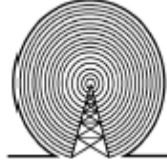


The Ham Arundel News



Providing Fellowship and Community Service through Amateur Radio Since 1951

June 2012

35th Year of Publication

It Is That Time Of Year Again

June 1 begins the national hurricane season. Already this year there have been two named storms, neither of which have impacted us here in Maryland. Therefore, this article, gleaned from the Amateur Radio Emergency Service's newsletter, provides good information for all hams.

Now is the time for ARES® members to assess their portfolio of communications equipment and disaster response knowledge. Here are several tips for amateurs involved with hurricane operations:

- Monitor major HF hurricane networks during events this season. The Hurricane Watch Net ([HWN](#)) on 14.325 MHz is one of several key players. It serves either the Atlantic or Pacific during a watch or warning period and coordinates with the National Hurricane Center ([NHC](#)) in Miami. Frequent, detailed information is issued on nets when storms pose a threat to the US mainland. In addition to hurricane spotting, local communicators may announce that residents have evacuated from low-lying flood areas. Other amateurs across the country can help by relaying information, keeping the net frequency clear and by listening. See the HWN's [website](#) for more information. The net works closely with [WX4NHC](#), the Amateur Radio station at the NHC.
- The [SATERN Net](#) (Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network) provides emergency communication support to the Salvation Army and populations at large. They also handle health-and-welfare traffic. SATERN holds high profile nets on 20 meters (14.265 MHz) during major hurricanes and has a long history of excellence, discipline and service. Refer to

the SATERN [website](#) for more information.

- The Maritime Mobile Service Net ([MMSN](#)) meets on 14.300 MHz and is composed of hams who serve and assist those in need of communications on the high seas. According to its [website](#), the primary purpose of the net is for handling traffic from maritime mobile stations. The network is recognized by the United States Coast Guard and has an excellent working relationship with that agency. The MMSN has handled hundreds of incidents involving vessels in distress and medical emergencies in remote locations, as well as passing health and welfare traffic in and out of affected areas. They also work closely with the NWS and NHC by relaying weather reports from maritime stations.
- The [VoIP SKYWARN and Hurricane Net](#) operates by combining both the EchoLink and IRLP linked repeater networks, while handling critical wide area communications during major severe weather and tropical events. These operations have gained national stature in recent years and the net is a critical partner with WX4NHC. Whenever tropical weather is imposing a threat to the US mainland and certain other areas of interest, the VoIP WX net will be fully operational. See the VoIP SKYWARN and Hurricane Net [website](#) for more information.

(The ARES E-Letter for May 16, 2012)

**Subscription to the
AREA/RACES Newsletter,
as well as others is available
at ARRL.org**



www.arrrl.org

AARC Annual Field Day

At the Club House
3789 Queen Anne Bridge Road
Davidsonville, MD

Set up: June 22, 2012, Friday 2:00 (Local)

Field Day Starts: June 23, 2012 1800 UTC (1400 Local)

Field Day Ends: June 24, 2012 2000 UTC (1600 Local)

**EVERYONE'S INVITED TO COME
AND HAVE FUN**

OVERVIEW

ARRL Field Day is the single most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. Each year over 35,000 amateurs gather with their clubs, friends or simply by themselves to operate.

ARRL Field Day is not a fully adjudicated contest, which explains much of its popularity. It is a time where many aspects of Amateur Radio come together to highlight our many roles. While some will treat it as a contest, most groups use the opportunity to practice their emergency response capabilities. It is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate Amateur Radio to local elected community leaders, key individuals with the organizations that Amateur Radio might serve in an emergency, as well as the general public. For many clubs, ARRL Field Day is one of the highlights of their annual calendar.

• Objective-

To work as many stations as possible on any and all amateur bands (excluding the 60, 30, 17, and 12-meter bands) and to learn to operate in abnormal situations in less than optimal conditions. Field Day is open to all amateurs in the areas covered by the ARRL/RAC Field Organizations and countries within IARU Region 2. DX stations residing in other regions may be contacted for credit, but are not eligible to submit entries.

• Dates-

Field Day is always the fourth full weekend of June, beginning at 1800 UTC Saturday and running through 2059 UTC Sunday. Field Day 2012 will be held June 23-24, 2012.

• Bands-

Any Amateur Radio band except 12, 17, 30 and 60 Meters.

• Food-

Keeping in line with the emergency nature of our Field Day operation, the club officers and Directors have decided to have a group come in who needs training in emergency food preparation for disasters. Kim Delamarter, KB3NGU asked the club if they could prepare food for the evening Field Day meal for the club.

• Sleeping and or Camping-

There is room in the club house to sleep, if you bring your own bed roll. If there is anyone planning to pitch a tent, please contact Nick, N3CK for coordination so that everyone is safe.

Contact Information-

Field Day information contact AARC Field Day Organizer Nick Lomangino, n3ck@live.com or by phone at 301-442-6249.

Thanks to all who have taken part in the preparation for this great event.

The Walk for the Animals

Each spring nearly two thousand friends of the SPCA and their pets join us in beautiful Quiet Waters Park for our largest fundraiser. They enjoy voluntary walks on measured courses in the park as well as the large outdoor vendor festival.

Keeping a watchful eye on things is Paul KB3KWT (Pictured to the Right)



**A GREAT BIG THANK YOU
FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT
OF THIS FUN EVENT**



BACK ROW---1. Charles--WA5VHU, 2. Jaque--KB3YMF 3. Erick--KB3UDP 4. Greg--N2IQT 5. Amy--KB3QOU
6. Glenn--N3USP 7. Gordon--WJ3K 8. Brian--K3HMX
FRONT ROW 1. Ted--K3TED 2. Paul--KB3KWT 3. Garrett--KB3YME 4. John--KB3YLL 5. Cindy-- KD5CCB 6. MIKE--
KA2JAI

Charles WA5VHU) and Brian (K3HMX) were bicycle-mobile, hence the wearing of the helmets.

Mike KA2JAI shadowed the SPCA Director so that he would have communication with the entire walk.

Have Some Fun in the 2012 ARRL June VHF QSO Party

There will be lots of RF generated on 6 meters and up the weekend of June 9-11 during the [2012 ARRL June VHF QSO Party](#). While many amateurs think of the VHF+ bands as a “local” band for public service, emergency communications or even a bit of fun on FM repeaters, weak-signal VHF+ enthusiasts know better. Even with a modest station, it’s possible to work hundreds -- or even thousands -- of miles on the VHF bands during a good opening.

ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, is a big VHF enthusiast. “In more than 25 years of Amateur Radio, weak-signal work on 6 and 2 meters remains the most fun and intriguing activity I do,” he said. “There is nothing like a good VHF opening -- with interesting propagation characteristics like Sporadic-E, tropospheric ducting, aurora and even meteor scatter and moonbounce -- VHF offers QSO opportunities that HF can never satisfy.”

Kutzko said the contest weekend is a great time to try 6 or 2 meters: “The June VHF QSO Party occurs at the beginning of the summer sporadic-E season, which can produce intense openings on 6 meters, and in some cases, up to 2 meters. In the past few years, we’ve seen activity reach record levels on these bands. Six meters has produced some excellent openings in the past couple weeks, including the East Coast working Europe this past Monday, and the South Pacific making it to the West Coast fairly recently. Openings between the US and the Caribbean and South America have been unusually plentiful for this early in the Sporadic-E season.”

Kutzko explained that getting on the VHF bands can be quite simple, since most newer HF transceivers also come with at least 6 meters, and possibly other VHF/UHF bands. While there will be some contest activity on FM simplex -- especially near large population centers -- most long-distance VHF+ QSOs are conducted on CW or SSB -- and that means horizontally polarized antennas should be used.

“A dipole on 6 meters will work quite well during a decent opening,” Kutzko said. “They’re easy to make and only 9.4 feet long. Throw it up in a tree as high as you can and you’ll be in

business. For 2 meters and 70 cm, a horizontal loop will work nicely for SSB and CW contacts.” You can find [plans for simple VHF antennas](#) at the Technical Information Service area of the ARRL website, as well as in the “Antennas” chapter of the [ARRL Handbook](#) or in the “VHF and UHF Antenna Systems” chapter of the [ARRL Antenna Handbook](#).

Because VHF antennas are generally smaller than their HF counterparts, Kutzko said that portable operation is simple: “You can operate from your favorite hilltop, camp site or any location with high terrain and make many QSOs. All you need to know is the [Maidenhead grid square](#) of your operating location, which is the contest exchange. Some grids can be quite rare; if they’re not too far from you, consider a portable operation to a rare square for a chance to be sought-after DX!”

For SSB QSOs on 6 meters, tune between 50.100-50.200 MHz. Keep in mind that 50.100-50.125 is reserved for intercontinental QSOs, so don’t transmit there unless you are trying to work DX. 50.125 is the W/VE calling frequency, so listen there for band openings. If the band starts to open up, move off the calling frequency and start making contacts. For the CW operators, you will find CW between 50.080-50.100 MHz. Activity on 2 meters will center around the calling frequency of 144.200. Again, monitor the calling frequency for band openings, but move off when activity starts to pick up. Most 2 meter SSB/CW activity will be found between 144.170-144.230 MHz, and 70 cm activity will center around 432.100 MHz.

“The weekend promises to be a tremendous amount of fun on the VHF and UHF bands. Don’t miss out! All amateurs -- from Technicians to Extras, experienced VHF operators to the first-time VHF dabblers -- are welcome,” Kutzko said. The [ARRL June VHF QSO Party](#) runs from 1800 UTC Saturday, June 9 through 0300 UTC Monday, June 11 (Saturday afternoon to Sunday evening for most of the US and Canada). Complete rules and entry forms may be found [here](#). All logs must be emailed or postmarked no later than 0300 UTC Wednesday, July 11. Questions can be sent via [e-mail](#) to the Contest Branch.

(Reprint from the May 31 issue of the ARRL Newsletter)

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

