

# The Ham Arundel News



Providing Fellowship and Community Service through Amateur Radio Since 1951

June 2013

35<sup>rd</sup> Year of Publication



## The Prez Sez...

Greetings everyone, June is upon us and June is Field Day month. The recent weather events in Oklahoma, highlight one of the main reasons for Field Day, emergency operations. When all other forms of communication fail Ham Radio operators have always stepped up and filled the void. Field day for 24 hours June 22 and 23, 2013 is

our chance to show the public how we can operate off the grid. It is also our opportunity to practice emergency setup and operations. To all the new licensed amateur radio operators, come and see what it is all about get on the air and have some fun. To all those hams that, have done this before come on out get on the air, help a new ham learn operation tricks of the trade, or help a visitor get on the air for the first time. If you can't make it out to operate we can always use help setting up and tearing down. Oh! Yes and have fun.

Our club meetings this month will be focused on Field Day. Bob Rose, AA3RR will explain the new rules, the layout of stations, antennas, setup, tear down etc. at the meeting on June 6<sup>th</sup>.

We will wrap up our final Field Day preparations at the meeting on June 20<sup>th</sup>. There also seems to be enough donated equipment to hold a small equipment sale. Check Rick Creager, KK4GV's blog on the website for details on the sale.

I want to apologize if you have had problems with the website particularly the Roster. When the website was upgrade, the upgrade caused some problems that we are working through. We will be working to rectify these problems as soon as possible.

I want to thank all the members who have come to the meetings it great to see a full house meeting after meeting. Thanks should also go to our program chairman Chuck Tanner, K3ACT, and the presenters, who have provided some really great programs.

The General License Class has been going well and there should be 20 or so new generals, come the June testing session.

This will be another large testing session and I'm sure that Brenda Rose, KB3ATI will be calling on the club VE's for extra help.

See you at the meetings and Think Field Day.

73, Jim, KB3NQY

## Invite a Kid to Field Day

If you've been around ham radio for any length of time, you'll notice that ham radio operators like to complain. One of the most frequently heard complaints is, "Kids aren't interested in amateur radio anymore." While I'm not so sure that's true, I do know that now is the time for you to do something about it.

How? Invite a kid to Field Day.

Invite them to help you set up antennas.

Show them how you power the rigs with a generator, or even cooler, by charging a battery with a solar panel.

Let them sit in front of the rig, show them how to make contacts, and log for them. To make it easier for them, make up a cheat sheet with the callsign spelled out phonetically and the exchange, also spelled out phonetically.

Let them operate for as long as they're interested. When they're done, thank them on contributing to your club's total score.

Answer every single one of their questions.

This may not win them over immediately, but I can assure you that it will make an impression on them. To increase your chances of success, find a kid that's already technically inclined. Invite a bunch of them from the high school's robotics team, for example.

If you don't have any plans for Field Day, then make some. Then, go find that kid. If you don't, then you don't have any right to complain that there are no kids in ham radio.

73 Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

When he's not trying to get kids interested in amateur radio, Dan, KB6NU enjoys working CW on the HF bands and teaching ham radio classes. For more information about his operating activities and his "No-Nonsense" series of amateur radio license study guides, go to KB6NU.Com or e-mail [cwgeek@kb6nu.com](mailto:cwgeek@kb6nu.com).

## ARRL Field Day

W3VPR

June 22-23, 2013

Anne Arundel Radio Club

Davidsonville Family Recreation Park

Davidsonville, MD.

Talk In on 147.105 with a PL of 107.5



## AARC History Part 6

In the Fall of '84, John Williams/K8JW and Harry Suit/N3DE obtained permission from the county to install a second AARC repeater atop the Arundel North Bldg in Glen Burnie on 145.450. After it was installed, Bob DeMattia/AK1J upgraded the repeater by adding a controller and a 220-link.

On January 3, 1985 an installation dinner was held at the Parole Holiday Inn for the following officers: Pres: Al Jeweler/N3BIN; Vice-Pres: Andrew Smith/WB3GSW; Sec: George Mannion/N3DNP; Treas: Bill Cooke/K3CN and Directors: Ron Nord/N3AKP, Dick Jessup/N3FN and Carl Menchey/N3CVO. The "Doodle Sockers", a Barbershop Harmony Quartet entertained the group.

Bill Townsend, due to health reasons, requested to be replaced as chairman of the Maryland Slow Net. Assistant Chairman Buck Watson/KC3Y took over as chairman. At the February meeting Bill was given life membership for his outstanding work in starting and building up the MSN. Holly/N3BMB and Di/KA3GWi were surprised and delighted to learn that the Ham Arundel News was selected in the Feb. issue of 73 Magazine as their "Newsletter of the Month". The ten-week Novice Class, started in February of '85 with Coordinator Carl Menchey/N3CVO, produced twenty-two new novices. On the club's ten-meter net on Tuesday evenings, Gordon Kellenberger/WB3CLG was holding listener's spellbound with his series of historical vignettes about early happenings in the state, especially in the Annapolis area.

In May of '85 the 147.105 repeater suffered a direct lightning strike which put it out of commission. The controller, receiver and preamp were wiped out. The controller was returned to the manufacturer in California for appraisal. The Glen Burnie repeater had been taken off line to change the frequency from 145.450 to 147.075. Harry/N3DE and John/K8JW put that project on hold to ready the backup repeater to take over until the disabled one could be restored to service. The officers of the Maryland Mobileers kindly offered the use of their repeater on 146.805 to AARC members, including permission to run their scheduled 2-meter nets. A decision was made at the June meeting to solicit donations from users who would like to have the repeater restored. A letter was mailed to all members asking for their help.

Before the Club could even begin to recover from the lightning strike, a freak wind storm in the remnants of Tropical Storm Bob wreaked havoc at the club site. It tore the club sign from the front of the building, destroyed the Spalding tower and the tri-bander beam and badly damaged the 2-meter antenna. The replacement expenses mounted further. However, generous club members, and a number of non-members, donated more than \$1700 to the "Repeater Disaster Fund". This made restoration of the repeater possible without jeopardizing other club plans.

Field Day results: Under the leadership of Coordinator Byron Kabran/KA3CUK, AARC came in 4th in Class 3A-Battery, running low power from batteries charged by solar panels. The highlight of FD was the Novice Station which was operated the full 24-hours.

Public service events for '85 included: the Marlborough Hunt Club Races at Roedown on Easter

Sunday, the first 10-kilometer run across the Bay Bridge on April 14th, the Maryland Saltwater Fishermen's Annual Benefit Bluefish Tournament in May, the Annapolis 10-mile Run in August, the DFRC Bluegrass Festival in September and Chesapeake Appreciation Days. At CA Days club members, in addition to furnishing communications, manned a Special Event Station both days, as well as the Message Center.

The Ft. Meade Officers' Club was the site on January 16, 1986, for the Installation Dinner for the 1986 Club Officers: Pres. Al Jeweler/N3BIN, Vice-Pres. Carl Menchey/N3CVO, Secretary Patty Nestor/N3EOD, Treasurer Bill Cooke/K3CN and Directors Jim Boyer/N3DTD, Jerry Herman/N3BDW and Andy Smith/WB3GSW. Shortly thereafter when Andy discovered that he could not make the Thursday meetings, Al Nestor/N3EOD was elected to replace him.

The County installed a new roof on the clubhouse, filled the trenches in the floor with concrete and provided an access ramp for the handicapped at the entrance. Jerry/N3BDW and Jim/N3DTD replaced the ceiling tile. In a general cleanup, the county brought a large dumpster to the top of the hill in order to dispose of the accumulated "junk" from the grounds and the storerooms.

The annual Novice Class coordinated by Carl Menchey/N3CVO, Tony Young/WA3YLO and Al Nestor/N3EOD produced thirty new hams for the area. Field Day, coordinated by Byron Kabran/KA3CUK, resulted in a fourth place for AARC in 3-A Battery with 5,480 points. During a late afternoon thunderstorm in July the repeater suffered another lightning strike. It was not as bad as before, but the borrowed controller suffered extensive damage and had to be shipped away to be repaired. An impromptu work party worked until the wee hours one night to get the repeater back on the air with yet another borrowed controller. The phone patch was not reconnected until special line protection was obtained. During the summer of '86 Club members had to face an important decision about whether or not to install a different tower. In the Fall of '83 the Club was offered a free 400-ft. tower (including a generator, lights, guy wires and a fence) if they would dismantle it and haul it away from the Bainbridge Naval Station. On the first Saturday in December a caravan of members, accompanied by a rented flatbed truck and a borrowed crane, motored to Bainbridge, dismantled the tower and brought it to the Club site. The transportation cost was \$1500, not counting the time and intense physical effort spent by the volunteers.

Three years later the tower parts were still scattered around behind the Clubhouse awaiting a permit from FAA and final permission from the County to erect it. During that time membership in the Club had grown considerably and many members began to question the advisability of erecting a tower which would be so expensive to maintain. Also, the DFRC had consented to a 250 ft. tower rather than the higher one authorized finally by the FAA.

**X X X X O X X X X**

<b>K8JW</b>	<b>John Williams</b>	<b>Still Active</b>
<b>N3DE</b>	<b>Harry Suit</b>	<b>Still Active</b>
<b>AK1J</b>	<b>Bob DeMattia</b>	<b>Call Not Assigned</b>

N3BIN	Al Jeweler	Still Active
WB3GSW	Andrew Smith	Call Not Assigned
N3DNP	George Mannion	Still Active
K3CN	Bill Cooke	Call Reassigned
N3AKP	Ron Nord	Call Not Assigned
N3FN	Dick Jessup	Call Reassigned
N3CVO	Carl Menchey	Call Not Assigned
	Bill Townsend	No Call Listed
KC3Y	Buck Watson	Still Active
N3BMB/ N3MB	Holly Bevan	Still Active
KA3GWI	Di	Call Not Assigned
WB3CLG	Gordon Kellenberger	Call Not Assigned
KA3CUK	Byron Kabran	Call is now KC3Y
N3EOC	Patty Nestor	Still Active
N3DTD	Jim Boyer	Call Not Assigned
N3BDW	Jerry Herman	Still Active
N3EOD	Al Nestor	Call Reassigned

AA

## NEW HAMMS (MDC Sectional News)

We encourage involving more local amateurs in each of our jurisdictions to work with our NTS/NTSD operators, clubs, and VECs, to use the opportunity presented by NTS new ham welcome messages to contact newcomers. This could help expand our outreach and give the new amateurs a hand up in getting started in ham radio.

Stations who wish to help with this may establish an account on Radio-email, or send a liaison to one of the MDC Section or Local NTS nets, and advise me that you are willing to accept such traffic for delivery to new hams.

### PICNIC

Members of any of our NTS affiliated nets who might be interested in having a joint net picnic should contact me on the nets or by email during May. If there is sufficient interest we could begin a search for a convenient central location to use, and poll for a good date for everyone sometime in mid or late summer.

### NETS

The devoted MDC NTS team is maintaining daily operations on MEPN, BTN, MSN and MDD, including liaisons between those nets and our connections to Region and Area NTS on Cycles 2 and 4, plus our digital links. Many of our operators perform duties on multiple nets and days. They could certainly use some help with traffic handling and NCS and liaison duties on both voice and CW on many days of the week. These nets provide umbrella messaging and coordination services for all our county and city jurisdictions, served agencies, and for liaison with other Sections in addition to handling public welfare traffic nationwide.

### NTSD, Radio-email

Both new and experienced operators are

encouraged to join us on the NTSD Radiogram and the Radio-email networks.

Don, WB3FTQ, and Pam, N3HFC, have established daily HF PacTor connections for MEPN with the NTSD Radiogram service and with the national Radio-email service. These stations provide us with infrastructure-independent digital links for both network layers. Daily connections are made with the Third Region and/or Eastern Area NTSD MBOs, and with the Radio-email layer via WL2K or NTSD peer-to-peer

### Radio-email forwarding.

N7NMS in Cumberland has established a WL2K RMS HF WINMOR Gateway here in MDC, and there are numerous RMS Gateways providing access to WL2K via packet radio. Both RMS-Express and AirMail WL2K clients can also transfer

### Radio-email peer-to-peer.

What do you do when your internet, phone, or other wireless services fail? The NTS has now provided guidance on how to use nation-wide Radio-email to permit us to augment or replace those services with modern email-formatted messaging over radio - including the ability to connect with the public internet for email. NTS, NTSD, and ARES(r), have moved into the modern IT world. Join us in that effort. Software is free.

Training will be provided for operators interested in helping. If you would like to join us in this important messaging service roll, contact the respective Net Managers or me and we will provide the details. These are skills which must be learned before emergency communications situations arise.

Thanks to all the MDC NTS Net NCS stations and Net Managers for timely reports of monthly activity. Well done. Remember that NCS Net Reports are due in the hands of the Net Manager within 48 hours of the net session; NM Net reports and SAR/PSHR reports are due in the hands of the STM by midnight of the 6th of the following month.

See the MDC Section web page at: [www.arrl-mdc.net](http://www.arrl-mdc.net) The NTS Nets tab and individual net tabs are near the top of the page. Also scroll down to General Information for the tutorials on Basic Traffic Handling, Voice and CW, and the WL2K tutorial.

Thanks to the MDC Sectional News for allowing us to reprint this article.

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## UPCOMING HAMFESTS

You may view upcoming hamfests in the Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland-DC, West Virginia and Virginia area by clicking on the ARRL MDC web page at [www.arrl-mdc.net/hamfest.htm](http://www.arrl-mdc.net/hamfest.htm).

Manassas Hamfest

Sunday June 9, 2013

Sponsor: Ole Virginia Hams ARC

Website: <W4OVH.COM/hamfest>

Prince William County Fairgrounds

10624 Dumfries Road

Manassas, VA

Talk-In: 146.970- (PL 100) 442.200- and D-STAR 442.5125-

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 146.97-/442.200-/442.5125+

Public Contact: Terry Erlacher, KC4DV

10855 Felicia Court, Manassas, VA 20110

## April 20, 2013 AARC Work Day

We secured our Tower guy ropes from the mowers and also re-installed a sign.

Our most profound thanks goes out to all who helped and will help in the near future. We still need some painting and clean up around the shack.



## The Amateur Behind The Microphone –

Many of you already know that Jack KB3WUM is a crane operator. His current job assignment has him operating a tower crane on a job site in downtown DC. Sitting in a crane 200 feet above the street in a ham radio operators ultimate shack. Jack has passed a long some photos and a brief description of the antenna(s) and radio set up in the tower crane ham shack.



Jack KB3WUM writes...

The photos show the Icom IC-706MIIG, the Opek HCS-100 and the center fed Slinky dipole. I left out photos of the little biddy 1/4 wave magnet mount 2 meter antenna sitting atop of my cab because it's just not sexy enough.



The Slinky antenna started out as a horizontal dipole but when it didn't want to play nice with the AT-180 I changed it a little to make it an inverted V and that made enough of a change to let me tune 40,20,17,15 & 6 meter bands. Some of the higher frequencies don't tune very well so the vertical HCS-100 has to take the lead on 10,12.

I have had the radio and antennas set up for a few weeks now and they are a lot of fun. Many contacts have been put into the log and I have yet another reason to go to "WORK".

The crane is located at the National Gallery of Art, downtown Washington DC. Total height is 180 feet above the street level (ASL). That is also the height of the mounting point of the HCS-100 vertical antenna for a tip height of 198' ASL. The feed point to the Slinky dipole is an estimated height of 168' ASL and comes down at approximately 35° angles. Not shown in any of the photos is the 1/4 wave 2 meter antenna on top of the operators cab at 150' ASL.

I love my job and I love my hobby and feel very fortunate to be able to combine the two most of the time. I think my next antenna project will be an end fed random length wire to try to pick up 160 & 80 meter bands. Wish me luck.

73 de kb3wum, getting high for a living.

"Thank you to the WATT, the Calvert Amateur Radio Association newsletter for allowing permission to reprint this article."



## AARC BOD Meeting May 9, 2013

**Those present:** Jim Goldsberry, KB3NQY; Chuck Tanner, K3ACT; Rick Creager, KK4GV; George Soccer, N3YSA; Milford Craig, N3WYG (late); Brian Mary (K3HMX).

**Those absent:** Bruce Strackbein WR3Q

LP Gas tank reading 65%.

Milford N3WYG was late because he represented the AARC at the Davidsonville Family Recreation Center (DFRC) at their quarterly meeting.

The minutes pick up when Milford returned to the Board of Directors' meeting.

The discussion was about the cost of the work day. A report will be printed by KK4GV from his QuickBooks records to indicate the amount of money spent for the work day. Chuck suggested that the report be tabled so that it could be in the minutes for next meeting.

**UPCOMING PROGRAMS** - Chuck Tanner, K3ACT

**June 6, 2013** Bob Rose has the whole meeting for Field Day preparations.

**June 20, 2013** Bob Rose asked for '15 minutes'. After some discussion it was decided to have a mini-sale of used equipment.

**July 4, 2013** meeting is canceled

**July 18, 2013** Bob Rose has the meeting for Field Day Debrief.

**September 5, 2013** is the Budget Meeting

**Other possible meeting ideas**

Rick stated that Raven KB3MUV went to the Maryland Professional Engineers meeting. Their subject was about **tower cranes presentation**. Perhaps our members would love the presentation. Raven to try to find out availability.

Chuck said that Bob McCamish is a member of the computer club in Bowie. They went to tour the 911 Call site at Melford. The 911 Call Center are happy to have tours and maybe the club may like to visit it instead of meeting night here. Chuck to find out more information and report back to the BOD.

Several club members have volunteered to do talks.

Brian Mary suggested meetings on setting up our own radio shack.

Giff Hammar's talk would be good on antennas on this subject.

The BOD also talked about an operating class for new hams. Rick KK4GV likes to do this as a 'one on one' as 'elmers'. Rick, KK4GV did this with one ham. He went to the hams QTH, put up his HF antenna, went in and made sure it was tuned. We then got on the air and contacted the following:

A contest

A Special Event Station

A couple of DX stations

Some local rag chew

This meant that the new ham got a shotgun blast of 5 different styles of operating. This ham has now received his DXCC.

The BOD would like to see the operating information learned in the classes to be put into practice.

Chuck suggested that in the newsletter, we could put the new ham's name, call and city, state. This will be with the permission of the new ham.

General class now has 20 students. No data was





## REPEATER FREQUENCIES

<b>Davidsonville</b>	<b>Millersville</b>	<b>Glen Burnie</b>	<b>Annapolis</b>
<b>147.105+</b>		<b>147.075+</b>	
<b>223.880-</b>	<b>224.560-</b>		
<b>444.400+</b>			<b>442.300+</b>

### 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	442.300+Mhz	PL107.2	1st Sunday	1930

# Anne Arundel Radio Club, Inc.

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First Class Mail

