

# The Ham Arundel News



Providing Fellowship and Community Service through Amateur Radio Since 1951

February 2014

36<sup>th</sup> Year of Publication



## The Prez Sez...

Are you warm yet? We got through January, rain, cold, snow, cold, more snow, more cold. Here comes February usually our snowiest month, but time will tell. It is time to sit in the old ham shack and make radio contacts with hams in warmer or for that matter, colder locations of the world.

There are good contests, and QSO parties each week during February, lots to keep you busy.

These snowy days are also a good time to cleanup and rearrange the ham shack. I have recently started that process at my home, something that I had been putting it off for some time. So far all is going well, radios, and antenna leads have been moved. Wiring and grounding completed, and test contacts made. The new location provides more room to operate, space for map, charts etc. and more privacy, for both the operator and other occupants in the house, particularly late at night.

I am, looking forward to the renewal of the "Radio Breakfast", this Saturday on February 1<sup>st</sup>. These breakfasts are a favorite of all those who attend. See the announcement elsewhere on the website.

If you know anyone who wants to become a ham, Rick, KK4GV is offering a Technician Class, starting on March 8<sup>th</sup>. Again those students that attend the class and pass the exam will receive a free HT 2 meter radio. The website has a link to make sign-up easy.

Field Day is only 20 weeks away. We will be getting the Field Day committees together this month, with the aim of making this year a repeat of last year with another 1<sup>st</sup>. place. Think about how you would like to help to make this happen. We will be holding a Field Day Volunteer meeting during February. Watch the website for the date and time of this meeting.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the club meetings on February 6<sup>th</sup>. and 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014

73 Jim Goldsberry KB3NQY

## CENTENNIAL QSO PARTY INFO FOR THE MDC SECTION

The Centennial QSO Party is made-up of two main activities:

- (1) W1AW operating portable in each state and most territories; and
- (2) The Centennial Points Challenge which is the accumulation of points from qualifying contacts made throughout 2014.

Here's a link to the last ARRL News where there is an article about the Centennial QSO Party:

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter?issue=2014-01-09#toc13>

This link will take you to the rules for operating portable in the MDC Section:

<http://www.arrl.org/centennial-qso-party#Table>

The times for operating portable in Maryland are the week beginning June 25 and the week beginning August 13. The coordinator for the stations wishing to operate W1AW/3 during those weeks is Frank Donovan, W3LPL. To operate you need to be an ARRL member and also be able to submit an electronic log to him. You may contact Frank via email at [donovanf@erols.com](mailto:donovanf@erols.com).

For the District of Columbia, the coordinator is Kennan Low, KE3X and the operating week assigned begins July 2. Please contact him at [kenke3x@gmail.com](mailto:kenke3x@gmail.com) if you would like to find out about operating from D.C.

Thanks to MDC Section News Vol. 9 No. 1 Jan 13, 2014 for this article.



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## DO NOT FORGET !!!



**BRUNCH IS SERVED**  
**Feb 1, 2014 9:00 am**  
**Old Country Buffet**  
**Annapolis, MD**

**Cost about \$8.00 each**



## AARC Radio Brunch

By popular demand, we are once again convening the AARC Radio Brunch this coming Saturday, 1 February 2014. The location is the same, the **Old Country Buffet** in Annapolis, and the time is 9:00.

Please pay for the buffet as you enter. The last time we were there, the cost for seniors was \$5.49, and drinks were extra at \$1.99. I believe that the non-senior rate is \$5.99, and there are generous reductions for youngsters.

Plan to come and bring the family to enjoy a great meal with lots of your radio friends.

See you there! --Chuck K3ACT

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## SO, YOU WANT TO LEARN

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One of the MDC Assistant Section Managers, Al Brown, KZ3AB, mentioned to Jim Cross, WI3N, MDC-SM, that during the holidays he was listening on the HF phone bands and heard quite a few people making remarks about how they would like to learn the Morse code, CW.

Perhaps the Maryland-DC Section can help.

You may click on the MDC Section home page, <http://www.arri-mdc.net/>, and scroll down to "Do you want to learn the International Morse Code? If so,click here."

The direct link is:

<http://www.arri-mdc.net/LearnCode/CW.html>.

There, you may read a self study guide that will take you, step-by-step, to help you learn each of the alpha-numeric characters and commonly used punctuation in International Morse Code at your own pace.

The course presented consists of ten separate lessons.

Take a peek and try it out.

Thanks to MDC Section News Vol. 9 No. 1 Jan. 13, 2014 for this article.

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## AARC Club Service Hours for 2013

by Terry (KB3CWQ) and Barb (KB3LDM) Nixon

For many of our new members and perhaps current members the AARC has been accounting for all of the hours that club members "give back" to the club. This program, started in 2009, was developed to recognize club members that provide some type of "service" to the club. These "service hours" cover a wide range of activities from net control operators, VEC teams, Public Service Events and Field Day. Over 94 members are involved in some fashion in making the club function. Without these members many of the activities would not happen. Here are some examples for the hours for 2013:

- Net Activity (Wednesday night and Holly Morning net) – 532 hours
- VEC Testing Team – 320 hours
- Public Service Events – 780.5 hours
- Miscellaneous (Newsletter, teaching classes) – 252.5 hours
- Field Day 2013 (planning meetings and FD) – 440.5 hours

As of November 2013 the total club service hours is **2401 hours.**

I'm sure there are many hours that have gone unreported. Some club members feel embarrassed to report hours or think that it is unimportant. One of the requirements for our 501(c)3 status is to report the numbers of hours that the club gives back or volunteers to the community at large. Our VEC testing sessions and public events participation hours serve the ham community and the local community.

Since 2009 the number of hours each year has been as high as 2,800 hours. Overall, since 2009 club members have contributed over **10,000 hours** back to the club. This year was a low point of 2,400 hours and I think that it is because club members are not reporting their hours for service credit. It is very easy to report your service hours. For public service events the event coordinator sends us a report of who worked the event and the hours that they served. This can be done by either sending us an email or use the club website. On the left side of the website you will see a "button" service recognition form. Once you hit that button a form will be generated which you fill out. Once you hit send it will automatically come to our email box. If you are working on an individual project once it is finished you should report your hours either way. It could not be easier; in fact, even a cave-person can do it.

At the end of the reporting "year" we will total the amount of hours for each club member that has been involved in club activities. If you accumulated over 25 hours you will receive the very stylish blue and white service hour badges. The year of service will be printed in white.

If you gave over 50 hours your year letters are in bronze, over 75 hours they are in silver and over 100 hours you will have gold letters. At the club meeting you will see various members wearing their service badges.

This past year (2013) 14 additional club members earned their badges which they should wear proudly. Since 2009 we have had 60 club members earn their badges.

If you need more information or have a question don't hesitate to speak to us at any of the club meetings or email us at [thnixon@qis.net](mailto:thnixon@qis.net). The only job that we do is to record the hours that club members contribute to AARC. We can only award service credit to our club members and for projects that involve the AARC. If there is a question about the hours we will get back to you and in very few cases we will discuss this with the officers and Board members of the club. So in 2014 don't forget to send in those service hours to us. Unless you report the hours we can't put them into the spreadsheet.

Thanks again for all of those club members giving back to the club. 73's.

AA











# 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.

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

First Class Mail

