

Monday, September 25, 2017

Dear ARRL Member:

There are few times when I have needed to reach out directly to you for your help. This is one of those times.

The American Red Cross (ARC) has asked ARRL for assistance with relief efforts in Puerto Rico. In the nearly 75-year relationship between ARRL and ARC, this is the first time ARC has made a request for assistance on this scale. Hurricane Maria has devastated the island's communications infrastructure. Without electricity and telephone, and with most of the cell sites out of service, millions of people are cut off from communicating. Shelters are unable to reach local emergency services and people cannot check on the welfare of their loved ones. The situation is dire.



How can you help?

1) *Volunteer.* ARC needs up to 50 radio amateurs who can help record, enter, and submit disaster-survivor information into the ARC Safe and Well system. There are very specific requirements and qualifications needed for this deployment; for instance, familiarity with Winlink, an Amateur Radio license of General class or higher, and previous experience in disaster response. Deployment will be for up to 3 weeks (at ARC expense). If you would like to be considered for deployment, please complete the following online ARRL form, which asks for your qualifications and skills: [Volunteer Deployment Form](#)

2) *Donate to Ham Aid.* ARRL's Ham Aid program loans Amateur Radio equipment kits to established Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES®) groups and partner agencies during disaster response, in order to establish Amateur Radio communications support. Ham Aid is supported by donations from individuals and corporations – including many of our ham radio industry partners. ARRL has previously staged Ham Aid equipment in Texas, and in the last few weeks, we have supplied kits in Florida, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico. Our supply of Ham Aid kits has been rapidly depleted. Your donation to Ham Aid will help us now. Your contributions to Ham Aid are 100% tax deductible. To make a donation online, go to www.arrl.org/arrl-donation-form and select "Ham Aid" from the ARRL donation form. To donate by mail, print a [donation form](#), and mail it with your check payable to ARRL, noting "Ham Aid" on the memo line of your check; mail to ARRL, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111 USA.



It has been four weeks since Hurricane Harvey made landfall in Texas. In little over a month, Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria have left paths of destruction and catastrophic flooding that will impact the lives of people throughout the southeast U.S. and Caribbean for years to come. Throughout these disasters, our trained ham radio volunteers, and especially those in coordinating roles, have helped us meet the requests of our partner agencies and organizations. To all ham radio operators who have been on alert, activated, deployed, or donated, THANK YOU. We are grateful for your service and for your generosity.

73, Rick Roderick, K5UR , ARRL President

Used with permission

Maty Weinberg, KB1EIB Production Coordinator

ARRL: the national association for Amateur Radio™ 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111, email: marty@arrl.org,
Tel. 860-594-0229, Fax: 860-594-0259

Observations on Hurricane Harvey Response

The public safety agencies along the Gulf coast have done a lot over the past ten years to make their communications systems - including radio and Internet -- more robust and hardened for integrity in major storm events. Their efforts, combined with the FCC requirement for narrow banding and the addition of digital modes at the same time have made these systems more complex - yielding more possible points of failure. But in the end, in both the greater Houston and Golden Triangle portions of the Texas Gulf Coast, Hurricane Harvey did not knock out, nor significantly impact the cellular telephone and data networks or the 700 MHz and 800 MHz trunked public safety communication service systems. There were some threats but no significant impact. ARES/RACES operators were prepared, in place, staffed and ready to go, if needed.

My concern is that not only will our served agencies find themselves lured into a false sense of security, so will the Amateur Radio community. We amateur operators have the ability to, and must control one side of that equation: We can continue to train, practice and exercise. We can complete the courses *Introduction to Emergency Communication* (EC-001); *Public Service and Emergency Communications Management for Radio Amateurs* (EC-016); *PR-101: ARRL Public Relations* (EC-015). We can take and complete the FEMA Independent Study (IS) courses IS-100, IS-200, IS-700, IS-800 and IS-026. Both ARES and RACES leaders should add IS-300 and IS-400 courses to their resume. All should get into a DHS AUXCOMM class. Leaders should try to take the DHS COML course even if they never get DHS certified. As PIO's who also wear an ARES/RACES hat, in addition to the PR-101 course offered by the ARRL, they should take the FEMA IS-042 and the GS-289, GS-290, and GS-291 courses.

In addition to the educational portion described above, we also need to continue to practice our on air skills. Personally, I find that most nets are not fulfilling their potential in the practicing of emergency/disaster response communications skills. To help nets meet their potential, one action they could take is to hold at least one monthly session where all operators take their go kits to the field -- even if it's just the Wal-Mart parking lot down the street -- and check into the net. Not every ham can "go portable," but the more who can, increase the utility of our organizations. That utility is important when it comes to emergencies and disasters such as what we have just gone through here in the Houston area where maybe as many as 1 out of 6 homes were rendered uninhabitable.

Also, net check-ins, whether novices or veterans, sometimes do not listen to the instructions of the net control station. We were given two ears and one mouth to be exercised proportionally. During the Harvey disaster, I observed that net operators and net control stations could use more net discipline for great efficiency and efficacy.

The lowest common denominators for ARES/RACES emergency/disaster response are still the workhorse V/UHF FM and 40/75 meter phone bands. While the digital modes can certainly bring value, they cannot

replace our lowest common denominators as not every ham is so equipped. As our served agencies' communications systems have become more complex with more possible points of failure, we do not need to repeat that model less we set up to fail as well. Outside of the major metropolitan areas many of these more elaborate digital modes do not see the light of day.

Every ARES/RACES/CERT responder needs to have a "brag book." This phrase was coined by a friend and new ham who says every amateur licensee should have a book with copies of any license, I-D, certificates, etc., in it to present to a served agency official or other person who may have a need to review their credentials.

Now we've done our part -- how do we get our served agencies on board? We can't force them to do anything and the more we try to force ourselves upon them the more likely the chance to alienate them. It is my opinion that nothing does more to gain their respect than documented training from recognizable organizations. Understanding your served agencies' communications systems, whether a simple 5 channel narrow band FM radio or complex multi-site 700 MHz P25 protocol system, and being able to discuss where Amateur Radio can fit into their system to either back up or take load off their system helps.

Opening up your brag book and explaining that you understand ICS protocol, and our place in the system and are continuing to learn more, all help. Volunteer to participate in any of their drills, and not just as a radio operator. My city runs several a year as we are in a large petrochemical complex and I've served everywhere from in the EOC to an observer/evaluator in the field.

The bottom line is that every region of the country will be different and there is no one simple answer. We all need to find what works best for our particular environments. - [Mike Ulrich, KA5CVH, Assistant SEC and PIO, ARRL South Texas Section, Harris County ARES,](#)

[Interview: ARRL Public Information Officer Mike Ulrich, KA5CVH, Describes the Situation in Harris County, Texas, during storm Harvey \(8/29/17\)](#)

Used with permission The ARES E-Letter for Sept. 20, 2017

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FCC Technological Advisory Council Investigating Technical Regulations

The FCC Technological Advisory Council ([TAC](#)) is looking into FCC technical regulations to determine if reforms or changes might be in order. Greg Lapin, N9GL, represents ARRL on the TAC and chairs the ARRL RF Safety Committee. The FCC Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) announced the TAC public inquiry (ET Docket 17-215), which seeks comments by October 30 regarding technical regulations and the process for adopting and updating them.

"To more effectively ensure that its rules keep pace with the rapidly changing technology in communications, the FCC has asked its Technological Advisory Council to help identify FCC technical rules that are obsolete or may be ripe for change in light of current communications technologies," the OET said in an August 31 [Public Notice](#).

Made up of technological experts in various areas -- some of them radio amateurs -- who advise the FCC in technical matters, the TAC is gathering feedback from users and vendors of communications technology affected by technical rules.

"Some technical rules may no longer be applicable to modern communications equipment," the *Public Notice* said. "Rules that describe the operation of certain technologies may no longer be necessary, as those technologies are obsolete. Data reporting requirements for technical operations, which help the FCC to determine how effectively the communications environment is being utilized and also how communications entities are complying with the current laws, may no longer be necessary."



On the other hand, the OET said, some communications users may feel that certain existing regulations protect their operations and should not be removed.

In addition to seeking comment on specific regulations, the TAC is looking for input on how the regulatory process could be made more efficient and timely. The TAC plans to concentrate on issues of a technical nature and is looking for responses related to specific rules that should be considered for removal, retention, or change, and discuss the rationale behind each proposal.

Interested parties may file comments until October 30, using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System ([ECFS](#)).

For more information, contact [Greg Lapin, N9GL](#), or TAC working group FCC liaison [Walter Johnston](#).

Used with permission The ARRL Letter for September 7, 2017
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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.

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New "Pre-Release" Version of WSJT-X Includes FT8 Changes

A new "pre-release" version of [WSJT-X](#) now is available. This is the Amateur Radio digital software suite developed by Joe Taylor, K1JT, that includes the increasingly popular FT8 mode. The September 2 release, *WSJT-X* version 1.8.0-rc2, fixes a number of issues, provides better performance, and offers some new features."Implementation of FT8 and its auto-sequencing feature is now more capable and more polished," Taylor

said in the release notes. "The decoder is faster and better. It now includes signal subtraction, multi-pass decoding, and the use of accumulated 'a priori' information as a QSO progresses. Sensitivity extends downward as far as -24 dB in some circumstances."



Taylor said that overlapping signals "two and three deep" are frequently decoded at essentially the same frequency, and on a crowded band "we sometimes see more than 30 decodes in a single 15-second interval over a 2 kHz window." In addition, the North American VHF Contesting

Mode has been expanded to include both FT8 and MSK144 modes, and the *WSJT-X User Guide* has been extensively updated.

"Depending on what code revision you upgrade from, it may be necessary to do a one-time reset of the default list of suggested operating frequencies," Taylor pointed out. Some new features have been discussed in the [WSJT Meteor Scatter and Weak Signal Group](#).

Digital modes such as JT65 and FT8 require that your computer's internal time clock be set precisely. If your computer's clock is off by more than 1 or 2 seconds, contacts may be difficult or impossible. Internet time synchronization may be sufficient. The *WSJT-X* documentation recommends using [Meinberg NTP](#) on *Windows* machines to synchronize with internet time servers.

Logbook of The World ([LoTW](#)) now supports the upload of FT8 contacts after a *TQSL* configuration file update, which was released shortly after the mid-August debut of the new ADIF standard ([version 3.0.6](#)) with support for FT8. -- *Thanks to the [ARRL Contest Update](#)*

Used with permission The ARRL Letter for September 7, 2017
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Metric Marathon Race

I'm looking for volunteers again this year for the Metric Marathon Race (~16 miles) on Sunday, October 1, 2017. The race begins at Southern High School, 4400 Solomons Island Rd, Harwood, MD 20776 at 8:00 am. Please reply if you are able to help with ham communications. We have openings for bike mobiles, 5 water stops, 2 course monitor positions as well as several spots at the high school. A cross-band repeater setup at a few of the locations along the course would be an advantage, so let me know if you have that capability too.

For the volunteers of previous years or others with requests for favorite assignments, let me know and I will try to accommodate.

73, Ron Boller / N3WOF, Ham Coordinator

CONGRATULATIONS

Be sure and welcome this new HAMS as you hear them on the airways.

| Date/Name. | Call Sign | License |
|-----------------|-----------|---------|
| 8-Jul-17 | | |
| Francis Cunniff | KC1HVO | Tech |
| Jamison Phipps | KC3JMD | Tech |
| James Hogevoll | KB3PGY | Renew |

12-Aug-17

| | | |
|------------------|--------|-----------------|
| Charles Gross | KC3JQW | Tech |
| Charles Quintero | KC3JPN | General & Extra |
| Carl Drew | KC3JQX | Tech |
| John Meyer | KC3JQY | Tech |
| Kip Einbrod | KC3JQZ | Tech |
| Jamison Phipps | W3KNH | General |

9-Sep-17

| | | |
|------------------|--------|---------|
| Patrick Barry | KC3HTW | General |
| David Rawley | KB3ZYY | General |
| Jonathon Wingert | N0JAW | Extra |
| Joseph Roehm | KC3EWR | General |
| Land Fisher | KC3JTG | Tech |
| James Kirby | KN4FTD | Tech |
| Matthew Friedel | KC3JTH | Tech |

73,

Rick – AB3XJ

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JOTA 2017 Organizers Urge Scout Stations to Register Now

Scouting's Jamboree on the Air/Jamboree on the Internet (JOTA/JOTI) event takes place over the October 20-22 weekend, and organizers are urging Scout stations planning to participate to [register](#) now. The world JOTA-JOTI team has activated its online sign-up system.

"Our number one message at this time is to register their station and get ready for [JOTA](#)," JOTA Coordinator Jim Wilson, K5ND, told ARRL. "It's time for Scout groups to bring together their open action items -- ordering patches, printing handouts, gathering equipment, reminding staff members, verifying



location, and getting the word out to the Scouts to be prepared for a fabulous experience talking with other Scouts across the country and hopefully around the world."

JOTA is the world's largest Scouting event, held annually over the third full weekend in October, and Scouts of any age can participate -- from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts and Venturers, male and female. During JOTA, Amateur Radio links Scouts with other Scouts and hams,

locally and worldwide. Since the first JOTA in 1958, millions of Scouts have met each other through this event to exchange ideas and share experiences via ham radio. Many contacts made during JOTA have resulted in enduring friendships and connections.

According to the World Scout Bureau, the 2016 JOTA had nearly 1.3 million Scout participants from more than 30,000 locations, and reached 156 countries.

The World JOTA-JOTI team has published a [Participant's Guide](#) to help Scouts to get on the air and the internet for the largest Scouting event in the world. They've also published a brief history of the [60 years of Jamboree on the Air](#) as well as the [Top 10 Challenges and Activities in 2016](#) that might provide ideas for your event this year. An [online scheduling tool](#) is available too.

For participating via *EchoLink*, two conference nodes now have been designated for Scout contacts -- *JOTA-365* (node 480809) and *JAMBO* (node 832996). Visit the K2BSA Radio Scouting page for [more information](#) on frequencies, including D-STAR, DMR, and IRLP.

Used with permission The ARRL Letter for Sept. 21, 2017

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MDC SECTION HF HOSPITAL NET TIME CHANGE

ARES® has decided to move the time for the HF Hospital net. As of August 23rd, the new start time will be 7:00 PM EDT on 3820 kHz.

This change is due to the interference from a Spanish net that runs at 7:30 PM EDT on the same frequency.

The MDC Section HF Hospital net is held on Wednesday after the third Monday of every month.

Upcoming MDC Section HF Hospital Nets will be held: Wednesday, August 23rd Wednesday, September 20th and Wednesday, October 18th

Please check in if only to give us a holler.

Thank you and 73,

Wanda Montgomery KA3AH Used with permission MONTHLY MDC SECTION-WIDE NEWS, 8/18/17`

HAMS Are also on Social Media

Facebook Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/930626067021873/>

Facebook PAGE:

<https://www.facebook.com/AnneArundelRadioClub/>

Twitter:

<https://twitter.com/W3VPR>

W1AW 2017 Spring/Summer Operating Schedule

ARRL Bulletin 11 ARLB011
>From ARRL Headquarters Newington CT March 13, 2017
To all radio amateurs

Morning Schedule:

| Time | Mode | Days |
|--------------------|------|----------|
| 1300 UTC (9 AM ET) | CWs | Wed, Fri |
| 1300 UTC (9 AM ET) | CWf | Tue, Thu |

Daily Visitor Operating Hours:

1400 UTC to 1600 UTC - (10 AM to 12 PM ET)
1700 UTC to 1945 UTC - (1 PM to 3:45 PM ET)

(Station closed 1600 to 1700 UTC (12 PM to 1 PM ET))

Afternoon/Evening Schedule:

| | | |
|---------------------|---------|---------------|
| 2000 UTC (4 PM ET) | CWf | Mon, Wed, Fri |
| 2000 " | CWs | Tue, Thu |
| 2100 " (5 PM ET) | CWb | Daily |
| 2200 " (6 PM ET) | DIGITAL | Daily |
| 2300 " (7 PM ET) | CWs | Mon, Wed, Fri |
| 2300 " | CWf | Tue, Thu |
| 0000 " (8 PM ET) | CWb | Daily |
| 0100 " (9 PM ET) | DIGITAL | Daily |
| 0145 " (9:45 PM ET) | VOICE | Daily |
| 0200 " (10 PM ET) | CWf | Mon, Wed, Fri |
| 0200 " | CWs | Tue, Thu |
| 0300 " (11 PM ET) | CWb | Daily |

Frequencies (MHz)

CW: 1.8025 3.5815 7.0475 14.0475 18.0975 21.0675
28.0675 147.555

DIGITAL: - 3.5975 7.095 14.095 18.1025 21.095
28.095 147.555

VOICE: 1.855 3.990 7.290 14.290 18.160 21.390
28.590 147.555

Notes:

CWs = Morse Code practice (slow) = 5, 7.5, 10, 13 and 15 WPM

CWf = Morse Code practice (fast) = 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 WPM

CWb = Morse Code Bulletins = 18 WPM

CW frequencies include code practices, Qualifying Runs and CW bulletins.

DIGITAL = BAUDOT (45.45 baud), BPSK31 and MFSK16 in a revolving schedule.

Code practice texts are from QST, and the source of each practice is given at the beginning of each practice and at the beginning of alternate speeds.

On Tuesdays and Fridays at 2230 UTC (6:30 PM ET), Keplerian Elements for active amateur satellites are sent on the regular digital frequencies.

A DX bulletin replaces or is added to the regular bulletins between 0000 UTC (8 PM ET) Thursdays and 0000 UTC (8 PM ET) Fridays.

Audio from W1AW's CW code practices, and CW/digital/phone bulletins is available using EchoLink via the W1AW Conference Server named "W1AWBDCT." The monthly W1AW Qualifying Runs are presented here as well. The CW/digital/phone audio is sent in real-time and runs concurrently with W1AW's regular transmission schedule.

All users who connect to the conference server are muted. Please note that any questions or comments about this server should not be sent via the "Text" window in EchoLink. Please direct any questions or comments to w1aw@arrl.org.

In a communications emergency, monitor W1AW for special bulletins as follows: Voice on the hour, Digital at 15 minutes past the hour, and CW on the half hour.

FCC licensed amateurs may operate the station from 1400 UTC to 1600 UTC (10 AM to 12 PM ET), and then from 1700 UTC to 1945 UTC (1 PM to 3:45 PM ET) Monday through Friday. Be sure to bring your current FCC amateur license or a photocopy.

The complete W1AW Operating Schedule may be found on page 105 in the April 2017 issue of QST or on the web at <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-operating-schedule>.

Used with permission ARLB011 W1AW 2017 Spring/Summer Operating Schedule

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
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

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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 Rick Steer AB3XJ,ab3xj@yahoo.com.

**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, October 1, 7:00am  
AARC (support) Metric Marathon
- Thursday, October 5, 7:30pm  
AARC Club meeting, newcomers always welcome.
- Saturday, October 7, 8:30am  
Technician Class
- Sunday, October 8, 7:00am  
AARC (support) CFC Bike Ride 20, 40, 60 Miles  
7:00am
- AARC (support) Patuxent River Appreciation Day Parade  
1:00pm
- AARC Mesh Networking group, at 1 to 4 PM at the clubhouse
- Thursday, October 12, 7:30pm  
AARC board meeting
- Saturday, October 14, 8:30am  
Technician Class
- Thursday, October 19, 7:30pm  
AARC Club meeting, newcomers always welcome.
- Saturday, October 21, 8:30am  
Technician Class
- Sunday, October 22 1:00pm  
AARC Kit-building, troubleshooting and repair, at 1 to 4 PM at the clubhouse
- Saturday, October 28, 8:30am  
Technician Class

## MDC Section S E T (Simulated Emergency Test)

The 2017 MDC Section Simulated Emergency Test will be Thursday October 5 and Saturday October 7. What, you might ask!! This section applies to all radio operators in the MDC Section.

The Maryland Department of Health has ordered all health facilities in the State having Amateur radio back up emergency radio systems to exercise those systems Thursday Night October 5 prior to the arrival of Hurricane Elmer. (This is actually the Quarterly MDC Section Hospital Drill).

Those supporting the health care facilities having these radios are asked to contact Wanda Montgomery, MDC ASM for the Section EmComm Health Care Program. Her email address is [KA3AHL@aol.com](mailto:KA3AHL@aol.com).

Give her your intentions whether playing in the drill or not. Plan with injects is forthcoming once she knows who has signed up. If not in a health care facility yet, your operations may be from the parking lot.

This section of the Notice is targeted to the Eastern Shore Amateur Radio hams. I have no other option but to use this media to reach out to you.

For Oct 7, the scenario will be a direct hurricane hit at or near Ocean City. As the Section Emergency Coordinator, I am having much difficulty finding a conduit to the Eastern Shore hams, NOT HAVING AN EC THOSE COUNTIES, to invite and encourage participation in the SET.

The SET is a month away, but Irma is right around the corner and possibly right down the hall for some of us.

The SET will be an APRS contingent of a fox hunt for a missing child, MEMA traffic for status awareness, and hospital emails over Winlink to health departments.

We need radio operators with their equipment and RVs and trailers for three command posts in the affected area. There is a lot more to the SET than meets the eye and too long to type. If you want to know more, contact me, Jim Montgomery, the MDC EC at [wb3kas@arrl.net](mailto:wb3kas@arrl.net).

There is a SET Planning meeting on Sept 9 from 1000 to 1400 hours at the Anne Arundel County EOC. The location is 7480 Baltimore Annapolis Blvd, Glen Burnie, Md 21061, located West of Route 2. Free parking is available in the parking garage above the EOC.

There will be an SET presentation followed by a discussion. I urge you to join us and help with support to the Eastern Shore.

Contact me with your intentions, please, at [wb3kas@arrl.net](mailto:wb3kas@arrl.net).

I hope to see many of you there to support this year's SET.

73,  
Jim Montgomery WB3KAS  
MDC Section Emergency Coordinator

Used with permission The 2017 Maryland-DC Section Simulated Emergency Test (SET)

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## SECTION TRAFFIC MANAGER'S REPORT

For August, 2017

### MDC NTS NETS:

MEPN 1708 W3YVQ QND/31 QNI/444 QTC/60 MINS/758  
BTN 1708 AB3WG QND/31 QNI/490 QTC/49 MINS/669  
MDD 1708 AA3SB QND/61 QNI/332 QTC/116 MINS/629  
MSN 1708 W8CPG QND/30 QNI/132 QTC/32 MINS/547

PSHR: KK3F 150, W3YVQ 135, K3IN 110, AA3SB 100,  
WB3FTQ 95, N3ZOC 90, AB3WG 87, W3CB 82, NI2W 76;

TFC: KK3F 1880, K3IN 163, WB3FTQ 113, AA3SB 103,  
N3ZOC 79, W3YVQ 72, AB3WG 37, NI2W 16, W3CB 2

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### HF PROPAGATION

HF NVIS propagation on MEPN (3820 KHz) was totally functional throughout August, 2017; weak signals at 1730L but improving at 1800L due to the lowering sun angle. The summer influence of longer days has compensated to some degree for the periods of lower solar activity. 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 EDT.

MDC RADIOGRAMS AND OTHER MESSAGING Outlets in each ARES® 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) 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. Thanks to all the BTN stations checking into the MEPN via Echolink.

### MEPN ECHOLINK

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). A number of BTN and MEPN members, as well as stations outside the area, have used Echolink to check in when HF is not available to them. Thanks to all.

### MSN CW TRAINING

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. Each trainee works with an assigned instructor off the net frequency to receive radiograms containing training information. Instructors work with each student at their own desired speed and check-in schedule. All are encouraged to master the art of CW via this net or personal training in order to support and join the ranks of our MDD Section CW net. Robin, AA3SB, MDD NM, and the veteran staff, will be glad to help you advance to the evening CW full Cycle 4 of the NTS.





# REPORT A HOAX!

## When someone makes a hoax call:

- Coast Guard units are pulled away from possible cases where actual lives are in danger!
- A Coast Guard HC-130 plane costs approximately \$15,000 an hour to fly, an MH-60 helicopter costs approximately \$10,000 per hour to fly and a 45ft Response Boat-Medium costs approximately \$5,000 an hour! That's taxpayer money wasted!
- It's illegal! A federal felony conviction for communicating a false distress signal could result in up to 10 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

IF YOU **HEAR OR KNOW OF**  
**HOAX CALL ACTIVITY,**  
CALL YOUR COAST GUARD COMMAND  
CENTER:  
**(757)-398-6390**



The Fifth Coast Guard District recently distributed the attached flyer as an e-mail attachment, requesting members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary to pass them out wherever possible. Unfortunately, they only provided the flyer in the form of a .jpg file. However, it occurs to me that this could be included in the Ham Arundel News.

**William M. Riley N3SNU**





## T-MARC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

T-MARC is The Mid-Atlantic Repeater Council.

T-MARC coordinates Amateur repeater operations to help keep VHF and UHF interference problems to a minimum.

T-MARC's areas of responsibility include the District of Columbia, Delaware, Maryland, Northern Virginia and the eastern panhandle of West Virginia.

The next T-MARC General Membership meeting will be held at the Columbia Amateur Radio Association's CARAFest on Sunday, October 1, 2017 at the Howard County Fairgrounds in West Friendship, Md. The meeting will start at 10:30 am in the Dining Hall. More information on the hamfest may be found at:

[www.carafest.org](http://www.carafest.org)

### Meeting Agenda:

Welcome  
 Treasurers Report  
 Coordination Report  
 Proposal to utilize 441/446 segments for repeater inputs/outputs  
 RFinder discussion  
 TMARC Board Elections  
 Q&A

Details on the proposed use of 441/446 segments can be found at:

[http://www.tmarc.org/index\\_files/TmarcNews.htm](http://www.tmarc.org/index_files/TmarcNews.htm)

As many of you may know, last year the ARRL decided to no longer accept coordinated repeater data from the frequency coordinators. The ARRL decided to use the "crowd-sourced" data provided by RFinder (<http://www.rfinder.net>) and encouraged coordinators to submit their information to RFinder for inclusion in the ARRL Repeater Directory.

The TMARC Board of Directors has been working on drafting an agreement to present to RFinder. Terms in that agreement would include TMARC to be the sole provider of repeater data and payment terms for that data. The discussion at the meeting will be to get an idea from the membership if we should participate in supplying data to RFinder and if we should pursue securing an agreement.

Earlier this year, we had one board member resign. Per the TMARC Bylaws, the remaining board members elected Mike Kiron W3DCA to serve on the board until the next membership meeting.

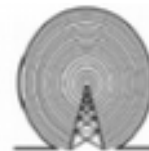
As such, we are seeking nominations for the TMARC Board. If you or someone you know would like to serve on the board, please let us know. Election of the TMARC Board will be held at the October 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

You may view the T-MARC home page at:

<http://tmarc.org/>.

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## AARC Two-Meter Net Controller Schedule 2017

(Year/Month/Day)

|          |        |       |
|----------|--------|-------|
| 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  |
| 7/11/22  | 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    |

# 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.

*- adapted from the original Amateur's Code, written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA, in 1928The Radio Amateur's Code*

## 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>  |



### 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        | 145.330 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 MI lz           | Daily      | 1930          |
| REACT Net                    | 442.300+Mhz PL107.2   | 1st Sunday | 1930          |

#### 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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#### 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,