

The Ham Arundel News



Providing Fellowship and Community Service through Amateur Radio Since 1951

May 2012

35rd Year of Publication

WOW !!! What a Technician Class.

24 students of the class passed the exam and earned their radios – and more importantly their Amateur Radio License. Some up graded their license and so over all it was a great time for everyone involved. Congratulations!

If you did not pass or complete the class, don't give up. The club is there to assist you to get licensed and on the air. If you attended at least 3 of the 5 classes and pass the exam at AARC or any local club in the next month or so I will honor the radio deal. Just email me and let me know if you pass or have any questions. You are also welcome to sign up for the General class that starts May 5 even if you don't have your license yet.

Here are some links that will help you get started:

<http://www.w3vpr.org/> I have attached the programming guide I wrote but it is not complete yet and needs some work in a few places. A newer version should be available later in the week at:

<http://www.cheapham.com/brands/Wouxun.html> This link has a bunch of accessories for the Wouxun Radios.

<http://www.hamradio.com/detail.cfm?pid=H0-003454>

One of the best things you can do to improve your mobile signal is to use an external antenna. This is one cost effective solution with good gain:

<http://www.hamradio.com/detail.cfm?pid=H0-010218> You will need an SMA female to UHF Female adapter to plug this antenna into the radio:

<http://www.tmarc.org/freqs/Frequency.html> TMARC - is the frequency coordinator for all or parts of MD, DC, PA, DE, VA and WV so their site will have the most up-to-date repeater information to help you add more memory channels for repeaters in your area.

<http://www.tmarc.org/band> TMARC also list the band plans:

Try a repeater near you that you think you can hit, first listen. Then if there is no talking, (check to see that your squelch is allowing signals to come through) key the radio (push the Push-To-Talk button) and announce KB3Yxx and listen. Thus you'll start meeting new fiends or talk to ones you have already met at the clubhouse. Several club members are often on 147.105 during the 5 to 6 PM rush hour and that is linked to the 147.075 in the north part of AA county so try on either one. You may be close enough to a repeater (or at high enough elevation) to hit it from indoors but typically a hand-held will work better outdoors.

After a few days your FCC data will appear on <http://www.grz.com/> so look yourself up and make a little bio page with a photo if you want. Remember QRZ? Who is

calling?

The club's: <http://www.grz.com/db/w3vpr>

If you would like to join the club: <http://www.w3vpr.org/node/35>.

To join the ARRL and receive QST Magazine: <https://www.arrl.org/join-arrl-renew-membership/>

If you fill out their online form, print it, and bring it to the clubhouse we send it in and the club gets \$15 of your first years dues. Or you can simply submit it on their website and join directly with the league.

Here is the list of the NEW and UPGRADED hams. Let's make them all welcome.

Cy	Ardoin	KB3YMP	New Ham General
Allen	Baughman	KB3YFO	Up Grade to General
John	Bowes	KB3YLY	New Ham
Joseph	Campbell	KB3YMO	New Ham
Garrett	Cauffman	KN3YME	New Ham
Jacque	Cauffman	KB3YMF	New Ham
Gary	Cusack	KB3YMQ	New Ham
Linda	Days	KB3YMM	New Ham
Donna	Egan-Emmons	KB3YML	New Ham
Andrew	Emmons	KB3YMK	New Ham
Michael	Gates	KB3YMS	New Ham
Sean	Gates	KB3YMT	New Ham
Bruce	George	KB3YMN	New Ham
Charles	Goepel	KB3YMV	New Ham General
Steven	Grimaud	KB3YMR	New Ham
Harriet	Gulley	KB3YMA	New Ham
William	Gulley Jr	KB3YMB	New Ham
Robert	Hallock	KB3YMJ	New Ham
Valerie	Lewnes	KB3YMC	New Ham
Edward	Mangum	KB3YMG	New Ham
Danielle	Matland	KB3YLZ	New Ham
William	Obermeyer	KB3YMH	New Ham
Bernard	Poppert Jr	KK4IOI	New Ham
Edward	Santilli	KB3YMU	New Ham
James	Smith	KB3YMI	New Ham
Aaron	Soto	KB3WNE	Up Grade to General
Michael	Thompson	KB3YPA	New Ham
Wes	Tippet	N3WZU	Up Grade to General
John	Wienand	KB3YMD	New Ham

24 radios presented so far courtesy of our corporate sponsor **LDG Electronics**.

(See page two for new hams from the Friday night class. *Ed.*)

'R2D2' Found and Turned Off

During the Cherry Pit race in early April some 'funny stuff' was reported. Jerry Hazel reported a strong signal near South River High School from a bogus ID'er. This was an early indication that there was a bogus ID'er on the receive frequency of the 147.105 repeater that many area hams have been noting.

N3ST Bryan (TMARC) reported "I went to Middle River, Dundalk, East Baltimore areas on Monday and it was weak there. However, I can hear it in my vehicle fairly well on the northeast part of the Baltimore beltway. Whenever I was on high ground it had a good signal. I'll do some more DF'ing on Tuesday." Now the hunt was on in earnest.

This bogus ID'er seemed to go off every 10 minutes and had a couple of different messages. Ideas were legion as to what it was and where it was and who it was. The buzz on the Davidsonville Repeater centered on this for about two to three weeks.

A follow up report from N3ST stated, "Today (Tuesday April 10 2012) I DF'ed the signal a bit further. I started in northeast Baltimore and the signal kept peaking to the northeast. I kept working my way up I-95 and my last stop was Havre de Grace. The signal is coming from somewhere considerably further northeast of Havre de Grace. Based on a difference in signal strength from the various locations is how I believe the source is much farther northeast either into northern Delaware, Eastern Pennsylvania, or New Jersey. Once I determined that, I decided to call the FCC Laurel Monitoring Station. I know the guys over there from working with them at my job. I gave them the details and asked that they work with their Philadelphia office and try to locate it."

Then on April 12 2012, N3ST called the FCC Laurel office this afternoon to follow-up on the complaint. They indicated it was passed along to their Philadelphia office. They also said as soon as they get any word on it, they will let me know.

April 17, 2012 the FCC Office in Philadelphia reported they had tracked down the signal to a water tank (tower, ed.) in Elkton, Maryland. We are working to find who's equipment is on the tank. There are no other repeaters coordinated to the location they gave me.

Then on April 18, 2012 N3ST wrote: "After W3YVV Bruce Carpenter (TMARC) found out who owned the water tank and passing that info along to the FCC, they tracked down who had the equipment at the water tank near Elkton. It turned out to be a remote receiver operated by a ham who is involved with ARES/RACES and Cecil County Dept. Of Emergency Services.

He has a UHF repeater there which also has a remote base on it to work the monthly ARES/RACES net on the Davidsonville repeater. He indicated it was put there several years ago because they could not access the Davidsonville repeater from their EOC for the nets. So they use the UHF repeater to link in via the remote base.

Apparently, several weeks ago there were several power outages and the controller must have gotten into some state where it reverted back to the default message only on that remote base port. The repeater port, he indicated, was working just fine.

The ham was very apologetic about the entire

situation. He said that he had someone turn off the system earlier today so it should not be causing a problem anymore. He will investigate the problem when he can get to the site. TMARC indicated that they looked for any coordinated repeaters to that location and did not find any. Therefore, they had no way of knowing who might have knowledge about the site. TMARC will work with the ham to get his information updated and get his repeater coordinated to that location.

K3RSJ Bob thanked Bryan for all of his hard work. Bob wrote on behalf of the AARC "Wow Bryan, what an awesome piece of detective work! On behalf of AARC please accept our heartiest thanks and admiration for a job 'well done'. By the way, you can tell the ham we have no hard feelings and am glad to have helped him rectify this situation. He is always welcome on our net(s).

(It should be noted that these things happen sometimes but we are glad to have the ECOMM guys keeping all these things running. If we had a hurricane come up the bay we might well need a link from Cecil County back into the state capital. They practice for this type of even monthly to make sure systems are working so consider getting involved in ARES/RACES. Ed.)

2012 Cherry Pit 10 Mile Run



The Annapolis Striders proudly run the Cherry Pit 10 Mile Race. This is their 33rd year of the race. The cherry Pit is the second leg of the 2012 Annapolis Striders Championship Series. The course is through some of the most beautiful rolling hills on the original Cherry Pit course.

The race runs from 8:00 o'clock in the morning until approximately 11:30 a.m.. This days weather was cool and overcast sky. There were approximately 500 runners.

The club organizer was K3RSJ, Bob Jeter who reported that everything went well and everybody had fun.

Bob was ably supported by the following hams:

Net Control KB3KWT, Paul assisted by K3TED, Ted.

Director shadow: KB3JAI, Mike

Water stops were manned by:

N21QT, Greg; KB3UDP, Erick; KB3NQY, Jim; WJ3K, Gordon; N3HKJ, Jerry; KB3CWQ, Terry (and Barb); K3WOF, Ron; and W3RTX, Christian

Bicycle Mobile:

K3HMX, Bryan; and WA5VHU, Charles

If you would like to receive a mailed copy of the Ham Arundel News, please send complete mailing information to newsletter@w3vpr.org, or mail it to us.

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, 147.075 and 444.400 repeaters are frequently linked.

Please leave an extra second after the
courtesy beep to allow the .075 link to reset.

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

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First Class Mail

