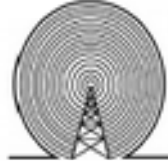


The Ham Arundel News



Providing Fellowship and Community Service through Amateur Radio Since 1951

July 2015

36th Year of Publication



Prez Sez...

Two hundred and eighteen phone contacts, 454 CW and 143 digital. A preliminary total of 1176 points. All that and a few inches of rain...

Another Field Day goes into the books, and I think everyone who participated would agree that despite the weather, they had a great time. I hope you were able to take part in ham radio's biggest event of the year,

either with the club, at home, or with another group. Whether you were in a tent in the pouring rain or snug in your shack, there were contacts and fun to be had. I'll admit I don't have a lot to compare it to, this being only my fifth Field Day, but it seemed that the bands were in pretty good shape (or maybe just more folks were on the air). Activity on digital was there throughout the whole time, and I can say that was a first!

We ran a smaller operation this year, seven stations on emergency power, but I think we did a better job of keeping them all manned for the entire 24 hours. Anyone who was able to attend would note that we changed things around a bit, setting up two shelters and a wider variety of antennas. Some things, however, remained constant: we had plenty of folks make time on Friday to come and help set up, the food was good and there was plenty of it, and I think everybody had a good time. There are a lot of folks to thank for all this, starting with Dick Maio, WW3R, our Field Day coordinator. Dick did an excellent job getting everything rolling leading into the event, and was on hand for pretty much the entire time staying on top of things and making sure all was well.

Thanks also to Giff Hammar, K1GAH, for building some new antennas and getting that very important element set up and ready. Another shout out to Mark Bova, W2PAW, for keeping everyone well fed and hydrated, Keith Miller, AE3D, and the Mesh Radio folks for planning and operating the network that kept our logging going with hardly a hitch, and all of the other people who volunteered their time in the planning, setup, execution, and tear-down that made this year's Field Day a success.

Hopefully you'll find some pictures of some of the

activities in this newsletter. If you took any and haven't sent them to Milford, please do! We can include them next month and get them on the website as well. We'd love to have any pictures or videos that you might have taken. While you're at it, please send a copy to Jonathan Graefe, KB3ZVO, the club's secretary. He can provide them to the web folks and add them to the growing digital archive of club documents and photos.

Of course we would also be grateful for any article submissions to the newsletter! I would like to especially request a paragraph from anyone who operated Field Day, whether at the club or elsewhere. Was it your first time or 51st time? Did you try a new operating mode? New location? Please share your experiences, we would all like to hear about them.

In other news, the Yaesu repeaters that the club purchased earlier this year have been shipped and arrived at John Williams' house a few days ago. It will take a little time to get them checked out and test interfaces to our existing controllers before we start putting them on the air, but hopefully we can start making them available soon. I know this purchase was a bit contentious amongst some of our members, but I urge everyone to keep an open mind with the upcoming changes and provide your opinions and thoughts about how we can best incorporate this new technology into what is the most robust and wide coverage repeater network in Anne Arundel County.

I mentioned at a recent meeting that I'd like your feedback on how the club is meeting your needs (or not), how we could do better, and what types of programs you'd like to see. It may not be a big surprise that I've heard from no one yet. For the bulk of the members that don't come to meetings, why not?

73

Brian, K3HMX

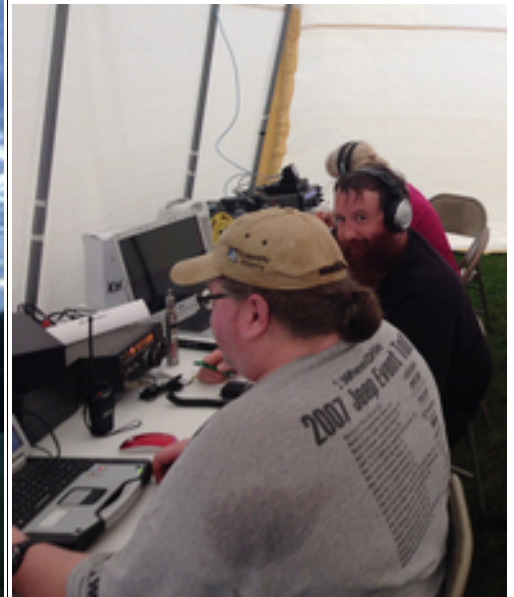
AA

Miss Holly, N3MB Injured in Fall

On Tuesday night (6/30/2015) on the way to go to bed she tripped over a leg of the coffee table, landed on her nose, and broke it. She had a serious nosebleed which we couldn't stop. We called 911 and she spent the night in the ER. They packed her right nostril at the ER and she had the packing removed by an ENT specialist on Thursday. Yesterday afternoon she passed out briefly and Vicki and I were worried enough to call 911 again. They decided to do some serious tests and she is still in the hospital today and should go home tomorrow.



Morning Breaking over the HF Tent



HF phone and CW operations going smoothly if a little wet...

**Maryland
QCO
Party
will be on
Aug. 8-9,
2015**



Digital and upper HF tent in foreground, HF phone and CW beyond. Jim Wallace made quite a few 6m contacts with his beam

Around AARC and nearby clubs...

CQ WPX Contest

This weekend (May 30-31, 2015) was the CQ WPX contest on CW. Conditions weren't great, but I didn't do too badly. Out of the allowable 48 hours, I worked around 18 hours or slightly less. I did 404 QSOs, three were dupes meaning I can only count 401. My score was over 300K. I worked Alaska, Hawaii, P.R., all over Europe to include a bunch of Greece, Israel, most of the old Soviet Bloc, most of South America, and a handful of other assorted places.

Why is this exciting? Because, it was done with a KX3 running only 100 Watts and Home Depot antennas strung up in the trees. The meaning of this is that it proves only a modest station is needed to be able to reach out and touch others. This can also be done in regular DXing.

73,
Barry
K3NDM

AA

Away from the QTH and No Gear

My XYL and eldest granddaughter had to make a quick trip to Roanoke, VA. It would only be a brief trip so I did not take any other radio equipment other than the Kenwood TX-25 in the truck. We had some things to do and were done by about 7:00 pm.

What to do? The mike finger was getting anxious and not a piece of gear to be used except for the TX-25. The only problem was that mother nature decided it was time to water the lawn. Soooo, here I sit inside a metal box euphemistically called a house trailer.

Then my gaze fell on the only piece of communications equipment that I had. One of those new fangled 'smartphones'. Previously, I had put some apps on it and one of them was the Echolink app.

My thought process was this. It is dark here, so I have to look west if I am to make any contacts at all. I finally got the Echolink app working and thought why not try the Philippines. So finding a repeater there I made a couple of calls and no one answered. Maybe they are asleep as well.

Let's go farther west, so I looked up some repeaters in Japan and gave out my second call. All these boys must go to sleep at the same time. I got the repeater information back but no one came to my call.

Finally one last call—to New Zealand. I found what I thought was a friendly repeater, made the call and, of course you have to wait, and wait, and wait. Finally a voice came through calling himself Allan on the West Auckland, NZ repeater link ZL1AML-L. We had a short QSO and parted in about 5 minutes. That satisfied my itchy 'mike finger'. I looked up the contact on QRZ, another app, to fine out that I was speaking with Allan Larsen in Waitakere City, West Auckland, NZ.

Is there any sort of award or prize for this? I do not think so apart from my personal feeling of accomplishment.

If you have one of these new fangled 'smartphones' try it out for yourself. You may be presently surprised.

73
Milford
N3WYG

AA

Frank Stone AC3P SK

It is with a sad heart that I must pass the following information to the Aero Club (of Baltimore) members and other clubs in the area Frank died peacefully Tuesday, June 23 2015, afternoon, with his wife and children and sister at his bedside. He will be missed by all, in the Radio, Astronomy and Family community in which he lived.

Final arrangements will be sent to Aero club members.

AA

AARC Field Day Photos by Ed Santilli



Emergency Communicator's Notebook – 7

- **Accuracy is crucial**

Richard Palm, K1CE, is the editor of the ARES E-Letter. He once wrote: "A few weeks ago, I handled a radiogram on one of the local VHF nets routed via a major HF net in the Northern Florida section. The message had a simple preamble, address, text, and signature, and yet it was garbled significantly from the original. If there is one thing that we must do right (as) ARES operators, it is to send a message accurately. It is more important than timeliness, or any other feature of message-handling. Take the time to send it right. We hang our hats on that."

From Richard Palm, K1CE

- **Organization is vital**

Picture a random group of volunteers trying to handle a communications emergency. They don't know each other, have different ideas about what should be done, and half of them want to be in charge. The result is chaos. This is why training alone is not enough. There has to be an organized structure from which to work. That is the purpose of ARES.

From ARECC Level I course book

- **Respond to the question asked**

The Net Controller asks, "Do you need a break?". The operator at the other end replies, "We've got two other guys here, but one of them is running a message over to Post Five and the other one doesn't really know how to run this rig, and it's my own equipment and it's really expensive. And besides, the Captain told me to let him know the minute someone answers his request and I'm not sure I trust this other guy to handle that." You'll notice that the operator did everything except answer the question. Focus on the question asked, or the statement made, and respond to it directly. *From Gary Ross Hoffman, KB0H*

- **Learn the proper way to send numbers**

Read each numeral individually. For example, say two three four rather than two hundred thirty four. Enunciate each numeral. Always say zero and never say oh. Pronounce nine as niner.

From ARECC Level I course book

- **Mobile over hand held**

A hand held transceiver is certainly a lot easier to transport, but ultimately a mobile transceiver is better for field operation. It has more power and can handle continuous usage a lot better than a hand held radio can.

From ARECC Level I course book

- **There is no privacy on the air**

We are not allowed to use codes or encrypt data on the amateur bands. Make sure that your served agency understands that if they ask you to send patient information or other information of a personal nature.

From ARECC Level I course book

- **What if it rains?**

The weather will never cooperate with you. Make sure that your equipment is sufficiently protected from the elements. Just covering it with a bit of plastic while you run from your car to the communications post may not be enough. If you trip and drop your bundle in the mud, will your equipment

still work? It will have a much better chance of surviving if it's in a waterproof carry-all. *From Gary Ross Hoffman, KB0H*

- **Try running a net**

You may be the first amateur radio operator available during an emergency. This would make you the Net Control operator, even if only for a short period of time. To help prepare yourself for this possibility you should try running a local net at least once. St. Louis County ARES will be happy to give you that opportunity, and will give you all the assistance you need. *From ARECC Level I course book*

- **It may be a dirty assignment but don't show up looking like a slob**

You can be the smartest amateur radio operator in the world, but if you show up at a served agency dressed in a slovenly fashion, you will leave them with a very poor impression of yourself and of ham radio in general.

From ARECC Level I course book

- **Are those batteries REALLY charged?**

Before you head off to handle an emergency, be sure that those batteries that you THINK are charged really are.

From Eric Bueneman, N0UIH

- **Wilderness Protocol**

The Wilderness Protocol was developed to facilitate communications between hams while hiking or backpacking, but has since become useful anywhere that repeater coverage is sparse. From 7 AM local time to 10 PM, amateur radio operators in such areas are asked to monitor the simplex calling channel 146.52 MHz for five minutes every hour. Monitoring times would be from 7:00 to 7:05, 8:00 to 8:05, and so forth until 10:05 PM. Using this protocol, hams wishing or needing to make contact know which times they are most likely to receive a response. In addition to the primary frequency of 146.52 MHz, the secondary frequencies of 52.525 MHz, 223.5 MHz, 446.0 MHz, and 1294.5 MHz may be monitored.

From Gary Ross Hoffman, KB0H

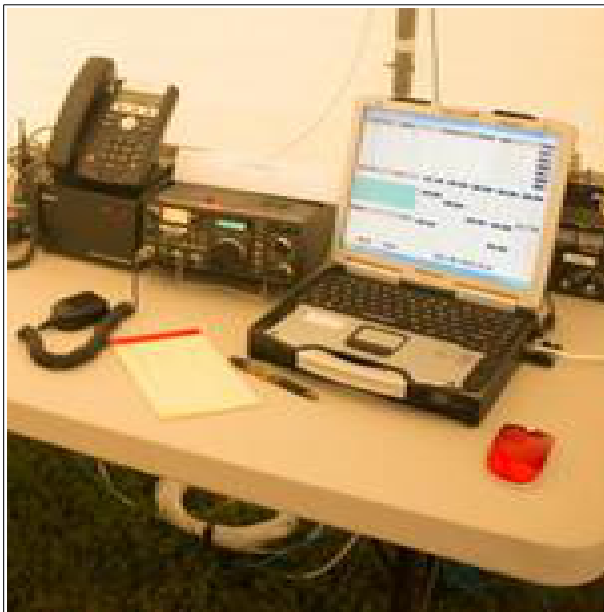
- **Long Tone Zero**

Long Tone Zero, sometimes called LITZ, is a method of notifying anyone listening that you have an emergency or priority situation. If you have an urgent need to make contact and no one has responded to your voice calls, try the following procedure. While pressing your transmit key, also press and hold the zero button on your transceiver for a minimum of three seconds. This will send a unique DTMF signal over the air. It's exactly the same tone you hear on your telephone when you press its zero button. Alert ham radio operators will know what it means, and even some repeaters have been programmed to respond to it. *From Gary Ross Hoffman, KB0H*

- **How well do you understand radio?**

You diminish your effectiveness as an emergency communicator if you don't really understand how radio works. If you are unable to reach anyone from your assigned post it would help to know why. Raising your antenna a few more feet will likely work better than trying to increase your power. We encourage you to continue to educate yourself about radio.

From Gary Ross Hoffman, KB0H



W1AW Portable Operations Booklet Now Available



[The W1AW Portable Operations](#) commemorative booklet, which chronicles the central activity of the year-long ARRL Centennial QSO Party, is now available. The Centennial celebration may be over, but the memories can live on with this keepsake publication, which features 40 pages of stats, stories, and photos from the hams who put W1AW/p on the air,

bringing enjoyment to many thousands of hams.

[The W1AW Portable Operations](#) is available from the [ARRL Store](#) (ARRL Item No 0383; \$9.95 retail), or call 860-594-0355 (toll-free in the US, 888-277-5289). E-mail [ARRL Publication Sales](#) for more information.

Used with permission ARRL Letter dated June 11, 2015

AA

Amateur Radio Newsline Co-Founder, Editor Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, SK

A well-known voice in the Amateur Radio news media has gone silent. Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, of Santa Clarita, California, died June 11 following a period of ill health. He was 73. Pasternak was co-founder (with Jim Hendershot, WA6VQP) of *Amateur Radio Newsline*™ (formerly *The Westlink Report*) ham radio news webcast and a frequent presence at Amateur Radio conventions. Pasternak served as *Newsline*'s managing editor and occasional newscaster for the program. Even while hospitalized earlier this year, he kept his ear to the ground for news from the Amateur Radio community, so he could pass it along to those who had taken over *Newsline* during his illness — discovered after he broke two ribs in a fall. ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Director Brian Milesosky, N5ZGT, got acquainted with Pasternak at the Albuquerque hamfest and in 1997 was named *Newsline*'s "Young Ham of the Year" (YHOTY).

"An incredible man, ham, and one of Amateur Radio's too-few giants, who woke up every day to make the hobby better for everyone, especially its legacy — youth," Milesosky said. "I've enjoyed the energy he put into keeping hams informed via *Newsline*, and have been honored to give back to his *Newsline* Young Ham of the Year Award program, since being asked by him to sit on its judging panel well over a decade ago."

ARRL Public Relations Committee Chair Katie

Allen, WY7YL, said Pasternak would be missed by those within and outside the Amateur Radio community. "He truly was one of the good ones," she remarked on [Pasternak's Facebook page](#). "Thank you for sharing your light with us, Bill."

A Brooklyn, New York, native, Pasternak became a radio amateur in 1959 as WA2HVK and once was very active on 6 meters. "I love the hands-on approach to ham radio and built my very first transmitter using parts salvaged from an old Dumont television set," Pasternak recounted in an online [biography](#). "It was a modification of a design by Bill Orr, W6SAI, published in his famous *Novice and Technician Handbook*. A crystal-controlled, low-power 6 meter AM transmitter that doubled in the final, was screen grid modulated, and put out almost no output power."

He eventually got into broadcasting and made his career in television engineering and production. He retired as a broadcast engineer with KTTV in Los Angeles in 2012 but continued as a broadcasting consultant.

Pasternak was the spark plug behind the all-volunteer *Amateur Radio Newsline* bulletin — which was relayed on repeaters around the US and elsewhere — as well as the creator and administrator of the annual YHOTY. He was the author of three books and served as a writer/producer on several educational films and videos, including the award-winning "Amateur Radio Today." In earlier years, he wrote the "Looking West" column for *73 Amateur Radio Today Magazine* for 26 years and penned a "VHF, FM and Repeater" column for *WorldRadio*. He also contributed to broadcast trade publications as well as to *CQ*.

In addition to the ARRL, Pasternak belonged to the Radio Club of America and the Quarter Century Wireless Association. He also enjoyed flying, including stints getting on the air from thousands of feet up.

He was the only person ever chosen to receive the Dayton Hamvention Special Achievement Award (1981) and Radio Amateur of the Year Award (1989). In 1995, the League presented him with an ARRL National Certificate of Merit in recognition of his contributions to the "furtherance of the goals of the Amateur Radio Service."

Survivors include his wife of 43 years, Sharon, KD6EPW.

ARRL Hudson Division Director Mike Lisenco, N2YBB, remarked, "I wonder how you measure a person's success in life. Some would say that you measure an individual by the amount of wealth they've acquired. I would say that the true measure of value of an individual is by the amount

lives they've touched. If that is the case, then Bill died a very wealthy man."

The future of the *Amateur Radio Newsline* broadcast, out of production since its May 22 edition, has not been determined, although an appeal for volunteers was issued in late May. Before he died, however,

Used with permission ARRL Letter dated June 11, 2015



Illustration 1: Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, and his wife Sharon, KD6EPW

Anne Arundel Radio Club, Inc.

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

First Class Mail

