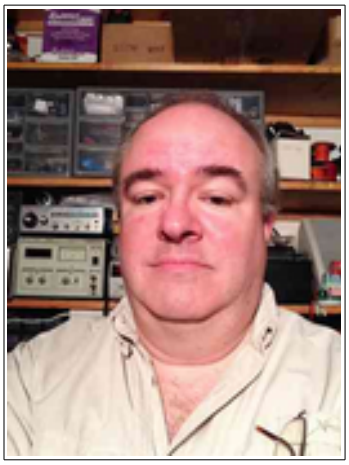
THE HAM ARUNDEL NEWS

Providing Fellowship and Community Service through Amateur Radio Since 1951

January 2016 ***38th Year of Publication***

The Prez Sez…



Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a festive New Year. I'm writing this pretty late, it's already the third of January, but like most of you I had a lot going on over the holidays. Perhaps the most rewarding part, though, happened today. More on that in a bit.

As you may have heard me say at the holiday party (or not – memo to self, bring PA system next year), we had a pretty good year in the club. Our main focus was on our infrastructure, starting out with ordering new Yaesu digital repeaters, followed by cleaning out our storage building, having maintenance done on the tower, and starting to get the shack organized and adding a second operating position.

This year, the board will be focusing on our members. Some may think we do this all year…

We get good turnout for the classes, Keith and his fellow instructors have done a wonderful job with our Tech and General classes, as well as conducting a CW course – something AARC had not done in a while. Although we get good attendance and a pretty decent pass rate on the exams, we've not done a good job turning these folks into members of the club. We have some ideas along those lines, such as talks geared especially toward new hams at the club meetings that follow their exam. Encouraging them to come right after they've gone through the class and passed their exam with a program focusing on some aspect of the hobby that we might take for granted, such as how to talk on the repeater. A no-brainer for most of us, but for someone who may have never talked on the radio at all, it could be a confidence builder.

A huge part of this focus will be 'elmering', both to the new hams and to other folks that might have general questions, need help with an antenna or radio, or might want to try a new mode of operation. We passed around a sheet asking for people to sign up if they were willing to be an elmer, the hope is to match you up with someone in your area that needs some help. Eventually we'll try and build this a little deeper by compiling a list of elmers and particular areas they are most comfortable mentoring in. I'd make a lousy elmer for someone wanting to try CW, but I could certainly help someone set up and operate a digital station or get started in mesh networking. If you'd like to be an elmer but didn't get a chance to sign up, we'll pass the list around again. You can also email me at k3hmx@w3vpr.org with your location and areas of interest.

So back to my rewarding Sunday. I spent the day with Huey Treadwell, AB3GS, helping him set up his multi-band dipole antenna so he could get back on HF. It was a pleasant day for some sling-shotting, tree trimming, and wire hoisting. By mid-afternoon we had his 80m Windom up at a pretty respectable height and were able to go into his shack and tune around for a listen. I'm certainly no expert in this area, I've put up a similar antenna for my station with the help of Chuck Tanner, K3ACT, but that's the extent of my antenna-raising experience outside of Field Day. But that's kind of the point. You don't have to be a world-renowned expert to mentor someone. I dare say most of our members could have done as good a job or better than I, and probably most have put up more than one antenna in their time. The point is that if you're at least competent in an area and have the willingness to help someone out, you would make a fine elmer. Don't feel that because you don't know everything there is to know about radio (who does?) that you have nothing to offer. The thing you need most to help someone out is just being willing to do it. Sure, you might hit a snag and then have to do a little research or asking around, but in the meantime you're showing someone else in the club that you care enough to try and help them out.

This personal interaction, more so than club meeting or QSO's, is what people remember and what makes a club successful and allows it to grow. Without it, why bother to be a member? Why support a club if it doesn't support you? Let's all make a resolution for this new year to share what knowledge we have, and be willing to lend a hand. You may get a piece of paper for talking to someone thousands of miles away, but I guarantee that you will feel more rewarded by helping someone right in your neighborhood.

Pamela (Pam) Riley N3XFL--SK
February 22, 1952 -
December 18, 2015

Pamela Gene Trotter was born in Queens, New York, on February 22, 1952, to Theodore and Joan Trotter of 88-15 Ashford Street, Queens Village. She attended Queens College, graduating in 1974 with a B.A. degree in Education. While there she met William Riley, who was then a Midshipman at the U. S. Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, New York; both were active in Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship. They married in 1974, and Pam accompanied Bill to various duty stations in the U. S. Coast Guard, including Norfolk, Cleveland, New York, Washington, and New Orleans.

In Cleveland Ohio, Pam taught at the Alexander Graham Bell School for the Deaf, and earned a Master of Education degree at John Carroll University in 1979. In the 1980s, Bill and Pam began performing as Christian entertainers. Pam wrote ventriloquist scripts for Bill and developed her own persona as Evangeline the Clown. The couple were active in the Fellowship of Christian Magicians. After Bill retired from the Coast Guard in 1992, the couple returned to Bowie, Maryland, and Pam taught at various Christian schools. Prior to her illness she was teaching at Elvaton Christian Academy in Millersville, Maryland. She used her hobby of mineral collecting to teach geology. In 2007, the couple moved from Bowie to Pasadena, Maryland, to be closer to both their jobs. However, they remained members of the Church of the Redeemer (Evangelical Covenant) in Bowie. Pam taught a special needs Sunday school class at the church. Pam had jokingly set a goal to attempt every art and craft known to mankind in her lifetime, and she made quite a dent in the list. While living in Slidell, Louisiana, in 1990, she made a larger-than-king-size quilt which was entered in the Coast Guard Bicentennial Quilt Contest in Ann Arbor, Michigan. As members of the Society for Creative Anachronism and of the Longship Company Ltd., Pam demonstrated various period arts and crafts at medieval and Viking re-enactment events, while Bill participated in his persona as an Irish shipwright. Both were also active in the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Pam used her teaching skills in boating safety education, her clown skills in her teaching career, and her teaching skills in her clown performances.

Pam was instrumental in both of us obtaining licenses, after I retired from the Coast Guard; she found information in the Bowie Blade-News about the classes at the AARC. We had previously been using CB radio for family communications but it had become unreliable at best. I was very late getting home to Slidell, Louisiana, from a (successful) job interview in New Orleans in 1992, and the CB radio just didn't have enough range for me to let her know I was OK. I kept pulling off the interstate looking for a phone booth, just making myself later. In those days only two senior officers at the Coast Guard office in New Orleans had cell phones, and if I had shown up with one of my own, Coast Guard Intelligence would have started investigating me for living beyond my means. Even after we moved back to Maryland, it was still illegal to possess a cell phone on public school property in Prince Georges County, because "only drug dealers use cell phones." We both took the class at AARC, but Pam was delayed in getting her license because she stayed home to care for my mother during the final weeks of the class. She took the class again the following year and got her technician license. Hence the spread between our callsigns, N3SNU and N3XFL.

Pam is survived by her husband, Bill; her mother, Joan; two brothers, Guy and Lee; two nephews, Guy and Adam; and three nieces, Maggie, Abby, and Sophie.

^^

IARU Praises Favorable WRC-15 Result Regarding Use of Amateur Bands for Non-Amateur Satellites

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) has welcomed the exclusion from consideration of all existing Amateur and Amateur-Satellite frequency allocations for potential use by non-amateur satellites. World Radiocommunication Conference 2015 (WRC-15) last month in Geneva recommended an agenda item for the next WRC in 2019 involving spectrum studies for short-mission satellites that removes from consideration the Amateur-Satellite allocations at 2 meters and 70 centimeters.

"This is an excellent result for the amateur services and clearly shows that non-amateur satellite constructors need to consider spectrum other than the very limited and congested segments that are available for amateur satellites at 144 MHz and 435 MHz," said IARU President Tim Ellam, VE6SH/G4HUA.

WRC-19 Agenda Item 1.7 calls on delegates "to study the spectrum needs for telemetry, tracking and command in the space operation service for non-GSO satellites with short duration missions, to assess the suitability of existing allocations to the space operation service and, if necessary, to consider new allocations, in accordance with Resolution COM6/19 (WRC-15)."

Resolution COM6/19 specifies 150.05-174 MHz and 400.15-420 MHz as the frequency ranges that may be considered for possible new allocations.

One factor the conference considered in deciding on those particular frequency ranges was that, contrary to the provisions of the ITU

Radio Regulations defining the Amateur and Amateur-Satellite

services, "some non-amateur satellites have used frequencies for telemetry, tracking and command in the frequency bands 144-146 MHz and 435-438 MHz which are allocated to the Amateur-Satellite Service."

First Geosynchronous Orbit Amateur Radio Payload Could Aid Disaster Communication

Well-known AMSAT figure and Virginia Tech researcher Bob McGwier, N4HY, says the Amateur Radio payload planned to go into geosynchronous orbit in 2017 will be like “a new ham band” for the Americas, available every hour of every day. McGwier, a research professor in Virginia Tech’s Bradley Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and the Director of Research for the Hume Center for National Security and Technology, said the satellite’s geosynchronous orbit also makes it viable for emergency and disaster communication. **AMSAT-NA** announced in April that Amateur Radio would be a “hosted payload” on the geosynchronous satellite that Millennium Space Systems (**MSS**) of California is under contract to design, launch, and operate for the US government.

“It will allow rapid deployment to disaster areas and support long-haul communications for first responders,” McGwier allowed in a December 22 *Virginia Tech News* **report**. McGwier, a former AMSAT director and Vice President for Engineering, has said the Amateur Radio payload must be delivered for testing and integration by next spring.

According to AMSAT Vice President-Operations Drew Glasbrenner, KO4MA, the satellite’s potential footprint would extend over the US from the Mid-Pacific to Africa.

The Hume Center team that’s building the ham radio payload met with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Administrator Craig Fugate, KK4INZ, in September to discuss the project. At last summer’s ARRL National Centennial Convention, Fugate and ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, signed an agreement outlining how the two organizations will work together to provide disaster relief.

McGwier pointed out in the *Virginia Tech News* article that transmitting emergency communications via the geosynchronous satellite would be much more dependable than HF, allowing Amateur Radio volunteers to provide more reliable communication support. With a geosynchronous, the satellite would always be within a band of longitudes over the Americas, continually accessible to any Amateur Radio operator there. That would include the students and researchers at the Virginia Tech Ground Station.

MSS will operate the satellite on behalf of the US Air Force, while AMSAT will manage the Amateur Radio payload, being designed and built by Virginia Tech students.

According to the article, the Hume Center team is designing a ground terminal that emergency personnel could use to relay their own communication channels through the satellite. “This setup could be deployed through the American Radio Relay League and the Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation as a key part of a robust national emergency response system, allowing trained operators to reliably mobilize to disaster areas in the first critical hours after a devastating event,” the article suggested.

Used with permission ARRL

(Used with permission ARRL News Dec 24, 2015)

Revamped FCC Website Expected to Debut on December 10

The FCC has announced that its large-scale website redesign will be completed by December 10. The switch to the new site is set to begin on December 10 at 0100 UTC and will be completed about 4 hours later.

“While the transition to the revamped site is expected to be completed almost instantaneously, there will be an ongoing process following this transition that will continue to involve user feedback, fixes by the FCC’s Information Technology team, and content updates by policy bureaus and offices,” the FCC said in a November 24 ***Public Notice***.

The FCC said the new website has been designed to provide “better functionality, an improved design, and better searchability and navigability.” Earlier this year the Commission’s IT Department opened a **beta-test version** of the site and has been gathering **user comments**.

“Extensive user research revealed how the FCC could improve the website’s information architecture to make content easier to find,” the *Public Notice* said. The FCC said its new website has been designed to operate on tablet and mobile device browsers with the display optimization based upon the device. The site utilizes a “toggle” navigation that allows visitors to browse either by “Category” or “Bureau and Office.”

When the new site comes online, the familiar current FCC website will no longer be available. The FCC said web pages and files on **transition.fcc.gov** that have not already migrated to the new site will remain available, and existing bookmarks will be redirected to the appropriate content on the new site. While the Commission has already upgraded some of its interactive systems, including the Consumer Help Center, and is working toward improvements on similar systems, including the Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS), these systems will not be directly impacted by the December 10 migration.

“This migration will impact the look and functionality of web pages that are coded in HTML and managed through a content management system, such as the homepage and individual bureau pages,” the FCC *Public Notice* said. The FCC said the change to a new website design was, in part, driven by a need to start using a more modern, open-source content management system to upgrade the site’s look and architecture, and to transition to a system that is compatible with the latest website innovations.

FCC Chief Information Officer David Bray has written blog posts about the website development process, and the beta site has been publically available and soliciting feedback since April. Two additional public outreach sessions will be held before the December 10 changeover to explain the new site and its functionality to interested stakeholders.

(Used with permission The ARRL Letter Dec 5 2015)

The *Ham Arundel News* is the monthly official publication of

The Anne Arundel Radio Club, Inc.
(ARRL Club No. 0484).

Editor: Milford Craig / N3WYG
Send newsletter articles, questions and information to **Milford at n3wyg@w3vpr.org**
Deadline for submissions – The Saturday after the 3rd Thursday of the month

Mailing Address:
Anne Arundel Radio Club
Post Office Box 308
Davidsonville, MD 21035

Meetings:
General Business 1st Thursday at 7:30 PM
Board Meeting 2nd Thursday at 7:30 PM
Program/Activity 3rd Thursday at 7:30 PM

Dues:
$30 per year, payable December 1st
Discounts available for family members and students

World Wide Web: **www.w3vpr.org**

AARC Supports The Maryland Slow Net:
3.563 MHz CW 7:30 P.M. Daily

^^

Free Money for AARC!

ARRL Membership Reminder

ARRL affiliated clubs receive a commission for every new ARRL membership and renewal they submit to ARRL Headquarters. Clubs retain a portion of the dues for each regular or senior membership submitted to ARRL Headquarters:

Clubs retain $15 for each new membership OR lapsed membership (of two years or more).
Clubs retain $2 for each renewal,
A RENEWING MEMBER can renew at any time, even before their current membership expires.

Send your application and payment (made out to AARC) to the club treasurer.

Mark Your Calendars

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Club Meetings are held on the first and third Thursdays of the month from 7:30 to 9PM at the clubhouse located at the Davidsonville Family Recreation Center in Davidsonville, MD

Free License Exams every 2nd Saturday of the Month - Check in at Noon, Exams at 1PM - At the clubhouse - Contact Steve/K3BAY k3bay@w3vpr.org

Weekly AARC 2-Meter Net on 147.105 (Typically linked to 147.075 and 444.400) every Wednesday at 8 PM - All Welcome

2 meter Morning Commuter Net on 147.105 (Typically linked to 147.075 and 444.400) every morning 6:30 to 9 This is the famous Holly-net. Pre-Holly-net starts at 5 AM or so.

Mesh working group 1 to 4 PM Every 2nd Sunday at the clubhouse, Contact Giff/K1GAH - Broadband HamNet a/k/a HSMM

Kit-building, troubleshooting and repair 1 to 4 PM Every 4th Sunday at the clubhouse Contact Raven/KB3MUV

EVENT SCHEDULE

07jan16 (Thu) - Club meeting at 7:30 PM, newcomers always welcome.

HAMFEST:

Post Holiday Hamfest *NEW LOCATION*
Date: Saturday, January 30, 2016
Location: Odenton Baptist Church
8410 Piney Orchard Parkway
Odenton, MD 21113
Website:
<https://sites.google.com/site/marylandmobileers/hamfests-1/hamfest-2>
Sponsor: Maryland Mobileers Amateur Radio Club
Talk-In: 146.805/146.205 (PL 107.2)
Public Contact: Frank Winner, N3SEO
283 Oak Court, Severna Park, MD 21146
Phone: 410-647-3335
Email: <n3seo@aol.com>

Polish Radio Amateur Traveling to North Korea in Advance of Proposed Operation

DXpeditioner Dom Grzyb, 3Z9DX, plans to travel to North Korea later this month to discuss his proposed Amateur Radio operation from that country. North Korea (P5), the most-wanted DXCC entity, has not been activated since Ed Giorgadze, 4L4FN, operated for about a year from the capital city of Pyongyang in 2001-2002. Grzyb expects to arrive in North Korea just before Christmas for what are being called "high-level talks" with government officials regarding his hope to operate from the secretive communist country in January or February of 2016.

He is taking Amateur Radio gear with him on this month's visit, although he will not be on the air. The equipment will remain in North Korea for his planned P5 operation and will be left there afterward for possible future Amateur Radio operations. Grzyb expects to be in Pyongyang for up to 5 days.

Dom Gryzb, 3Z9DX, hopes to return from North Korea in 2016 with more than just a DXpedition t-shirt.

According to Grzyb, he has received authorization to operate on three bands, but he plans to concentrate his activity on 20 meter SSB. No CW operation is planned.

If 3Z9DX is permitted on the air from North Korea, his operation will be very closely monitored by government officials. He may only run 100 W into a vertical antenna.

Giorgadze had tried for more than 2 years to obtain permission to operate Amateur Radio in North Korea before getting the okay in 2001. -- *Thanks to DARC, DX World.net,* The Daily DX

Used with permission The ARRL Letter Dec 10, 2015

^^

North Korea on the Air for First Time Since 2002

In an unexpected turn of events, Polish DXer Dom Gryzb, 3Z9DX, who has been visiting North Korea this week in advance of a planned Amateur Radio operation early next year, came on the air from the most-wanted DXCC entity around 0000 on December 20. P5/3Z9DX has been active on both 20 meters and 15 meters SSB only, and a few hundred stations have been fortunate enough to work him. The P5/3Z9DX operation is the first since the 2001-2002 operation in North Korea by 4L4FN.

The surprise appearance of P5/3Z9DZ on the air coincides with some of the worst HF conditions in days, if not weeks. At least for part of the time that P5/3Z9DX has been on the air, band conditions have turned sour due to a coronal mass ejection (CME) which raised the A index to 66 and the K index to 6 as December 21 dawned (UTC). He has been switching between 21.222 MHz and 14.222 MHz, listening up on both bands for callers. His most recent operation has been on 15 meters, however.

His operation this weekend is supposed to be a demonstration for North Korean officials, and it's not known how much longer his current operation will continue.

An operation by 3Z9DX from North Korea now is set to take place in February. Gryzb's visit to Pyongyang this month was to iron out the details of his 2016 operations, and while he did take radio gear into North Korea, he was not expected to be on the air from there until January or February.

Stations are asked to keep contacts short, to allow P5/3Z9DX to work as many stations as possible. -- *Thanks to* **The Daily DX and DX-World.net**

Used with permission The ARRL Letter Dec 24, 2015

^^

P5/3Z9DX Concludes Demonstration Operation from North Korea

P5/3Z9DX is now off the air for now. After logging several hundred stations — most in Asia — during an unexpected operation from North Korea, the world's most-wanted DXCC entity, Dom Grzyb, 3Z9DX, is back at his hotel, resting and recuperating from a cold. According to ***DX-World***, he will leave for Beijing on December 22. The equipment he transported to North Korea in advance of a planned operation early next year will remain in government hands for now. Grzyb operated on 20, 15, and 10 meters during his surprise operation, which got under way early on December 20 (UTC).

Propagation was unfavorable due to a geomagnetic storm that seems to have affected his efforts on 20 meters. He also reported that he faced extremely high ambient noise levels in Pyongyang. He ran 100 W to a vertical antenna mounted on a metal fencepost some 7 feet above the ground among government high-rise buildings.

During his time on the air, government officials came and went, apparently to keep a close watch on the Amateur Radio operation. He told *DX-World* on December 20 that his "real" DX operation, which appears poised to take place in February, might take place from a different location.

He will be returning to Poland by Christmas.

(Used with permission of ARRL News Dec 21, 2015)

MARS-Amateur Radio Exercise an Overall Success

A 2 day Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS) communications exercise in early November was an overall success, especially in terms of MARS-ARES cooperation. The November 8-10 exercise was built around the scenario of a simulated massive coronal mass ejection (CME) that disrupts conventional communication systems across the US. Following the simulated CME, MARS stations returned to the air and received requests for information from the supported Department of Defense (DoD) organizations and asking that MARS stations establish contact with Amateur Radio operators in as many of the 3142 US counties as possible. MARS operators were limited to using mainly HF NVIS bands as well as VHF and UHF repeaters. Communication between MARS and Amateur Radio operators were to be made directly, without relying on Internet-linking capabilities or store-and-forward messaging systems.

"Data analysis following the exercise shows that MARS members successfully contacted 816 counties across the US (26 percent)," US Army MARS Program Manager Paul English, WD8DBY, told ARRL. "Amateur Radio participants in this exercise included individuals, Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)-affiliated clubs, and the Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN) as well as a few state, county, and city emergency operations centers."

English credited advance publicity given to the exercise by ARRL and others for MARS exercise planners having received 181 e-mail inquiries from individual, clubs, and emergency management personnel wanting to receive more information about the exercise and how they could participate. English said MARS received inquiries from 41 states and included more than 50 ARES groups.

"The purpose of these exercises is to reach beyond interoperability and focus on our ability to exchange usable and relevant information from the local level to the national level following a crisis event," English explained. "Only through the cooperation among MARS and the larger Amateur Radio community (individuals, ARES, RACES, SATERN, etc) can we hope to achieve that synergy."

English conveyed the appreciation of DoD MARS leadership to all who supported this exercise and said that MARS is looking forward to conducting these types of exercises more frequently with the Amateur Radio community.

During the exercise, the Commanding General of the Army's Network Enterprise Technology Command, Maj General Morrison, visited the Fort Huachuca HF Gateway station to receive a briefing on the exercise and presented a plaque celebrating MARS 90th Anniversary which occurred on 1 Nov 2015.

^^

UPCOMING SKYWARN BASICS I CLASS

There will be a SKYWARN BASICS I Class held on January 21, 2016 from 6:30 PM until 10:00 PM at the Anne Arundel Emergency Operations Center, 7480 Baltimore Annapolis Blvd, Glen Burnie, MD 21061.

To register, click on:

<www.eventbrite.com/e/skywarn-basic-anne-arundel-county-tickets-18145214826>

enter the number of tickets you wish, and complete all the required information on the on-line form, including your e-mail address.

When you finish, click the green "Complete Registration" button at the bottom.

After a short while, you will receive an e-mail with your "ticket."

Print your "ticket" and bring it to the class.

If you have any questions or want more information, you may contact Kurt Fritsch, WA3TOY via e-mail at: <k.fritsch2@verizon.net> or on his cell at 443-956-0172.
(Used with permission ARRL MDC Section News Dec 14, 2015)

^^

SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING

Amateur radio plays a significant role in communication before, during and after local crisis but we are always communicating so we may be the first to see and hear of suspicious situations.

The nature of our community out-reaches and partnerships allow us to quickly communicate as a team. Lets help keep on Nation safe and secure by keeping a watchful eye and ear for potential threats.

You may find additional information on the Homeland Security website at <www.dhs.gov/see-something-say-something> and contact local law enforcement authorities directly to report suspicious activities.

To learn more about identifying suspicious activities seek these details on the DHS website.

Be Safe and Help Protect Our Safety
(Used with permission ARRL MDC Section News Dec 14, 2015)

^^

ARRL AT 100 YEARS, A CENTURY OF HAM RADIO

Becky Schoenfeld, W1BXY, takes us through a journey in time. "A Century of Ham Radio."

Take a look at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JerSTUDqI7s&feature=youtu.be>

I encourage you to watch this 30 minute video and show it at your amateur radio club meetings.

AARC STAFF – 2015 and 2016

OFFICERS

President:
Brian Mary / K3HMX 301-262-4075
b_mary@comcast.net
Vice Pres:
Wayne Precht / AB3RY 240-268-9070
wayne@wayneprecht.org
Secretary:
Jonathan Grafe / AE3JG 240-426-2664
____
Treasurer:
Justin Leishman /KC3BJT ____________
leishman.public@icloud.com
Directors:
Mark Bova / W2PAW 240-274-6294
w2paw@markbova.com
Giff Hammar / K1GAH 443-221-7273
k1gah@arrl.net
Timothy Nagel / KB3YQK ____________
kb3yqk@gmail.com

REPRESENTATIVES

Trustee:

Resident Agent:
Bob Jeter / K3RSJ 410-315-9403
jeter904@verizon.net
DFRC Rep:
Milford Craig / N3WYG 301-218-8867
n3wyg@w3vpr.org
Public Relations:
Paul Bowling / W4ATN 410-934-1355
paul@w4atn.com
Assistant: Holly Bevan / N3MB 410-923-0229
n3mb@arrl.net
Program Chairman:
Wayne Precht / AB3RY 240-268-9070
wayne@wayneprecht.org
ARES/RACES:
Ron Boller / N3WOF 410-956-6127
n3wof@arrl.net
Joint 440 Comm:
Walt King / N3USB 449-791-4174
mdfirenet55@aol.com
FAR Representative
Ed Brown / AA3EB 301-856-3317
brownmejr@comcast.net

COMMITTEE COORDINATORS

Public Service:
Erick Graves / WA3G 410-987-7670
erick.g@comcast.net
Repeater Ops:
John Williams / K8JW 410-847-7406
k8jw@verizon.net
VE Team:
Steve Kelly / K3BAY 410-975-6246
k3bay@comcast.net
Training:
Keith Miller / AE3D 301-805-1854
ae3d@graykitty.net
Packet Radio:
Jonathan Grafe / KB3ZVO 240-426-2664
KB3ZVO@arrl.net
Newsletter:
Milford Craig / N3WYG 301-218-8867
newsletter@w3vpr.org
Web Page:
Steve Kelly / K3BAY 410-975-6246
k3bay@comcast.net
Field Day:
Dick Maio / WW3R 410-956-5099
ww3r.maio@gmail.com
MDC QSO Party
Mike Watterson / K3MAW 301-830-2500
mwatterson@gmail.com
MD Slow Net:
Bruce Stewart / W8CPG 304-940-3076
chickenfarm9@gmail.com
ARRL MDC Section Manager :
Martin J. Pittinger / KB3MXM 410-356-7899
kb3mxm@arrl.net

^^

VE Testing Schedule

Second Saturday of each month – Noon – AARC – Steve Kelly / K3BAY 410-975-6246
k3bay@comcast.net
Third Saturday of each month – 9AM – Laurel ARC – John Creel, 301-572-5124
Fourth Tuesday of each month – 6PM – MMARC – Mike Montrose / KA2JAI 443-310-4907 web site is tinyurl.com/marylandmobileers

To all exams bring:

- Picture ID
- Social Security Number or FCC Registration Number (FRN)
- **ORIGINAL** and a **COPY** of current FCC amateur radio license

ORIGINAL and a COPY of all element credits (eg., FCC letters, old licenses or unexpired Certificates of Successful Completion of Examination-CSCE).

What would Wayne (Green) do?

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

Wayne Green was a crackpot…but he was a great one.

For those of you who aren't as old as I am, Wayne Green, W2NSD, was not only the publisher of 73 Magazine, but also the founder of Byte and other PC magazines in the early days of personal computing. In 73, he would write these long, rambling editorials. Often, he would take the ARRL to task, criticizing what he thought to be some lunk-headed policy or another.

Just as often, he'd be encouraging hams to take up some new technology. He was, for example, one of the guys driving hams to set up repeater systems.

He would often exhort hams to get started in their own technology-related business. I remember one column where he urged hams to get involved in the home-security business. And, of course, when personal computers became popular, he wrote that hams should think about getting into that business. His reasoning was that our knowledge of electronics would stand us in good stead in those businesses.

Today, I think that he would be telling us to get more involved in with technologies like the Internet of Things, WiFi, or whatever other wireless technology is coming down the pike. "Wireless" is the key word here. These networking technologies are based on good, old radio, and who better to push these technologies forward than guys like us who understand radio.

This point was brought home to me last week as I was interviewing an executive of a wireless company for an article that I'm writing. He said to me that many of the companies he works with are taking a software-centric view to their wireless products. They simply use the reference designs provided by the wireless chip makers and expect those designs to work flawlessly in their products.

While they often do, he gave me an example where simply using the reference design was a colossal failure. In one case, he said, the company mounted the board inside a metal enclosure. Since the antenna was part of the printed-circuit board, the enclosure acted like a shield, and of course, the device had little or no range.

He went on to say that he thought that there was a real shortage of experienced RF guys in the wireless industry. Does that sound like an opportunity to you? It does to me. So, I'm going to make like Wayne Green here and exhort all you guys to get out there and take advantage of it.

This is not only a business opportunity, but a way for amateur radio operators to fulfill a couple of the "purposes" of amateur radio, as set forth in Part 97.1 of the amateur radio regulations. Part 97.1(b) says that one of the purposes of the Amateur Radio Service is "Continuation and extension of the amateur's proven ability to contribute to the advancement of the radio art." According to Part 97.1(d), another purpose of the Amateur Radio Service is "Expansion of the existing reservoir within the amateur radio service of trained operators, technicians, and electronics experts."

Let's do it!

When he's not ruminating on the latest wireless technologies, KB6NU likes to make use of some vintage wireless technologies by working CW on the HF bands. He's also a prolific blogger (www.kb6nu.com) and the author of the "No Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides (www.kb6nu.com/study-guides). If you have a comment or a question, email him at cwgeek@kb6nu.com.

^^

CW Skimmer Developer Alex Shovkoplyas, VE3NEA, Receives RAC Radio Amateur of the Year Plaque

Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) honored *CW Skimmer* developer Alex Shovkoplyas, VE3NEA, as its 2014 Radio Amateur of the Year, and he received the plaque on October 31 at the annual York Region Hamfest near Toronto. Presenting Shovkoplyas with the plaque was the new RAC Ontario South Director Phil Mcbride, VA3QR. The plaque cites Schovkoplyas for "outstanding and consistent contribution to the welfare of Amateur Radio." A contesting tool, *CW Skimmer* interprets call signs sent in CW over a wide receiver bandwidth and identifies waterfall traces by call sign. The extracted call signs then are exported as DX spots. He's also developed other free software packages for Amateur Radio, including the propagation tool *Ham Cap*.

(Used with permission The ARRL Letter dated Dec 17, 2015)

^^

Anne Arundel Radio Club Upcoming Classes

The Spring *Technician Class* will begin Saturday Feb. 27th, skip Easter weekend's Saturday Mar 26th and End on April 9, a test day.

The Spring *General Class* begins Saturday April 23, skips Memorial Day Saturday, May 28th and ends June 4, a week before testing day. Get your General ticket before Field Day!

--

Do you want to upgrade or earn your FCC Amateur Radio License? Do you want to learn CW? Please contact Keith/AE3D (ae3d@graykitty.net) with your interest in taking classes or attending practice sessions. This *will* get you on a list, but you want to be on this one. You'll then be first to know about future training sessions, as Keith needs around 10 people before committing resources to make the event happen. All classes, training and testing sessions sponsored by the AARC are free. The recommended textbooks are available from us, or from the ARRL, or Amazon.com (hardcopy and kindle.)