyed some good eats.

Next year the November Sweepstakes Phone contest will take place on 20-21 Nov. Mark your calendar and remember:

As of 1 Dec we start setting up our Field Day operation in only 205 days!

Merry Christmas and best wishes for a happy and healthy New Year!



[SKYWARN Recognition Day Set for December 5](#)

The 11th Annual SKYWARN Recognition Day (SRD) Special Event will take place Saturday, December 5, 2009. SRD is co-sponsored by the ARRL and the National Weather Service (NWS) as a way to recognize the commitment made by Amateur Radio operators in helping to keep their communities safe.





ARES/RACES



Calendar of meetings & activities:

There will NOT be a COMDEX in December.
The next meeting is Saturday, Dec 12 at 0900

The VoIP Hurricane net Saturday evenings will be one hour earlier at 7:00 PM eastern standard time due to the time change from daylight saving to eastern standard time. The net is always at 0000 Z Sundays. The net will continue to be held weekly until the first week of Dec when it changes to first Saturdays into May

Visit the Anne Arundel County ARES/RACES website

www.tinyurl.com/aacaresraces

If you are interested in ARES, contact Frank Winner AA Co. EC at N3SEO@aol.com

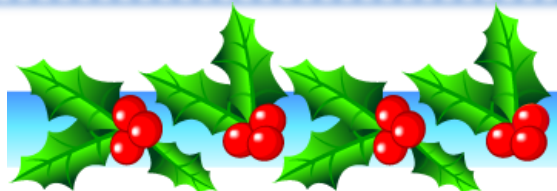
Echolink Website

www.tinyurl.com/ka2jaiecholink



I can set up Station Shortcuts ("speed dial") numbers for anyone who wants them. Information is on the web site.

Mike/KA2JAI



Amateurs in Action!



Murray Green/K3BEQ's presentation about repeater interference brought out a nice crowd to the clubhouse on a rainy November night.

Camporee Volunteers



NEWSLETTER - MARYLAND SLOW NET

MEETS DAILY AT 3563 @ 7:30 P.M. LOCAL TIME

NOVEMBER 2009

October Honor Roll (15+ check-ins)
N3AEA, W8CPG, WE2G, VE2KRM,
KA1LPW (visitor)

October Statistics
Sessions: 31 Minutes:784
QTC: 45 QNI: 165

TO: MSN
FROM: W8CPG

Student News

Please welcome Bob/W1IMA, Swansea, MA. Bob is eager to start the course, propagation permitting. Laura/NT3Y noted that she hoped to return to the course soon. Mike/KI4NGA is nearing the end of the Basic course. Good work, Mike, and then it's on to the Advanced course.

Net Protocol

Frank/N3ZOC kindly offered the following for our information: Procedure for QNI on EAN (Eastern Area Net) at 8:30pm (EST/EDT) generally on 3577kHz. The EAN is a top level NTS net used to pass traffic between EAN and other Areas (PAN, CAN, ECN, etc.) and between Regions (1RN, 2RN, 3RN, 4RN, 8RN, 11RN). Each Area and Region is expected to have a Representative to handle traffic at each session of EAN. In case of a heavy traffic load being taken to EAN, the Area or Region may designate separate Rep's for Transmit (TX) and Receive (RX) traffic. Because of the number of Rep's and amount of traffic generally passed, the EAN NCS usually works from a preplanned Matrix, checking in each Rep by Area or Region and whether the Rep is BOTH, TX or RX and listing the traffic under the respective destination headings. On EAN it is possible to have as many as eight or more pairs of stations dispatched for traffic at any one time. If you have met your Region Net and been assigned to be a Rep to EAN it will be as BOTH, TX or RX. When you QNI EAN you must include: Your Call Sign, Region, whether BOTH, TX or RX, tfc destinations and Quantity. Example: Use the normal Single Character QNI procedure:

DE N3ZOC 3RN BOTH QTC 1RN 2 2RN 4 8RN 1 PAN 2 K (QRU if no tfc)

DE N3ZOC 3RN TX QTC 1RN 2 2RN 4 8RN 1 Pan 2 K (QRU if no tfc)

DE N3ZOC 3RN RX QRU K (have not done this one, so not sure if QRU is required)

EAN NCS will dispatch with the two call signs, U(nr) or D(nr), Destination Qty. Stations generally respond with a Dah or Dit and QSY. Return to Net with Suffix as on MSN. You must sort your traffic by Region if in EAN or Area and only use the specific Region or Area designator to QTC your traffic. The routing Guide is in section 9.2 of the PSCM or at www.arrl.org/FandES/Field.pscm/sec2-ch9.html. Review MSN Training Messages 109 – 137.

Around The Net

- “Traffic Handling Experiences” from Zeak/KA3LTN. “This took me aback so that I was speechless. My traffic had been refused! This, to me anyway, was unheard of in traffic handling. I have to admit that it really shook me up. It made me a little angry and this I must admit! Well, I know that one should be assigned to the upper echelon net before checking into them. This is a fact! I have been handling traffic for many years and many times circumstances dictated going to nets that we weren't assigned to as Liaison operators to clear traffic purely for the sake of expediting traffic! We were always accepted on the nets”. (To be continued).
- Received a very nice note from Bob/KX0T noting he is now NCS Sat. and Sun nights on the Wisconsin Slow Net, and thanking the MSN for not only his training but the chance to be NCS in preparation for further adventures. He sent his sincere thanks to the MSN and its Instructors for great training and thorough and thoughtful Instructors. Congrats, Bob, we look forward to hearing you on the MSN when propagation improves. Thanks for your kind words, Bob, we appreciate the pat on the back..

Cryptoquips, Quotes, and Philosophy du Jour

Is there another word for synonym? Where do Forest Rangers go to get away from it all? If a parsley farmer is sued, can they garnish his wages? “An intellectual is a man who takes more words than necessary to tell more than he knows”, Dwight D. Eisenhower. Life is made of desires that seem big and vital one minute and little and absurd the next. I guess we get what's best for us in the end”, Alice Caldwell Rice, American Writer. Why do they lock the gas station bathrooms? Are they afraid someone will clean them?

Happy Thanksgiving!

MSN NET ASSIGNMENTS

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
MSN NCS	K4OSO	N3ZOC	N3AEA	WB9LBI	K3IN	N3WK	AA3SB
ALT. NCS		K3IN					
MDD REP	W3CB	N3ZOC	W8CPG	N3ZOC	K3IN	N3WK	N3ZOC

73, Bruce/W8CPG AR

AARC STAFF - 2009

OFFICERS

President:	Rick Creager / KK4GV	301-855-2278	kk4gv@w3vpr.org
Vice Pres.:	Mike Brenza / WA3SKN	410 867-7786	wa3skn@w3vpr.org
Secretary:	Nick Lomangino / N3CK		n3ck@w3vpr.org
Treasurer:	Steve Kelly / K3BAY	410-437-0418	k3bay@w3vpr.org
Directors:	Bob Montagne / K3REM	301-464-4377	k3rem@w3vpr.org
	Bob Delamarter / KB3MPR	410-867-4678	kb3mpr@w3vpr.org
	Jim Goldsberry / KB3NQY		kb3nqy@w3vpr.org

REPRESENTATIVES

Trustee:	Buck Watson / KC3Y	410-255-0896	kc3y@aol.com
DFRC Rep:	Bob Delamarter / KB3MPR	410-867-4678	kb3mpr@w3vpr.org
Public Relations:	Holly Bevan / N3MB	410-923-0229	n3mb@arrl.net
ARES/RACES:	Ron Boller / N3WOF	410-956-6127	n3wof@arrl.net
Joint 440 Comm:	John Williams / K8JW	410-647-7406	k8jw@toad.net
F.A.R. Representative:	Ed Brown / KA3ZPE		brownmejr@comcast.net

COMMITTEE COORDINATORS

Public Service:	Ted Redick / K3TED	410-647-2795	tredick@verizon.net
Training:	Mike Brenza / WA3SKN	410 867-7786	wa3skn@w3vpr.org
Repeater Ops:	John Williams / K8JW	410-647-7406	k8jw@toad.net
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 / K3YLV	410-987-3858	k3ylw@w3vpr.org
Web Page:	Steve Kelly / K3BAY	410-437-0418	k3bay@w3vpr.org
Field Day:	Kim & Bob Delamarter,	KB3NGU & KB3MPR	kb3mpr@w3vpr.org
MD Slow Net:	Bruce Stewart / W8CPG	304-456-3036	chickenfarm5@yahoo.com
ARRL Affiliated Club Coordinator:	Robert E Montagne / K3REM	301-464-4377	k3rem@arrl.net

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.

Anne Arundel Radio Club, Inc.

Anne Arundel Radio Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 308
Davidsonville, MD 21035

First Class Mail

