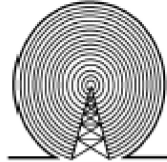


The Ham Arundel News

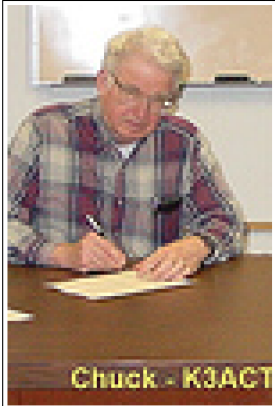


Providing Fellowship and Community Service through Amateur Radio Since 1951

March 2012

34th Year of Publication

Election Announcement



Attention to all members of AARC: An election will be held at the next regular club meeting, 1 March 2012, to select a club President for the remainder of 2012, and to also elect other officers to fill whatever board positions that may become vacant. As explained at the club meeting on Feb 16, 2012, I have been concerned about the club President vacancy, and have decided to allow my name to be put forward for that position, provided

that we could find a candidate for the Vice President. The Vice President would agree to run for President in 2013. This provision will solve the problem we have had for the last two years when there were no candidates for the presidency. Jim Goldsberry (KB3NQY) has agreed to these terms.

So this is how the election will work: First, I will put my name up for nomination for the President. The election chair will entertain other nominations for President. If someone else also runs, and they win the election, then all board positions will have been filled.

If I win the election, then, the Vice President's position will become vacant, and we will immediately hold an election for that position, and Jim Goldsberry's name will be placed in nomination. If someone else is also nominated and wins, then there will be no further board vacancies. But if Jim wins, then his current Director position will become vacant, and we will immediately hold an election to fill that position. If you are willing to run, please contact Nominating committee chairman Tony Young (WA3YLO tonyy3@verizon.net) as soon as possible and let him know so that he can place your name in nomination on 1 March, assuming that this election becomes necessary.

Please recall that one of the privileges of active membership in AARC is to vote, and if you have not yet paid your dues for 2012, you will become inactive as of 29 February, and will not be eligible to vote in this election. We are looking forward to having many members attend the next meeting so that we can finalize our leadership team for the year, and move the club on to a successful year of radio-activity! See you there! - 73 Chuck (K3ACT)

State of the Repeater



I can give you a quick review of what I did at the Repeater site to try and eliminate the intermodulation problems we have been having for many months. I went to the site Saturday, Feb 4, 2012, and made the following changes. I removed our Kenwood transceiver used to link the 147.105 repeater with the 147.075 repeater and replaced it with a Motorola MX-300 commercial mobile radio. After making the change, NO improvement was noted in the intermodulation problem.

This seemed to eliminate the Link transceiver as the source of the intermodulation problem and sent me to the next potential problem source. We have, on the 147.105 repeater, an extra receive cavity on the receive side of the Duplexer. This is used to remove any strong signals which could cause intermodulation problems if they are more than a few hundred kilohertz from the receive frequency of the repeater.

When we used the MICOR repeater, the normal receive sensitivity of the Micor receiver was about .4uv for 12db SINAD, which is not that great. I added the receive cavity and a GASFET preamp to improve the sensitivity of the whole repeater system.

When we switched to the Quantar repeater, the Quantar receiver has better receive sensitivity than the MICOR receiver. I had been using the same receive cavity and preamp setup from the MICOR on the Quantar system.

When I removed the receive preamp from the Quantar, the intermodulation problem WENT AWAY!!

Since the Quantar already has a good cavity front end in the receiver itself, I removed the extra receive cavity from the Duplexer to the Quantar receiver to eliminate the extral loss in that cavity. We are now running with the Quantar directly connected to the Duplexer with good results.

I will have the removed receive preamp tested on a two port analyzer to see if it is defective. I would like to thank Ike Lawton, W3IKE for helping me make the above improvements to the system.

73 John K8JW.

SHOW AND TELL AT AARC



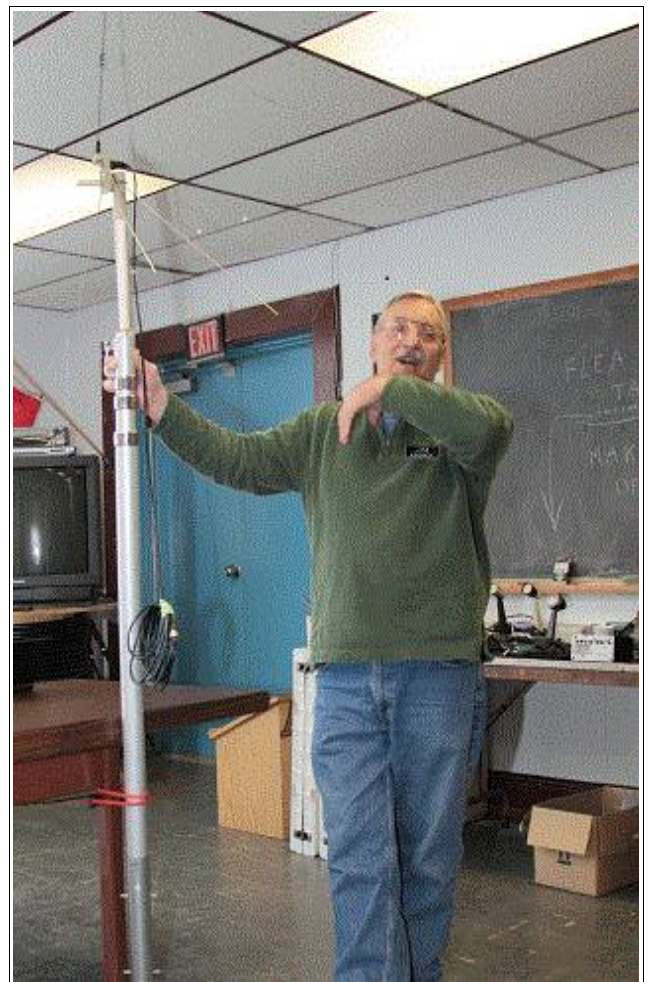
Above, Glen (N3USP) shows some very interesting and affordable electronic gear he uses.



Above, Steve (KB3RIL) shows some very interesting items that make amateur radio an such exciting hobby.

Below Jim (KB3NQY) shows us how to use our vehicle as a mount for your HF antenna.

Below, Milford (N3WYG) told us about the RMS Titanic and her sister ships. One of which turned on a German U-Boat.



Not pictured but very informative, Rick (KK4GV) showed us a special antenna that can receive both polarizations and orientations and covers the whole sky horizon-to-horizon.

NEWSLETTER - MARYLAND SLOW NET

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

Student News

Please welcome three new Students: On the news front – Fred/W1FT is making his way through the Basic course and dealing with the sometimes awesome QRN and static crashes (great for building character). Joe/W3TTT also is moving through the Basic course as is Mark/WA4GHA. Keep up the good work guys; it pays off in the long run. WR9H/Herb of Rockland IL, because of his demanding work schedule as a cardiac therapist, has been working off Net with Roy/WA2TWS for training, and passed the Awesome Exam to successfully complete the Basic course a few months ago (great job teaching, Roy). I've not heard from W4HH/Joe from Heathsville, VA, in many months. If you hear him on the air, please invite him back to the MSN to continue with the training course.

Net Protocol

- NCS – Another reminder - when sending stations off Net frequency for traffic or training, remember to **call the RX station first and then the TX station**. The RX station is responsible for finding a clear frequency near where the stations were sent by the NCS.
- NCS – please remember that Instructors should be directed to QNV new Students through Tng Msg Nr 10, to be sure that newer Students have an assured contact before moving off Net frequency, and to provide practice to all in using the QNV procedure. After Msg Nr 10 we expect Students understand the procedure and also that they are responsible for calling the Instructor after moving to the assigned frequency. Students – please be sure you have good contact with your Instructor – and wait for his request to QSY before you leave the Net frequency. He will restate the NCS directive to QSY up or down. Do not just send “G” and go.
- Students – it is your responsibility to know which Training Message you need to continue your course and to advise the NCS which Msg you need when you QNI. Your Instructor is listening and will be prepared to teach when you both move to an assigned frequency.
- Students – please understand how to use QSK (see Pink Card) and the procedure for requesting fills when you miss words in your Tng Msg. Using QSK saves a lot of time if you interrupt the Instructor by sending a series of dits and catch the missing words right away rather than having to hunt for them at the end of the Msg. Especially important with poor band conditions is to use the WA, WB, AA and other prosigns rather than “please repeat the entire address” or “I’m confused, I need” Copy may be very poor on both ends of the training effort. Accuracy and brevity are the keys to successful traffic handling, and good communication is our business.

Around The Net

- From Pete/K1PJS – ARRL Public Information Coordinator (Cont'd): For many, Amateur Radio has led that person into a vocation. In my case it led to work as a Broadcast Engineer in Commercial Radio. Working daily with the media gives a unique perspective on the news and how to implement that venue for promoting Amateur Radio. Many radio clubs in NH have (P)ublic (I)nformation (O)fficers. The PIC is one who is ready to assist these PIO's with press releases or advice on how to promote a certain event using the media. (To be cont'd).
- From Roy/WA2TWS – Taking Advantage of Technology (Cont'd): In 1946 I purchased a 35 mm Kodak Retina camera in a PX in Bavaria, and on grainy Super XX film chronicled some of the WW2 aftermath. Chemicals were scarce in post-war Germany so processing was marginal, but it was the start of a hobby that has generated many thousands of analog images. (My Pentax100D camera is rapidly adding digital images to the total, but that's another story.) In the 1960's I played an electric mandolin with various groups of musician friends, and we made reel-to-reel sound recordings. Fortunately the magnetic fields did not “print through” over the years, but surviving playback equipment is wearing out, and compared to contemporary technology, is obsolescent, unhandy, and less portable. (To be cont'd).

Quotes, Trivia, and Philosophy du Jour

No matter how cynical I get, I can't keep up – Lily Tomlin. I believe our Heavenly father invented man because He was disappointed in the monkey – Mark Twain.

Airline Humor? Tower: “Delta 351 you have traffic at 10 o'clock, 6 miles!” Delta 351: “Give us another hint! We have digital watches!”

Tower: “TWA 2341, for noise abatement turn right 45 degrees.” TWA 2341: “Tower, we are at 35,000 feet. How much noise can we make up here?” Tower: “Sir, have you ever heard the noise a 747 makes when it hits a 727?”

O'Hare Approach Control to a 747: “United 329 heavy, your traffic is a Fokker, one o'clock, three miles, eastbound.” United 329: “Approach, I've always wanted to say this...I've got the little Fokker in sight.”

Manager's Note: It's been an honored tradition – from the beginning of time (about when the MSN began) – that if an NCS fails to show up at the appointed time, one of the Net Members would pick up the responsibility and run the Net. In the spirit of World Peace and ending hunger, please help carry on this very worthwhile tradition. If the NCS does not appear on time, please QNG and run the Net. Your reward for this effort may be found in your end-of-year bonus.

In furtherance of the MSN mission, please do your utmost to contact potential students and encourage them to check into the MSN and take advantage of our unique traffic handling training program.

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+ 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 |

Anne Arundel Radio Club, Inc.

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First Class Mail

