



## Clublog Leagues

One of the new activities I started for the club was a Clublog league. You can read about it at [www.clublog.org](http://www.clublog.org). Clublog is a site to help you track your dx logging, dxpedition QSLs, and compete in working DX within your local and regional clubs.

Once you create your free account on [www.clublog.org](http://www.clublog.org), you can go to your settings and choose AARC as your club. One of the club admins will then verify your membership and approve your membership to the AARC league.

You can then see how others in the AARC are doing working new DX and building the DX log with rare ones!

As you navigate into Clublog, you will see it can help you verify that you worked that rare DX, as well as, request your QSL for many online.

Hope to see more of our members who chase DX upload their logs into clublog and sign-up with the AARC league.

73 and Good DX,  
Doug NA1DX



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## Equipment Loaner Program

The AARC Board is operating a new policy that will help the AARC membership in doing equipment loans. Thanks Keith AE3D for the initial input. This will be another benefit for the dues paying members. We are accumulating a few pieces of test equipment, and as we receive more donations, we will evaluate whether an item will go to the auction or be retained for the Equipment Loaner Program. We currently have an antenna analyzer and an oscilloscope that will be available. This program will only be open to Members-in-Good-Standing ... No a la carte fee will be instituted. Bruce Straxckbein, WR3Q. President of the AARC will present the details of the Program at a future meeting.

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## Membership Development and Retention Activities

After volunteers organized and discussed some possible overarching issues and brainstormed some possible short term actions, two immediate actions were taken. The first was to setup new forums on the web site to open communications around some specific topics, such as volunteering, DXing, Contesting, Repeater Management, and a few others. The second was to obtain a list from Keith/AE3D on current renewed members and members from the past three years that have not renewed.

I then built a temporary private email list and provided a communication to members who were up to date that we had email addresses. I also sent an email out to those past members who had not renewed asking them

to consider renewing and providing feedback why that had not renewed or why they won't renew.

Out of these actions we have received almost a 20% increase in membership.

But we are not done yet, the Membership Development and Retention committee needs to review comments, summarize them, and gain ideas for responses to the feedback.

I have since setup a "friends of the AARC" email list to use very sparingly by a few of the officers. We are hoping that if members set their web site notification settings, they will be reminded of the monthly newsletter and activities discussed in the forums.

Which brings me back to the forums. We are hoping the forums will allow for members from across our membership to open up new channels. But for them to be successful, they need you to get on the web site and get involved and communicate what you think the club should be doing and then getting involved in doing it!

For all those who recently renewed and provided feedback, will be circle back around.

Thanks for your support.  
73 Doug NA1DX

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## AARC Equipment Sale is April 6 *Newcomers are always welcome!*

Get ready for the **Equipment sale** during the upcoming April 6th meeting! This year to bid/buy/win you either need to be current on member dues OR pay \$5 at the door. Yes, you can pay your dues at the door too.

Justin/KC3BJT will be present and accepting cash or credit cards for all transaction

*Yes, we accept consignment items on a space available basis, but please come early so we can accommodate you.*

The featured item will be a complete, working **Kenwood TS-520S station** for \$200.00. This item will include the HF transceiver, remote VFO, Speaker, desk mic, station monitor, manuals on a CD and will be set aside for NEW hams only.

The Equipment sale procedure is located [here](#). The spreadsheet of available items is located [here](#). (Both of these opened fine in Libreoffice too, but please let me know if you have any issues.)

Expect perhaps one more spreadsheet update from Ike before the auction.

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**The Anne Arundel Radio Club  
is a registered 501C3 charity.  
We are pleased to receive any  
donations  
over your yearly dues.**

## UPCOMING SKYWARN TRAINING SCHEDULE

BASICS,

**Monday April 3, 2017 6:30 - 9:30 PM**

Prince George's Maryland Fire & Rescue Institute, 4500 Campus Drive, College Park, MD 20740. For more info click on:

<https://skywarnbasicsprincegeorges.eventbrite.com>

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BASICS,

**Monday, April 24, 2017 6:30 - 9:30 PM**

Harford County Department of Emergency Services, 2220 Ady Road, Forest Hill, MD 21050. For more info click on:

<https://skywarnbasicsharford.eventbrite.com>

Used with permission MDC Section News, Mar. 15, 2017

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## International Crystal Manufacturing Going Out of Business

International Crystal Manufacturing (**ICM**) of Oklahoma City has announced that it will be going out of business, probably at the end of May. Royden Freeland Jr., W5EMH, son of the company's founder, posted a letter this week on the ICM website.



"We will be honoring all orders that we have already taken and will be able to fill a limited amount of new orders dependent upon raw materials available," Freeland said. "We would like to thank you for your past business. The success of ICM over the previous 66 years has been largely due to its amazing customer base."

International Crystal produces RF control devices — quartz crystals, oscillators, QCM crystals, filters, TCXOs/VCTCXOs, and precision crystals.

Royden R. Freeland Sr. founded International Crystal in 1950, at first operating out of his garage. One of his first contracts was to produce crystals for Collins Radio. The elder Freeland and his wife died in a 1978 air crash, and his son took over the company, which expanded into the production of other electronics in the 1980s.

In the 1990s, though, it sold off some of its equipment and distribution business to concentrate on its core enterprise — the manufacture of crystal and oscillator products.

The announcement caught some manufacturers off guard, and they are seeking to source the products they had been buying from ICM, one of the few remaining US-based manufacturer of crystal products. Radio amateurs requiring crystals for projects or as replacement parts for older equipment also will have to look elsewhere.



Ironically, International boasts on its website that it's "a proud supplier to RadioShack," which, for the second time in 2 years, declared Chapter 11 bankruptcy this week.

Used with permission The ARRL Letter, Mar. 16, 2017

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## ARISS International Chair Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, Hamvention's Amateur of the Year

**Dayton Hamvention**® has announced its 2017 award winners for Amateur of the Year, Club of the Year, and Special Achievement. Each year, Hamvention honors radio amateurs who have made major contributions to the art and science of Amateur Radio.

Amateur of the Year

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station International Chair Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, of Silver Spring, Maryland, is Hamvention's 2017 Amateur of the Year. Bauer has been a driving force behind the program since its inception. He also serves as AMSAT-NA Vice President for Human Spaceflight.



In the mid-1990s, Bauer proposed an experiment to have the high-Earth orbit (HEO) AMSAT Phase 3D satellite (AO-40) measure the signal strength of the GPS satellite constellation. The AO-40 experiment subsequently has been cited often in aerospace literature, as it remained the most comprehensive above-the-constellation data source for nearly a decade and led to changes in the system's specifications and applications. The results of the AO-40 experiment jump started a game-changing transformation in navigation at HEO/GEO altitudes, enabling new and exciting missions in these orbits.

A radio amateur since 1974, Bauer holds bachelor's and master's degrees in aeronautics and astronautics from Purdue University. His career in aerospace spans 4 decades at NASA and within private industry.

In 1983, in preparation for the space mission of Owen Garriott, W5LFL, Bauer was responsible for setting up and operating the worldwide retransmission of space shuttle air-to-ground communications via Goddard Amateur Radio Club station WA3NAN. This initiative provided a critical conduit of information to hams attempting to contact ham-astronauts in the pre-internet era

Used with permission The ARRL Letter, Mar 2, 2017

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## ARISS to Swap Out Handheld VHF Transceivers on Space Station

The 10th SpaceX International Space Station cargo resupply mission delivered investigations to study human health, Earth science, and weather patterns last Thursday. It also carried a new Ericsson 2-meter handheld radio to

replace one that failed a few months ago, disrupting the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program. The VHF radio in the *Columbus* module was used for school group contacts and for Amateur Radio packet, temporarily relocated to UHF after the VHF radio failure. ARISS International Chair Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, said the new Ericsson radio will, at some point, be installed in *Columbus*, replacing the Ericsson UHF radio now supporting APRS packet and some school contacts. Bauer made it clear that the new Ericsson transceiver is an interim measure for ARISS.



ESA Astronaut Samantha Cristoforetti, IZ0UDF, using the Ericsson VHF transceiver before it failed last fall.

"ARISS is making great progress on the development of the new interoperable radio system that we hope to use to replace our aging radio infrastructure in the *Columbus* module and the *Service Module*," he said. "The hard -- and expensive -- part of this effort is just beginning, with testing and human [spaceflight] certification on the horizon." ARISS was able to shift

school contacts from NA1SS to the Kenwood TM-D710 transceiver in the Russian *Service Module*. Cosmonauts use that radio to carry out their ARISS school contacts from RS0ISS.

Bauer thanked all of ARISS's partners, which include ARRL and AMSAT, as well as individuals and entities that have donated to the program. In December, ARISS announced a "notable contribution" from the Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA) to help support development and certification of new ISS radio hardware.

The Ericsson MP-A VHF handheld transceiver that ISS crew members had used to speak via Amateur Radio with students and educational groups around the world for more than 16 years began displaying an error message last fall, rendering it unusable. ARISS has said ARISS's new JVC Kenwood TM-D710GA-based radio system, once on station and installed, will improve communication capability for students scheduled to participate in educational contacts and related activities. The new system also will allow greater interoperability between the *Columbus* module and the Russian *Service Module*.



In 2015, ARISS kicked off its first fundraising program, after relying on support from NASA, ARRL, AMSAT, and individual donors and volunteers to cover the costs of day-to-day operations and spaceflight equipment certification. NASA budget cutbacks made it less certain that ARISS would be able to cover its operational expenses going forward. ARISS leadership initiated the fundraising effort with the goal of securing greater financial stability.

The [ARISS website](http://ariss.org) has more information on how to support the program. -- *Thanks to AMSAT News Service, ARISS*

Used with permission The ARRL Letter, Mar. 2, 2017  
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## ARISS Moves Closer to Launching New Radio System to Space Station

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) reports it has met a major milestone and now is "one giant step" closer to flying its new interoperable radio system to the International Space Station. Eventual plans call for installing a new JVC Kenwood TM-D710GA-based radio system on the station as part of an overall approach that will allow greater interoperability between the *Columbus* module and the Russian *Service Module*.



Lou McFadin, W5DID, and Kerry Banke, N6IZW, travelled to NASA Johnson Space Center (JSC) in Houston in mid-February for preliminary testing of Banke's "breadboard" version of the ARISS multi-voltage power supply that's essential to the upgrade. They worked with JSC engineers and Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC) Lab personnel to put the specially built power supply through its paces, checking against US and Russian space specifications for preliminary power quality and EMC tests.

With positive test results in hand, ARISS now can move on to the next step -- fabrication of prototype and flight units. The JSC engineers said the ARISS breadboard power supply was the first hardware to have passed all of the space agency's tests and complimented the ARISS Team on its professional-level hardware development and design.

"I was looking to come away with what we needed to move forward," said Banke. "We achieved that." Banke also said he was impressed with the support he and McFadin received from the testing group. Key players on those teams, who are also radio amateurs, told him and McFadin that they find equipment supported by hams earns particularly good marks.

ARISS-International Chair Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, thanked Banke and McFadin for spending several days putting the unit through the rigorous battery of NASA and Russian preliminary electrical tests. McFadin credited the level of cooperation and experience within the ARISS Team with the multi-voltage power supply's high marks.

Now that testing of the breadboard unit has been completed, McFadin can purchase the necessary -- and pricey -- space-certified parts, to fabricate the final prototype and flight power supplies. He and Banke expressed confidence that the prototype and flight units will





longer than five minutes.

One of the cardinal rules of contesting is to always log what the other station is sending. But occasionally the other station is not sending the correct information. In the recent ARRL International DX Contest, CW, a DX station was sending an incorrect exchange for nearly 80 contacts before switching to a valid exchange for the remainder of the contest. The DX station's submitted log showed the correct exchange as the sent exchange for all of the contacts. How does this situation get scored? According to Ken, K1EA, ARRL DX Contest Log Checker, "A quick look at the DX station's reverse log (a listing of every QSO claiming to work the DX Station) shows when this happened. Most stations logged what was sent. A few made up a number. The DX station's log is marked as a log with bad sent exchange info. No one will receive a busted exchange with that DX station." (via CQ-Contest)

Five years ago, a 19-year-old student Scott Vader was working on a metal prototype of a gas turbine and couldn't find a suitable way to 3D print with metal - so with his father's assistance, [he invented a way to do it](#). Scott's method differed from the existing methods of depositing and fusing metal powders by using a pulsed magnetic field to propel drops of hot liquid metal through a nozzle. Today, Scott is the CTO of Vader Systems, a company formed to commercialize his invention.

Any WRTC event requires a large amount of preparation and planning, and the WRTC 2018 crew has been especially candid with the details through their website and press releases. With [fewer than 500 days before the competition in Germany](#), qualification events are over but the work continues. Near term milestones include processing team applications, testing site locations, and continued fundraising.

#### WORD TO THE WISE

**Stacking:** The combination of two or more antennas arranged at different vertical heights to achieve goals such as more gain, multiple simultaneous beam headings, or additional elevation angles. A stack match is a switching device that can electrically add or remove antennas from a stack on operator command to change the effective take-off angle or pattern

## CONVERSATION

### Effective Communication

Signal quality has traditionally been important to our hobby, even as we've progressed from spark to CW, and have added voice and digital modes. From a practical perspective, more intelligible signals lead to faster and more accurate communication. A quality signal has traditionally been something to strive for, a point of pride for many Amateurs.

The Internet has become a communications medium for all subjects, and there is no shortage of email reflectors and websites related to Amateur Radio. While there are plenty of good websites, there are also many that have excellent content, but aren't as effective as they could be because of 'interference' from poor layout or design, broken links, browser incompatibility, slow hosting, lack of maintenance, or many other details. But, just as it's easy to get a quality RF signal today with rigs right out of the box,

it's also possible to use a modern website service or content management system which can enhance the way your information is organized and presented.

One big reason to care about a quality website signal is that the first exposure to our hobby for many people may be through a radio club or other Amateur Radio related website. The population that we seek to attract to our hobby is precisely the one that may be turned away by web pages reminiscent of the late 20<sup>th</sup> century.

That's all for this time. Remember to send contesting related stories, book reviews, tips, techniques, press releases, errata, schematics, club information, pictures, stories, blog links, and predictions to [contest-update@arrl.org](mailto:contest-update@arrl.org)

73, Brian N9ADG

Used with permission The ARRL Contest Update Mar, 8, 2017

## ANNUALLY THERE IS A Contest University

the day before the start of the  
"Dayton Hamfest".

Here is the link to past Contest University Info:

<https://www.contestuniversity.com/videos/>

**Lots of great info!**

73

Doug NA1DX

## Anne Arundel Club Radio Equipment Sale April 6 2017

Go to [W3VPR.org](http://W3VPR.org) for FULL DETAILS



For sale to a NEW HAM

## AARC Public Service Events, 2017

Attached is the preliminary 2017 calendar for Public Service Events supported by AARC.

The dates for some of the events have not been posted by the event organizers yet. I'm assuming they'll be held again this year in the same month as last year, but no guarantees.

The club's coordinator has not been determined for any of the events. If you are interested please contact me. If you are interested in getting involved with helping coordinate an event but don't want to take it all on yourself, let me know that too. The more people involved the lighter the load.

If you already know you wish to operate at one or more of this year's events, please wait until a coordinator has been identified to sign up. I am unable to accept operator sign ups at this time.

If you have any suggestions or comments, don't hesitate to speak up.

### AARC Public Service Events, 2017

Date	Event	Location	Coordinator
Sunday, March 26	B&A Trail Maraton and Half Marathon	Severna Park HS	TBD
Sunday, April 2	Cherry Pit 10 Miler	South River HS	TBD
Saturday, April 29	Dash 4 Dignity 5k*	Heritage Community Church, Severn	Rick Cooper: KR3LC99@gmail.com
Saturday, May 20	Schindler Memorial Triathlon	Severna Park Center	TBD
Spring (date not set yet)	Walk for the Animals (SPCA fundraiser)	Quiet Waters Park	TBD
July (date not set yet)	Rosaryville Trail Run, 10k, 10M, 25k, 50k	Rosaryville State Park	TBD
August (date not set yet)	Ben Moore Memorial Half Marathon & 10k	Annapolis, Truman Parkway	TBD
Sunday, August 27	Annapolis 10 Mile Run	Navy Marine Corps Stadium	Paul Bowling: Paul@W4ATN.com
Sept. (date not set yet)	Run for the Light House Half Marathon & 5k	Quiet Waters Park	TBD
Sunday, October 1	Metric Marathon	Southern HS	Ron Boller: N3WOF@verizon.net
Sunday, October 8	Patuxent River Appreciation Day Parade**	Solomons Island	Les Silva: KH6CUJ@aol.com
Sunday, October 8	CFC Bike Ride 20, 40, 60 Miles **	Herrington Harbor South	Les Silva: KH6CUJ@aol.com
Saturday, November 11	Rosaryville Veterans Day 50k	Rosaryville State Park	Paul Bowling: Paul@W4ATN.com
Sunday, November 19	Cold Turkey 10k	Arundel HS	Mike, KA2JAI: mikemontrose@gmail.com

\* This is the first year the club will support this event

\*\* Calvert Amateur Radio Club coordinated event with AARC support

For more information or to volunteer to coordinate the club's support of one of these events,

contact: [erick.wa3g@gmail.com](mailto:erick.wa3g@gmail.com)

February 18, 2017

### AARC Social Media Links

Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/930626067021873/>  
 Facebook PAGE: <https://www.facebook.com/AnneArundelRadioClub/>  
 Twitter: <https://twitter.com/W3VPR>



## Amateur Radio Gains a Champion in FAA Tower Safety Rules Controversy

The owners of certain Amateur Radio towers have a friend in FCC Commissioner Michael O’Rielly, who feels that tower-marking provisions required by the Extension, Safety, and Security Act of 2016, now [Public Law 114-190](#), “could use tweaks.” In a March 10 [blog post](#), O’Rielly expressed his belief that thousands of tower owners in the US could face expensive, unnecessary retrofits resulting from the law’s unintended consequences. The new FAA law would impose additional marking requirements for a small number of Amateur Radio towers, however. O’Rielly said §2110 – the section of the new law that requires improved physical markings and/or lighting on towers of between 50 and 200 feet – is too broad.

O’Rielly said that §2110 appears intended to address dangers to small, low-flying aircraft, such as crop dusters, from temporary meteorological testing towers (METs), among others, but that if implemented literally, “the provision will force expensive retrofits to potentially 50,000 existing towers,” including cell and broadcast station towers and all new towers meeting the law’s broad definition, “all with little gain to air safety,” he said.



FCC Commissioner Michael O’Rielly.

The law instructs the FAA to enact rules similar to state-level statutes now in place that are aimed at improving aircraft safety in the vicinity of METs set up in rural areas. In the wake of fatal crop dusting aircraft collisions with METs, often erected on short notice, the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) recommended in 2013 that states enact laws -- sometimes called “crop duster” statutes -- requiring marking and registration of METs.

“Mandating new marking and/or lighting burdens for certain temporary aerial towers to aid agricultural pilots is a laudable goal,” O’Rielly commented. “However, the new statutory provision may have been drafted broader than intended and, as a result, it unnecessarily captures permanent communications towers that have little overall impact on agricultural air safety.”

While some state crop duster laws have exempted Amateur Radio towers, the federal legislation does not. ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, has said, however, that the list of exemptions in the federal legislation restricts the application of the new rules to a very small subset of Amateur Radio towers. ARRL hopes to meet with FAA officials to discuss the issue.



A marked meteorological testing tower (MET).

Although O’Rielly did not mention Amateur Radio towers as a concern, he did allow that a small legislative fix to exempt certain towers or to require the FAA administrator to do so “would be appropriate.”

Used with permission The ARRL Letter, March 23, 2017

## ARRL Seeks Synergy with Maker Movement

ARRL is reaching out to members of the Maker movement to explore avenues of cooperation and collaboration, and perhaps to recruit some new radio amateurs. Considered an extension of the arts and crafts tradition, the Maker movement gained its own magazine, [Make](#), in 2005. The philosophy of the Maker movement is reminiscent of an era when radio amateurs built their own equipment rather than buying it off the shelf. Those considering themselves Makers have tended to focus on such areas as electronics and computers, robotics, 3D printing, metal and woodworking, and even Amateur Radio, among other avocations.



Recognizing the similar characteristics of radio amateurs and Makers, the [Ham Radio](#) exhibition each summer in Friedrichshafen, Germany, has shared space with a Maker Faire, as Maker gatherings are known, for the past few years. Maker Faires in the US have attracted thousands more attendees than even the largest hamfest. The “Hamvention” of the Maker movement takes place in San Mateo, California, and ARRL will have a presence at events in the Bay Area in May, and in Chicago later this year.

“Maker communities and Makerspaces are springing up across the country, becoming the latest nexus of youthful aspirants and exotic technology, as well as the locus of highly innovative forms of experimentation -- including Amateur Radio,” ARRL CEO Tom Gallagher, NY2RF, wrote in his Second Century editorial, “Make It Happen,” in the April issue of *QST*. Gallagher considers Makers as “the next generation of hams.”

Gallagher suggests radio amateurs consider attending Maker Faires -- not only to promote and give a presence to Amateur Radio, but to learn what they have in common with Makers, many of whom already are licensees. (An article in the January 2017 issue of *QST*, “Maker Faire Success for Ham Radio Clubs” by David Witkowski, W6DTW, is on Gallagher’s recommended reading list, as is an interview in the same issue with Jeri Ellsworth, AI6TK, who is well known in the Maker and gamer communities.)

Any radio amateur who enjoys tackling an Arduino or Raspberry Pi electronics project for the shack should find some common ground in the Maker movement. Gallagher notes in his editorial that at last September’s Maker Faire in New York City, a club in Queens offered a simple build-a-code-practice-oscillator project, provided by [QRPme.com](#), that only required five components. “The attendees were lined up six deep in two lines,” Gallagher recounted. “There is nothing to match the delight in the builder’s eyes when he or she first experiences the joy of oscillation.” He hinted that this could, in time, translate to new licensees.

Used with permission The ARRL Letter, March 23, 2017

*Happy 101<sup>st</sup> Birthday,  
Miss Holly, N3MB*



**Tune into the Holly Net from 7:00 am to 9:00 am  
on the Davidsonville MD. Repeater 147.105 tone 107.5**



**GO KITS  
SHOW N TELL  
PROGRAM**

**AARC**

**APRIL 23, 2017**



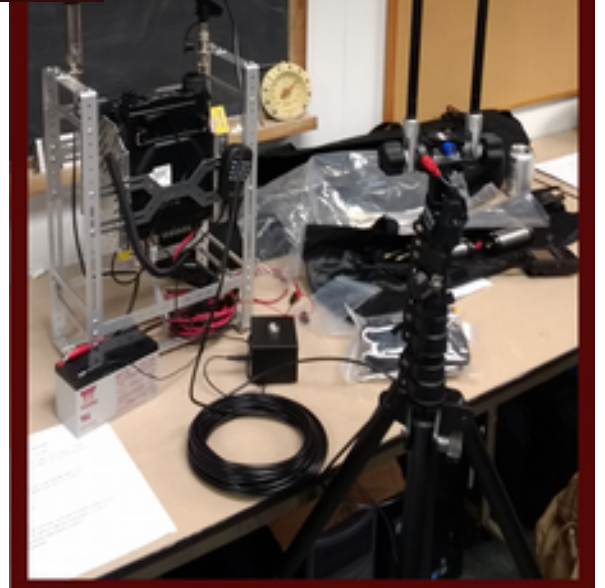
**Rich Grace KB3ZY0**



**Bruce Strackbein WR3Q**



**Tim Nagel KB3YQK**



**Will Mooney KA3UQQ**

## EmComm Events and Comments from around the Section

de Section Emergency Coordinator WB3KAS:  
**Reporting**

Ten of the 18 appointed ECs submitted their monthly ARES County reports this month, or 56%. I'd like to thank everyone for taking the time to write their reports. Now, let's get the remaining county ECs to go get working on theirs.

It's extremely important that your constituents hear what is going on relative to EmComm. If nothing more, tell us what meetings you hold, when, where and what repeaters you can be found on. I'd like to hear from the rest of you.

### MDC Section Vacancies Still Open

There is one vacant DEC slot left for the Central Region Section. There is a possibility of a Region V Exercise coming up in May. Region V Hospital Counties comprises some of the Central Region Section. This is a very important exercise and we need a Central DEC to ride heard on the planning. If you are interested, and up to the challenge, please contact the Section Manager, KB3MXM or me for more information.

There are seven counties that do not having an Emergency Coordinator. They are ALLE, CARO, DORC, KENT, QACO, SOME and WORC. As you can see 6 out of the 7 are on the Eastern Shore and is a grave concern from a wx perspective. If you live in any of these counties, please consider getting involved with emergency communications and sign up to assist the hospitals in your area.

Contact me for more information at wb3kas at arrl.net.

### SEC Presentations

Wanda, KA3AHI, and I continue to schedule visit to as many ARES and club groups as possible. We have two presentations I think would be worth your while to hear. One on Section Interoperability and the other is the Section Health Care EmComm Program. If you have interest in this, and have room on your meeting agenda for us, please contact me.

### MDC Section Reflectors

We introduced a new MDC Section reflector, ARRL MDC Section Winlink Training Group for P2P and Hybrid networks, or MDCQRV for short. Please make use of this tool to sharpen skills and fine tune your configuration files. Located at:

<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/MDCQRV/info>.

The new ARRLMDCSection Yahoo Reflector is now available. If you are not a member. . you should be!! We now have 87 members this month, same as last month. I encourage you to use this to inform or keep in touch with the rest of your fellow members.

With the wide distribution of this newsletter coming out only once a month, this Yahoo Site with keep you up to date with late breaking news, including a possible disaster call up.

There is very little traffic to clog your in box. You can join at:

<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/ARRLMDCSECTION/info>.

de PRGE County WB3KAS:

PRGE ARES Web Page: <http://www.pgares.org>

PRGE ARES Internet Forum:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/PG-AresRaces/>

### Nets:

Held four regularly scheduled monthly training VHF nets on the K3ERA Repeater, 145.23MHz pl 110.9 on Tuesdays at 1930L. The monthly HF Hospital Net is held the Wednesday following the third Monday of the month on 3820kHz at 1930L.

**Meetings:** Monthly meeting held the 3rd Monday of the month at the Fire Services Building, 6820 Webster St, Landover Hills, MD at 1930.

**New EOC Status:** Two VHF/UHF dual band antennas installed. 12VDC buss routed to work stations. Repeater EchoLink is off the air until we can somebody to host it from home.

### Prince George's \ County Hospital Coalition

Feb 3: MedStar Southern MD Hospital Center IT requested Winlink IP addresses for Winlink Node approval submission to MedStar Corporate. Awaiting status.

Feb 7: Met the Dimensions health POC at Bowie Health Center. Received a tour of their newly constructed Command Center. Meeting resulted in providing coax cable re-routing recommendations from old antenna site to new building.

Feb 23: Met with new Armed Forces Retirement Home resident POC Susan, W7KFI. AFRH has revitalized their ham station with a sloping G5RV antenna and is seeking volunteer support for their resident ham community. de KA3AHI MDC Section ASM for the Health Care

### EmComm Program:

HF Hospital Net are conducted on 3820kHz ± at 1930L.

We try to hold the freq between 1915 to 1930L, so give us a hollar!

On February 22, we had 22 checked in, thanks to the special Section Notice that went out earlier about the Net.

As we move into the winter months the skip will bring in some distant stations. Should be interesting. I'd like to hear more checkins from our MDC Section.

Next HFHNet is March 22. Net date varies each month, but it is always the Wednesday following the third Monday.

Signature: Jim Montgomery

Call sign: WB3KAS

Maryland-DC SEC

Email: [wb3kas@arrl.net](mailto:wb3kas@arrl.net)

Used with permission MDC Section News, Mar. 15, 2017

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## MDC SECTION TRAFFIC MANAGER'S REPORT

For February, 2017

### MDC NTS NETS:

MEPN 1702 W3YVQ QND/28 QNI/348 QTC/70 MINS/768  
BTN 1702 AB3WG QND/28 QNI/426 QTC/39 MINS/582  
MDD 1702 AA3SB QND/55 QNI/335 QTC/133 MINS/660  
MSN 1702 W8CPG QND/28 QNI/147 QTC/88 MINS/679

PSHR: KK3F 150, W3YVQ 135, W3CB 133, K3IN 110, WB4FDT 100, AA3SB 100, WB3FTQ 95, NI2W 92, N3ZOC 90, AB3WG 74, WG3K 72, KB3LFG 23;

TFC: KK3F 2575, K3IN 304, WB4FDT 191, AA3SB 114, WB3FTQ 100, W3YVQ 79, N3ZOC 56, WG3K 54, W3CB 29, AB3WG 28, NI2W 27, KB3LFG 0

### HF PROPAGATION

HF NVIS propagation on MEPN (3820 KHz) between 1630L and 1730L EST was totally functional throughout FEB 2017. (On December 19 2016 the MEPN moved to 1700L with the pre-net at 1630L.) The evening Cycle 4 nets had improving conditions for the month for the MDD 1900L session but with some nights with poor conditions at 2200L EST. There were a few dates where the overnight MUFs dropped almost to the AM broadcast band, but the longer days are now promising better late sessions.

### MEPN TIME CHANGE

The MEPN will return to the normal net time of 1800L, with the pre-net at 1730L, on Sunday, March 12, 2017, coincident with the shift to daylight savings time.

### MDC RADIOGRAMS AND OTHER MESSAGING

Outlets in each ARES(r) jurisdiction are needed for daily Radiogram and Radio-email traffic for served agencies, and also for messaging welcoming new hams to the Amateur Service. Join the MEPN, BTN, or MDD nets daily to find out more about how to contribute.

### BTN LOCAL NTS TRAFFIC AND TRAINING NET

The BTN continues to meet on 145.33/R (no tone - our backup) daily at 6:30PM local time and continues to welcome new amateurs. The availability of an active directed traffic net of the NTS on VHF is exactly why the BTN was established, providing a welcoming place for newcomers to the Amateur Service.

**MEPN** representatives check for EchoLink check-ins starting at net call daily via the WB3GXW-L link node (or **\*WASH\_DC\*** conference node backup if the -L node is not available).

Remember that the MSN provides CW training daily for newcomers to the mode, or those wishing to refresh their skills, daily at 7:30 PM on 3563 kHz.

Thanks to all the Section NTS net controls, DRS and WL2K stations, liaisons, and traffic handlers for the continuing effort to keep the nets running and traffic moving.

Thank you for your continued support of MDC integrated ARES(r) and NTS operations.

73, W3YVQ, MDC ASM, STM

[w3yvq@arll.net](mailto:w3yvq@arll.net) or [w3yvq@winlinkorg](mailto:w3yvq@winlinkorg) from WL2K

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## COMMENTS FROM YOUR SECTION MANAGER

Well, winter fooled us as well as most of our flowers. At first we thought Punxsutawney Phil was wrong when he saw his shadow, which meant a long winter. And then we had an unusually warm weather in February and thought 'Phil' was wrong.

But, it looks as if 'Phil' was right after all.

Along came a sudden snow storm on the night of Monday, March 13th through Tuesday morning, March 14th.

And the storm is predicted to be followed by several days of cold weather.

Moral: Trust Punxsutawney Phil. You just can't trust "Mother Nature."

Astonomical note: The days are getting longer and longer.

Spring, the vernal equinox, begins at 6:28 AM on March 20th.

As the temperatures warm up and the jet stream shifts, we should expect more severe thunderstorms over next few months. Check your 'Go-Kits,' be prepared and keep a 'weather eye.'

By June 24-25, Field Day 2017, this wintery blast of chilling arctic fun (Hi Hi) will be forgotten.

Before FD 2017 get your FCC Amateur Radio license upgrade now and be ready to work the pile-up and the 'whole' band.

73 and remember that I am always ready to serve you.

Marty Pittinger, KB3MXM

[KB3MXM@ARRL.org](mailto:KB3MXM@ARRL.org)

ARRL Maryland-DC Section Manager

Used with permission MDC Section News, Mar. 15, 2017

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## Interesting gadgets

### I wish I had time for

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

(AARC Ed. Note This is an abbreviated colum this month)

I'm on a lot of mailing lists and participate in a bunch of amateur radio forums. As a result, I see a lot of interesting gadgets that guys are buying or are thinking about buying. Here are three of the latest that look interesting to me. I wish I had time (and money) to purchase all of these and try them out.

### Android antenna analyzer

On Reddit

([https://www.reddit.com/r/amateurradio/comments/60nnp1/finally\\_got\\_my\\_mini60\\_ebay\\_antenna\\_analyzer\\_time/](https://www.reddit.com/r/amateurradio/comments/60nnp1/finally_got_my_mini60_ebay_antenna_analyzer_time/)),

some of the guys have been talking about the Mini60 Antenna Analyzer ([http://www.ebay.com/itm/CW-USB-Interface-Cable-WINKEYER-compatible-3-5mm-plug-/132121085623?](http://www.ebay.com/itm/CW-USB-Interface-Cable-WINKEYER-compatible-3-5mm-plug-/132121085623?hash=item1ec307c6b7:g:up8AAOSw241YeTei) hash=item1ec307c6b7:g:up8AAOSw241YeTei).

Its frequency range is 1 – 60MHz, but the cool thing about this device is that you can use it standalone with the built-in LCD display or with some software ([http://www.jtelectronics.co.nz/information\\_links/MINI60/Add-Bluetooth-Module-To-MINI60-Antenna-Analyser.htm](http://www.jtelectronics.co.nz/information_links/MINI60/Add-Bluetooth-Module-To-MINI60-Antenna-Analyser.htm)) and a tablet with a Bluetooth interface to get fancy frequency vs. SWR plots. See <http://www.kb6nu.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/mini60-ant-analyzer.jpg> for a photo of the Mini60 Antenna Analyzer being used with an Android tablet.

Of course, this is made in China, but how can you beat the price? It costs \$112 shipped.

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When he's not drooling over electronic gadgets, Dan blogs about amateur radio at KB6NU.Com, writes the "No Nonsense" amateur radio study guides, and teaches ham classes. You can contact him by e-mailing [cwgeek@kb6nu.com](mailto:cwgeek@kb6nu.com).

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 [newsletter@w3vpr.org](mailto:newsletter@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](http://www.w3vpr.org)

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

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**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](mailto: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 am to 9:00 am. This is the famous Holly-net. Pre-Holly-net starts at 5 AM or so.

**EVENT SCHEDULE**

**Sunday, April 2**

7:00am AARC (support) [Cherry Pit 10 Miler](#)

8:30am AARC Boy Scout Radio Merit Badge session

**Thursday, April 6 7:30 pm Club Meeting**

**EQUIPMENT SALE**

**Saturday, April 8**

8:30am AARC Spring Tech Class

12:00pm AARC Free Exams for your FCC amateur radio license

**Sunday, April 9**

1:00pm AARC [Mesh Networking Group](#), at 1 to 4 PM at the clubhouse

**Thursday, April 13**

7:30pm AARC board meeting

**Thursday, April 20**

7:30pm AARC Club meeting, newcomers always welcome.

**Saturday, April 22**

8:30am AARC Spring [General Class](#).

**Sunday, April 23**

1:00pm AARC Kit-building, troubleshooting and repair, at 1 to 4 PM at the clubhouse

**Saturday, April 29**

7:00am AARC (support) Dash 4 Dignity 5k

8:30am AARC Spring [General Class](#)

This is the second class. Classes will run weekly until June 3rd, which is a testing day

# The Radio Amateur Operator is...

## **CONSIDERATE**

...He/[She] never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

## **LOYAL**

...He/[She] offers loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs, the IARU Radio Society in his/[her] country, through which Amateur Radio in his/[her] country is represented nationally and internationally.

## **PROGRESSIVE**

...He/[She] keeps his/[her] station up to date. It is well-built and efficient. His/[Her] operating practice is above reproach.

## **FRIENDLY**

...He/[She] operates slowly and patiently when requested; offers friendly advice and counsel to beginners; kind assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the marks of the amateur spirit.

## **BALANCED**

...Radio is a hobby, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

## **PATRIOTIC**

...His/[Her] station and skills are always ready for service to country and community.



# AARC Two-Meter Net Controller Schedule — 2017

(Year/Month/Day)

|         |         |       |
|---------|---------|-------|
| 17/1/4  | KB3YQK  | Tim   |
| 17/1/11 | K3MAW   | Mike  |
| 17/1/18 | AA3EB   | Ed    |
| 17/1/25 | KB3ZYO  | Rich  |
|         |         |       |
| 17/2/1  | KB3MUV  | Raven |
| 17/2/8  | K3ACT   | Chuck |
| 17/2/15 | WA3SKN  | Mike  |
| 17/2/22 | KB3YQK  | Tim   |
|         |         |       |
| 17/3/1  | K3MAW   | Mike  |
| 17/3/8  | AA3EB   | Ed    |
| 17/3/15 | KB3ZYO  | Rich  |
| 17/3/22 | KB3MUV  | Raven |
| 17/3/29 | K3ACT   | Chuck |
|         |         |       |
| 17/4/5  | WA3SKN  | Mike  |
| 17/4/12 | KB3YQK  | Tim   |
| 17/4/19 | K3MAW   | Mike  |
| 17/4/26 | AA3EB   | Ed    |
|         |         |       |
| 17/5/3  | KB3ZYO  | Rich  |
| 17/5/10 | KB3MUV  | Raven |
| 17/5/17 | K3ACT   | Chuck |
| 17/5/24 | WA3SKN  | Mike  |
| 17/5/31 | KB3YQK  | Tim   |
|         |         |       |
| 17/6/7  | K3MAW   | Mike  |
| 17/6/14 | AA3EB   | Ed    |
| 17/6/21 | KB3ZYO  | Rich  |
| 17/6/28 | KB3MUVV | Raven |

|          |        |       |
|----------|--------|-------|
| 17/7/5   | K3ACT  | Chuck |
| 17/7/12  | WA3SKN | Mike  |
| 17/7/19  | KB3YQK | Tim   |
| 17/7/26  | K3MAW  | Mike  |
|          |        |       |
| 17/8/2   | AA3EB  | Ed    |
| 17/8/9   | KB3ZYO | Rich  |
| 17/8/16  | KB3MUV | Raven |
| 17/8/23  | K3ACT  | Chuck |
| 17/8/30  | WA3SKN | Mike  |
|          |        |       |
| 17/9/6   | KB3YQK | Tim   |
| 7/9/13   | K3MAW  | Mike  |
| 17/9/20  | AA3EB  | Ed    |
| 17/9/27  | KB3ZYO | Rich  |
|          |        |       |
| 17/10/4  | KB3MUV | Raven |
| 17/10/11 | K3ACT  | Chuck |
| 17/10/18 | WA3SKN | Mike  |
| 17/10/25 | KB3YQK | Tim   |
|          |        |       |
| 17/11/1  | K3MAW  | Mike  |
| 17/11/8  | AA3EB  | Ed    |
| 17/11/15 | KB3ZYO | Rich  |
| 17/11/22 | KB3MUV | Raven |
| 17/11/29 | K3ACT  | Chuck |
|          |        |       |
| 17/12/6  | WA3SKN | Mike  |
| 17/12/13 | KB3YQK | Tim   |
| 17/12/20 | K3MAW  | Mike  |
| 17/12/27 | AA3EB  | Ed    |

## 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+Mhz 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          |

**KEEP IN TOUCH**

Check the web site regularly. Log into the various nets available,  
"Holly Net" on week day mornings,  
Wednesday Night Net on Wednesday evenings,