The Ham Arundel News

Providing Fellowship and Community Service through Amateur Radio Since 1951

March 2018 ***39th Year of Publication***

Assessment Cites Amateur Radio's Role after Maria

A post-hurricane disaster needs assessment published this past fall by the Government of Dominica points up the significance of Amateur Radio's role in the relief and recovery effort on the tiny Caribbean island nation in the wake of Hurricane Maria last September. It also calls for expanding the pool of radio amateurs on the island who could help in future disasters.

The report, *Commonwealth of Dominica Post-Disaster Needs Assessment -- Hurricane Maria, September 18, 2017*, noted that all telecommunication services on Dominica except for Amateur Radio were disabled from September 19 to 21. Some 30 cellular sites were destroyed or severely damaged, and the fiber-optic backbone was severed in several locations, leading to a nationwide loss of connectivity, the report said. In addition to the private telecommunications networks, "an emergency communications network consisting of Amateur Radio operators is supposed to exist within the purview of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC)," the report pointed out.

The *Post-Disaster Needs Assessment* concluded that Hurricane Maria caused nearly $931 million in damage, plus losses of more than $380 million -- which, according to the report, amounts to 226% of Dominica's 2016 gross domestic product (GDP).

"The interruption of telecommunication services had a significant negative human impact as Dominica was almost cut off from the outside world for 3 days. Communities within Dominica were isolated from one another," said the report, which was published last November 15.

The needs assessment said that "a sparse Amateur Radio network" suffering from a lack of trained operators and back-up power, plus "a few satellite phones" delivered information "required for critical relief and rescue activities."

"The Government should rehabilitate the ECN (Emergency Communications Network) by offering training to persons interested in becoming Amateur Radio operators nationwide, with the goal of having a licensed Amateur Radio operator in every community with an emergency shelter," the report recommended.

Dominica is still in the recovery phase in the wake of Hurricane Maria.

The report also proposed that emergency shelters and the EOC be equipped with Amateur Radio and/or a satellite phone, "so that contact may be quickly established during or after a storm." The report also recommended that the government of Dominica "develop a plan for the operation and maintenance of the network long term, including replacement of equipment, training of operators and activation procedures for the network in case of an emergency."

In the short term, the *Post-Disaster Needs Assessment* advised, rehabilitation of the existing National Emergency Communications Network should include the purchase of Amateur Radio equipment, including repeaters, as well as satellite phones and "other technology required for the network."

The Yasme Foundation, Yaesu USA, the Foundation for Amateur International Radio Service (FAIRS), and individual GoFundMe donors joined forces last fall to restore country-wide Amateur Radio communication on Dominica in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria. Private pilots Brian Machesney, K1LI, and Dave Bridgham, N1AHF, transported a planeload of Amateur Radio gear, relief equipment, and supplies as part of an effort to better prepare the small Caribbean island nation for future disasters. -- *Thanks to Brian Machesney, K1LI*

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Set clocks forward 1 hour on March 11, 2017

From the Desk of the Secretary

Keith Miller, AE3D, Club Secretary
ARRL / AARC, ae3d@w3vpr.org

On Membership Renewal

Quite a few AARC members still think they have to re-Apply For Membership just because their dues are past due. Not so!

On the website there is a much more simplistic form for those who have ever been AARC active members to renew with. It says "Membership Renewal" .

Now if you don't have website access and are just stopping by as a guest, I'm not sure this form is available to you. So I'm going to fix that today. Look for it under the Members menu.

Sorry about the inconvenience.

--

Keith

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Upgrading W3VPR Web Users Accounts

As most of you know, /***w3vpr.org***/, the AARC official website registers it's user. We have something in the neighborhood of 1200 of those user accounts. Some are current AARC members, some are inactive (past) members, some are non-members, and some are administrators and site support personnel. Those who don't sign in are categorized as anonymous users.

At present we are using the membership roster to update the web users accounts following the end of dues paying season. So I have to figure out who is an active member and who is inactive, and add that information to the website. This is a mammoth job, but not because there are 1200 accounts.

The problem is some people use their call sign as their login name (which is super! by the way) while others use their email address, or their first name, or their last name, or their first initial and last name or their nickname or whatever they want. Then, I have to look up each of these people in our database, which by the way sorts on all database fields at once, so its pretty quick. I found one members login name as a portion of his email address, no call sign listed on the account, and of course the login accounts don't have name information.

In another case someone applied for an account who apparently already had one. Now this is no big deal, it should be easy to fix, except in this case the only way the computer knew he had an account before, was that his email address had been used previously. But by who? I tried looking under his current call sign, email address, first name, last name, first initial and last name to no avail. So to find him, would have to look at every single member's account to see who used that address. That could be 4 hours work all by itself. I emailed him, and am praying he knows what name he might have used.

So my point is this. We need to redo this system. We need to use call sign as login name for every person who has a call sign. We then need to use email address for everyone without a call sign. I realize this will not be popular with everyone. I realize this will take me hours and hours to do. I also know that it will mean changing account login names when people change call signs. (But I need to change the official club roster anyway.)

I won't be starting this right way, because I still have to finish updating active and inactive members first, and I am only 20% done. So I thought I'd best I'd notify folks of my intent now, so everyone can have their chance to talk me out of this.

Keith

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Hams "Could Save Our Lives" In A Disaster.

A recent NBC News Left Field report asserted that hams "could save our lives" in a disaster. A team from NBC News' nascent digital news unit Left Field was in Hawaii to visit with some radio amateurs to produce a report when the false nuclear missile alert happened on January 13. Left Field's report points out how much we rely on cell phones and 21st century technology...and what we would do if these suddenly were no longer available. Amateur Radio operators "are standing at the ready and may save us all," NBC Left Field said in the tease to its YouTube version of its report. Accessible directly from NBC News, the report, with Left Field's Jacob Soboroff, runs 7:22. "Ham radio is one of the ways you'd be able to hear what's happening," when conventional telecommunications systems fail, Soboroff told his viewers. Among those interviewed in the piece are ARRL Section Manager Joe Speroni, AH0A, and Assistant Section Manager Kevin Bogan, AH6QO. NBC News says its Left Field unit "is a new internationally minded video troupe that makes short, creative documentaries and features specially designed for social media and set-top boxes."

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NCVEC Question Pool Committee

The NCVEC Question Pool Committee has released the latest errata for the 2018 - 2022 Technician, Element 2, question pool. This question pool goes into effect on July 1, 2018. Changes are reflected in new download files dated February 12, 2018.

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MDC QSO Party
_______________________ __________
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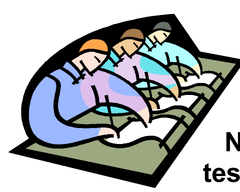

VE Testing Schedule

Second Saturday of each month – Noon – AARC – Rick Steer / AB3XJ
testing@w3vpr.org

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)

W1AW 2018
Winter Operating Schedule

ARLB001 W1AW 2018 Winter Operating Schedule

Morning Schedule:

Time	Mode	Days
1400 UTC (9 AM EST)	CWs	Wed, Fri
1400 UTC (9 AM EST)	CWf	Tue, Thu

Daily Visitor Operating Hours:

1500 UTC to 1700 UTC - (10 AM to 12 PM EST)
1800 UTC to 2045 UTC - (1 PM to 3:45 PM EST)

(Station closed 1700 to 1800 UTC (12 PM to 1 PM EST))

Afternoon/Evening Schedule:

2100 UTC	(4 PM EST)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
2100 "	"	CWs	Tue, Thu
2200 "	(5 PM EST)	CWb	Daily
2300 "	(6 PM EST)	DIGITAL	Daily
0000 "	(7 PM EST)	CWs	Mon, Wed, Fri
0000 "	"	CWf	Tue, Thu
0100 "	(8 PM EST)	CWb	Daily
0200 "	(9 PM EST)	DIGITAL	Daily
0245 "	(9:45 PM EST)	VOICE	Daily
0300 "	(10 PM EST)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
0300 "	"	CWs	Tue, Thu
0400 "	(11 PM EST)	CWb	Daily

Frequencies (MHz)

CW: 1.8025 3.5815 7.0475 14.0475 18.0975 21.0675 28.0675 50.350 147.555
DIGITAL: - 3.5975 7.095 14.095 18.1025 21.095 28.095 50.350 147.555
VOICE: 1.855 3.990 7.290 14.290 18.160 21.390 28.590 50.350 147.555

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 2330 UTC (6:30 PM EST), 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 0100 UTC (8 PM EST) Thursdays and 0100 UTC (8 PM EST) Fridays.

Audio from W1AW's CW code practices, CW/digital bulletins and phone bulletin is available using EchoLink via the W1AW Conference Server named "W1AWBDCT." The monthly W1AW Qualifying Runs are presented
here as well. The 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.

All licensed amateurs may operate the station from 1500 UTC to 1700 UTC (10 AM to 12 PM EST), and then from 1800 UTC to 2045 UTC (1 PM to 3:45 PM EST) Monday through Friday. Be sure to bring your current FCC amateur radio license or a photocopy.

The W1AW Operating Schedule may also be found on page 90 in the January 2018 issue of QST or on the web at,http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-operating-schedule .

Please note W1AW is now active on 50.350 MHz for all its CW practice, and CW, digital, and phone bulletins.

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Licensing Classes at AARC

Technician License Class.
[https://www.w3vpr.org/node/334]
Our next AARC 6 week training class begins March 3. Please check the Training page for details.

General License Class.
[https://www.w3vpr.org/node/335]
Our next General License Class will begin April 21st. It is not to early to preregister. Details are on the Training page.

Contact: Keith Miller, AE3D, Training

Nominations Now Open for CQ Amateur Radio, Contest, and DX Halls of Fame

Nominations will be accepted until March 1 for membership in the CQ Amateur Radio, DX, and CQ Contest halls of fame. The DX and Contest halls of fame recognize radio amateurs who have made major contributions to DXing and contesting, respectively. The CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame recognizes those who have made major contributions to Amateur Radio generally, and radio amateurs who have made major contributions to society at large.

"The activities and accomplishments that qualify one for membership in these elite groups involve considerable personal sacrifice and can usually be described by the phrase 'above and beyond the call of duty,'" the nomination announcement said.

Nominations may be made by individuals, clubs, or national organizations. Up to two people may be inducted into the Contest and DX halls of fame each year. There is no set maximum for inductees into the Amateur Radio Hall of Fame.

E-mail nominations (preferred) or mail (postmarked by March 1) to Amateur Radio, DX, or Contest Hall of Fame, c/o CQ magazine, 17 West John St., Hicksville, NY 11801 USA. Be sure to specify which hall of fame the nomination is for.

Inductees typically are announced immediately prior to Hamvention® in May.

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The First D-Star Communication Spacecraft

A *Soyuz* rocket launched D-STAR ONE Phoenix – the first D-STAR Communication Spacecraft -- and 10 other satellites on February 1 from Russia's Vostochny Cosmodrome. Developed by German Orbital Systems in Berlin in cooperation with the Czech company I-Sky Technologies, D-STAR ONE Phoenix carries an Amateur Radio relay payload (call sign DP1GOS). It replaces the D-STAR ONE nanosatellite that failed to attain orbit following a November *Soyuz* launch from Vostochny. Downlink frequencies are 435.700 MHz for telemetry and 435.525 MHz for D-STAR. The uplink is 437.325 MHz. D-STAR ONE Phoenix is a 3U CubeSat equipped with four identical radio modules with D-STAR capability, operating in half-duplex mode with a power output of 800 mW. The two telemetry and telecommand modules both receive, and both in sequence, so each telemetry frame is repeated. The other two modules are dedicated to Amateur Radio, although only one will operate at a time. The modules are configured to work as D-STAR repeaters, so they retransmit received D-STAR frames on the downlink frequency. They also have a D-STAR voice beacon. -- *Thanks to AMSAT News Service, D-Star ONE*

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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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Proposed Change With "NIST Marine Warning"

NOAA is once again considering ending North Atlantic and North Pacific Marine storm warning announcements on WWV and WWVH. These occur at minutes 8, 9, and 10 of each hour on WWV, and minutes 48, 49, 50, and 51 of WWVH. Submit questions, comments, or concerns about this proposed change with "NIST MARINE WARNING" in the subject line no later than February 23, 2018. NOAA had announced in April 2017 that it was considering this change but held off in the wake of supporting comments. WWV and WWVH are services of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). -- *Thanks to Matt Deutch, N0RGT*

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Repeaters and Nets

2 Meter Repeaters

Location	Frequency	Tone	Notes
Davidsonville	147.105+	107.2	AARC Repeater with morning traffic net.
Glen Burnie	147.075+	107.2	AARC repeater Located in Northern AA County.
BrandyWine	147.150+	114.8	SMARC Repeater.
Prince Frederick	145.350-	156.7	SPARC/CARC Repeater.
Laurel	147.225+	156.7	Laurel ARC Repeater.
Millersville	146.805-	107.2	Repeater.

1.25 Meter Repeaters

Location	Frequency	Tone	Notes
Davidsonville	223.880-	107.2	AARC 1.25M repeater *check to see if tied into 7.105...
Millersville	224.560-	107.2	AARC repeater Located in Northern AA County.

70cm Repeaters

Location	Frequency	Tone	Notes
Davidsonville	444.400+	107.2	AARC 70 cm Repeater.
Annapolis	442.300+	107.2	AARC 70 cm repeater
Laurel	442.500+	156.7	Laurel ARC 70 cm Repeater.
Millersville	449.125-	107.2	Maryland Mobileers Repeater.
Upper Marlboro	443.600+	103.5	SMARC 70 cm Repeater.

Packet Stations

Location	Frequency	Call	Notes
Davidsonville	145.050	W3VPR	AARC Club packet node running JNOS
Davidsonville	145.010	W3VPR-5	Digipeter Relay to EOC Winlink
Millersville	145.010	W3AAC-5	Digipeter Relay to EOC Winlink
Glen Burnie	145.010	W3AAC-10	EOC Winlink system and digipeter

Amateur Radio nets

Name	Frequency (in Mhz)	Day	Time
Morning Commuter Net	147.105+ PL 107.2	Weekdays	0600
AARC Talk Net	147.105+ PL 107.2	Wednesday	2000
AA County ARES Net	146.805- PL 107.2	Sunday	2000
Baltimore Traffic Net	146.670-	Daily	1830
Boating Net	146.805- PL 107.2	Wednesday	1930
Maryland Emergency Phone Net	3.920	Daily	1800
Maryland-DC-Delaware Traffic Net	3.643	Daily	1900 and 2200
Maryland Slow Net	3.563	Daily	1930
React Net	442.300+ PL 107.2	1st Sunday	1930

We use **simplex 146.430 Mhz** frequently enough that you should probably program that into your HT or mobile. This is the go-to frequency for many 5K race/walk volunteering efforts, local communication, Field Day setup, and the like when we're not using a repeater.

ARRL Suggests FCC May Need to Intervene to Ensure Effective Antenna Rights

02/01/2018

Commenting in response to an FCC *Public Notice* (DA 17-1180) released last month, ARRL addressed the extent of Amateur Radio's response to recent hurricane disasters and efforts needed to expand the use of Amateur Radio services when it comes to planning, testing, and providing emergency communication. The comments point out that Amateur Radio not only has been "far more than a hobby;" it is a ubiquitous, infrastructure-independent communication resource that's always ready to deploy effectively whenever and wherever needed. The League cited the remarks of former FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate, KK4INZ, that Amateur Radio "oftentimes is our last line of defense." ARRL raised three areas where action by the FCC could ensure and enhance the ability of radio amateurs to provide emergency communication, including the current Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2017 (S. 1534), now in the US Senate.

"HOAs can preclude amateur antennas in common areas. HOAs can enact reasonable written rules governing height, location, size and aesthetic impact of, and installation requirements for, outdoor antennas and support structures for amateur communications, but the effective outdoor antenna requirement is paramount," ARRL noted in its comments. "The bill is currently before the Senate Commerce Committee. If, however, Congress is unable, as has been rumored, to pass *any* telecommunications legislation this term, it will be incumbent on the Commission to take the action on its own initiative that would be called for by this legislation. The future of Amateur Radio emergency communications is dependent on it."

ARRL asserted that it "is critical to have stations located at one's residence in order to regularly participate in disaster preparedness training exercises and drills."

Another "noteworthy and urgent need" that might call for some regulatory involvement by the FCC, ARRL said, "relates to an outdated regulation that limits data rates in HF Amateur communications, precluding certain digital emissions that have recently proven extremely important in Amateur Radio hurricane relief efforts." ARRL noted that the FCC has yet to act on the League's *Petition for Rule Making* (RM-11708), filed in November of 2013, proposing to amend the Amateur Service rules to eliminate the symbol rate limit relative to data emissions in allocations below 29.7 MHz.

That *Petition* also called for establishing a 2.8-kHz maximum occupied bandwidth for data emissions in those bands. ARRL has argued that this deregulatory action is necessary to allow the use of PACTOR 4, an effective and efficient digital communication mode that has proven valuable in disaster-relief efforts. In July of 2016, the Commission released a *Notice of Proposed Rule Making* in WT Docket 16-239, proposing only to remove limitations on the symbol rate applicable to data emissions.

"Equipment dispatched with the 'Force of 50' [volunteers] to Puerto Rico included data transmission equipment capable of PACTOR 4 operation, but it could not be legally used in the Hurricane Maria disaster relief effort," ARRL noted. The League prevailed upon the FCC to grant a temporary waiver to permit use of PACTOR 4 by radio amateurs involved in the emergency response. "However, it should not have been necessary to wait more than 4 years for the underlying rulemaking proceeding to have been resolved, and it should not have been necessary to ask for a temporary waiver of a hopelessly outdated rule that limits data speeds for no useful reason," ARRL added in its comments.

The League also called on the FCC to "take the action requested in ARRL's January 2017 *Petition for Rule Making* (RM-11785), proposing to allocate the band 5351.5 to 5366.5 kHz to the Amateur Radio Service on a secondary basis, in accordance with the Final Acts of World Radiocommunication Conference 2015.

"A contiguous band in the vicinity of 5 MHz will assist in conducting emergency and disaster relief communications in the United States; with the Caribbean basin; with Alaska and with other parts of North, Central and South America," ARRL told the FCC. ARRL has asked the FCC to permit 100 W, as it does on the five existing 60-meter channels, and to retain the four channels that are not part of the requested contiguous frequency band.

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Centenary Of The SS *Florizel* Tragedy

The Society of Newfoundland Radio Amateurs (SONRA) will mark the centenary of the SS *Florizel* tragedy with a special event. "Faces of the *Florizel*" is set for February 23-24. On February 23, 1918, the *Florizel* left St. John's, Newfoundland on what was supposed to be a routine trip to Halifax, Nova Scotia, and then to New York City. Blizzard conditions and miscommunication between the bridge and the engine room caused the vessel to go aground on the rocks near Cappahayden, Newfoundland. Of the 137 on board, only 44 survived. In the early hours of February 24, the *Florizel*'s SOS was received at the HM Wireless Station, the current site of the Admiralty House Communications Museum. Admiralty House is partnering with SONRA for the special event, which will use VO1MZL, to commemorate the vessel's call sign. Admiralty House Museum's "Faces of the *Florizel*" exhibit will feature memories of family members, oral histories, archival records, and artifacts associated with the marine tragedy. Operation will be on all HF bands. QSL to Admiralty House Communications Museum, 365 Old Placentia Rd., Mount Pearl, NL A1N0G7, CANADA.

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Fond Memories Of Silent Keys

SHARON DOBSON K3DUH SK

It is with great sadness the passing of Sharon Dobson on Sunday, January 14 in her home. An active member in the Amateur Radio community and President of the Baltimore Amateur Radio club.

JIM FISHER KD3O SK

He will be missed; former VP of the Cheese Hollow ARS. Jim was also a Charter Signer of the 395 CCN series of nets www.3905ccn.com .

TONY YOUNG WA3YLO SK

With sadness we report the passing of Tony on Sunday, January 21. Please continue to keep Tony and his family in your prayers and pass this on to anyone I may have missed.

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Seeking Candidates For ARRL MDC Staff Positions

The ARRL MDC Section is seeking staff-level positions to be filled:

PIO - Public Information Officer
: http://www.arrl.org/public-information-officer
PIC - Public Information Coordinator
: http://www.arrl.org/public-information-coordinator
ACC - Affiliated Club Coordinator
: http://www.arrl.org/affiliated-club-coordinator
ASM - Assistant Section Manager(s
: http://www.arrl.org/assistant-section-manager

Additional MDC Section positions will become available in 2018:

State Government Liaison (SGL)
: http://www.arrl.org/state-government-liaison
Local Government Liaison (LGL)
: http://www.arrl.org/local-government-liaison
Technical Coordinator (TC)
: http://www.arrl.org/technical-coordinator
Technical Specialist (TS):
http://www.arrl.org/technical-specialist

Please forward your candidates for consideration and your responsibilities.
Thanks es 73,
Marty KB3MXM
MDC SM
KB3MXM@ARRL.org
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New Appointment: MDC Asst. Section Manager External Affairs, Public Information Coordinator

Greetings,

I'm excited to take on the new position of ARRL Maryland/DC Assistant Section Manager, External Affairs, Public Information Coordinator (PIC). I will also continue to serve in my current role as ARES Assistant Emergency Coordinator for Anne Arundel County, MD.

In this new role, I'll be supporting the ARRL Section by strengthening relationships with state and local agencies, and promoting the value of amateur radio to help them with radio communications in response to emergencies and disasters. I'll also be handling outreach to our MDC Affiliated Club Coordinator, educational institutions and volunteer organizations, and internally to our MDC Staff to improve internal communications. I will be working to improve our website, on public relations, and setting up a section-wide Speakers Bureau. I will also have monthly News, Social Media and PIC responsibilities. It is my intent to enlist many more new amateur radio operators into our ranks.

A little about me: I was first licensed in Florida in 2002. I was a member of Coral Gables ARES and a National Hurricane Center volunteer radio operator. I moved to Atlanta in 2007, where I served as the Atlanta ARES Emergency Coordinator, Georgia Hospital Net Manager, and a term as Atlanta Radio Club President. I moved up to Annapolis in 2016 and have served as Assistant Emergency Coordinator for Anne Arundel County ARES/RACES. I'm also an active contester and DXer.

I am honored and excited to serve in this new position to support the critical work of the amateur radio community.

73
Ken Reid
KG4USN
kg4usn@arrl.net<mailto:kg4usn@arrl.net>

Used with permission XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
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UPCOMING HAMFESTS

This is a list of Hamfests in the Maryland-DC Section area.

I am including Hamfests in nearby Pennsylvania, northern Virginia, West Virginia and Delaware as a courtesy to our neighboring Section Managers.

I, as your MDC Section Manager, Marty Pittinger, KB3MXM, and/or a designated ARRL representative(s) plan to attend all Hamfests in the ARRL Maryland-DC Section.

We hope to see you all there.

FredFest 2018, Frederick, MD
Date: Saturday, March 24, 2018
Sponsor: Frederick Amateur Radio Club
Location: Independent Hose Company
For more info, click on: http://frederickarc.org

You may view upcoming Hamfests which are being held in the MDC Section and nearby in Pennsylvania, Delaware, West Virginia and northern Virginia area by clicking on either: http://www.arrl-mdc.net/hamfest.htm or the ARRL's Hamfest and Convention Calendar at: http://www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar.

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Smith Chart -- What is that?

For anyone else who is still hazy on these thingys. I sure learned something.

W2AEW's content has been consistently top notch without fluff, long intros or theme music. He posts primarily electronic circuit and homebrew construction videos at all levels of ability.

#274: Smith Chart Basics: Impedance and Admittance curves and conversion
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gw1TYWwfvGk
#275: Smith Chart: Z, VSWR, Reflection Coef and Transmission Line
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ImNRca5ecF0

#276: Smith Chart: Design an L-Network - Impedance Matching Circuit
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IgeRHDI-ukc
--
73 Mark W2PAW
Board Director AARC

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Get in the Chase

ARRL International 2018 Grid Chase (tm)

The objective of the ARRL International Grid Chase is simple: Work stations in as many grid squares as possible and upload your log data to ARRL's Logbook of The World (LoTW). http://www.arrl.org/logbook-of-the-world

Used with permission February 2018 MDC Section News
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MORSE CODE CLASS WED NIGHTS AT THE AARC AT 7:00 PM

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In Memory Of...

With the recent passing of Tony Young and Holly Bevan, as well as others in the last few years, there was a discussion about dedications.

I had recommended that we might start an "AARC Hall Of Fame." My idea is that we would recognize those who have passed and those in the future who have made significant contributions to the ham radio community in the Anne Arundel and surrounding area and who were members of the AARC.

I think would like to recognize those members who have contributed significantly before they become SK, too.

The board has asked me to discuss this with them on February 8, 2018 forboth discussion and implementation.

If you like the idea and would like to work with me to prepare an approach for implementation, please contact me at doug@ellmore.net.
I have my own ideas on how it might be implemented, but would enjoy getting the thoughts and ideas of our members. If you have done this before, we need to hear from you.

73
Doug Elmore
NA1DX
^^

"Improving Hurricane Preparedness" is National Hurricane Conference Theme

The theme for the annual National Hurricane Conference, set for March 26 - 29, in Orlando, Florida, will be "Improving Hurricane Preparedness." The conference will include an Amateur Radio forum. Registration is now open. Some 1,500 attendees are expected.

The Amateur Radio session will take place on Tuesday, March 27, at 1:30 PM. Presenters will address various aspects of the Amateur Radio response to hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria.

ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager Mike Corey, KI1U, will discuss ARRL's unprecedented mission to Puerto Rico to support the American Red Cross in the wake of hurricane Maria, considered to be the worst natural disaster of all time for Dominica and Puerto Rico.

A National Hurricane Center representative will discuss the importance of Amateur Radio surface reports to the hurricane forecasting process.

Other presentation topics will cover the operations of several groups during the 2017 hurricane season, including WX4NHC, the National Hurricane Center Amateur Radio station; the Hurricane Watch Net; the VoIP Hurricane Net; the Canadian Hurricane Centre; the Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN), and best practices in SKYWARN activations.

Used with permission The ARRL Letter February 22, 2018
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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

^^

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 am to 9:00 am.

EVENT SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 3
:00pm AARC - Shack work party

Thursday, March 8
:30pm AARC - board meeting

Saturday, March 10
12;00pm AARC - Free License Exams

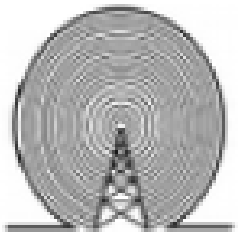
Sunday, March 11
1:00pm AARC - Mesh Networking group, at 1 to 4 PM at the clubhouse

Thursday, March 15
7:30pm AARC - Club meeting, newcomers always welcome.

Sunday, March 18
6:30am Winterfest Hamfest 2018

Sunday, March 25
1:00pm AARC Kit-building, troubleshooting and repair, at 1 to 4 PM at the clubhouse

AARC Two-Meter Net Controller Schedule — 2018



01/03/18	KB3ZYO	Rich
01/10/18	KB3MUV	Raven
01/17/18	K3ACT	Chuck
01/24/18	W3KNH	Jamison
01/31/18	KB3YQK	Tim
02/07/18	K3MAW	Mike
02/14/18	AA3EB	Ed
02/21/18	KB3ZYO	Rich
02/28/18	KB3MUV	Raven
03/07/18	K3ACT	Chuck
03/14/18	W3KNH	Jamison
03/21/18	KB3YQK	Tim
03/28/18	K3MAW	Mike
04/04/18	AA3EB	Ed
04/11/18	KB3ZYO	Rich
04/18/18	KB3MUV	Raven
04/25/18	K3ACT	Chuck
05/02/18	W3KNH	Jamison
05/09/18	KB3YQK	Tim
05/16/18	K3MAW	Mike
05/23/18	AA3EB	Ed
05/30/18	KB3ZYO	Rich
06/06/18	KB3MUV	Raven
06/13/18	K3ACT	Chuck
06/20/18	W3KNH	Jamison
06/27/18	KB3YQK	Tim

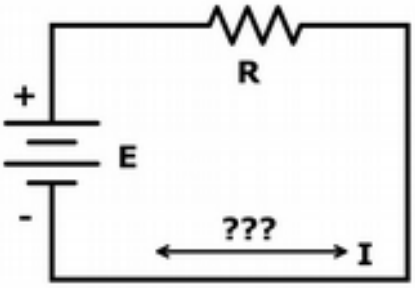
07/04/18	K3MAW	Mike
07/11/18	AA3EB	Ed
07/18/18	KB3ZYO	Rich
07/25/18	KB3MUV	Raven
08/01/18	K3ACT	Chuck
08/08/18	W3KNH	Jamison
08/15/18	KB3YQK	Tim
08/22/18	K3MAW	Mike
08/29/18	AA3EB	Ed
09/05/18	KB3ZYO	Rich
09/12/18	KB3MUV	Raven
09/19/18	K3ACT	Chuck
09/26/18	W3KNH	Jamison
10/03/18	KB3YQK	Tim
10/10/18	K3MAW	Mike
10/17/18	AA3EB	Ed
10/24/18	KB3ZYO	Rich
10/31/18	KB3MUV	Raven
11/07/18	K3ACT	Chuck
11/14/18	W3KNH	Jamison
11/21/18	KB3YQK	Tim
11/28/18	K3MAW	Mike
12/05/18	AA3EB	Ed
12/12/18	KB3ZYO	Rich
12/19/18	KB3MUV	Raven
12/26/18	K3ACT	Chuck

Which Way Does Current Really Flow?

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

I was recently taken to task by one of my blog readers regarding my description of current flow in my *No Nonsense Technician Class License Study Guide*. He wrote:

You casually say that current flows from Positive to Negative (with cool accompanying directional arrows), without any accompanying qualifying statement. Over the years I have looked at ALL the views on the subject. Positive to Negative is NOT what I was taught 48 years ago, and I have never seen a good reason to change my view.



In a subsequent email, he pointed me to a Nuts 'n Volts article, "Which Way Does Current Really Flow?" and asked my opinion. In the article, the author, who is a ham by the way, does a good job of explaining the various types of current flow.

I agree that in electronic circuits electrons flow from negative to positive, but it really doesn't matter. I agree with one the article's commenters who says,

This is a silly argument. It's like comparing apples and oranges and challenging people to take sides.

Electron flow is not current flow. Electron flow is easy to understand, an actual physical property, and a real help in understanding vacuum tube operation. But it falls apart when one needs to understand complex electronic systems.

[Conventional] current flow is a mathematical abstraction. It is defined as a net flow of positive charge, irrespective of the polarity of the physical charge carriers — whether electrons, holes, positive or negative ions, or whatever.

When looking at any circuit containing a resistance with a voltage across it, conventional current through that resistor says that the voltage drop occurs as the current through it meets resistance. On the other hand, in negative (electron) flow, a voltage INCREASE will correspond to the 'current' flow through it, clearly violating physical laws. Conventional current flow is consistent with the laws of physics and those of other engineering disciplines.

You are correct that engineers, professors and scientists use conventional current flow. That is not because they are too obtuse to understand electron flow; I assure you they fully understand it. It is because in their world they have to solve more general problems involving complex math and science, and, again, conventional current flow is consistent with physical laws.

It is unfortunate that electron flow and current flow are so often confused. They both have their place.

After reading that article, I thought I'd see what the ARRL Handbook has to say about current. In the 1963 edition, they don't mention electron flow at all. They have one diagram showing the direction of current flow in both series and parallel circuits, but the voltage source has no polarity. It's simply labelled "Source of E.M.F." Diagrams giving practical examples of series and parallel circuits do include a battery, and if the reader were to mash up the two diagrams, they would conclude that current flows from the positive terminal to the negative terminal.

The most recent edition of the Handbook that I have is the 2005 edition (it might be time to get another copy!). It says,

Electrons move from the negative to the positive side of the voltage, or EMF, source. Conventional current has the opposite direction, from positive to negative. This comes from an arbitrary decision made by Benjamin Franklin in the 18th century. The conventional current direction is important in establishing the proper polarity sign for many electronics calculations. Conventional current is used in much of the technical literature. The arrows in schematic symbols point in the direction of conventional current, for example.

Having said all that, I really don't see that there's much of a controversy here. I did learn to think of current as conventional current in college, although it was mentioned that electrons actually flow in the opposite direction. Using the concept of conventional current has never seemed to hold me back. I've been able to design circuits and repair electronic equipment thinking that current flows from positive to negative.

Although it's a departure from my "no nonsense" style, I am thinking of including a sidebar, similar to the paragraph above from the 2005 Handbook explaining the two ways of looking at current flow. What do you think?

When he's not trying to figure out which way current flows, Dan blogs about amateur radio at KB6NU.Com, teaches ham radio classes, and operates CW on the HF bands. Look for him on 30m, 40m, and 80m. You can email him at cwgeek@kb6nu.com.

Used with permission Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

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Wireless Institute of Australia

The Wireless Institute of Australia (WIA) is seeking a power increase for radio amateurs. WIA is pushing telecommunications regulator the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) to bump up maximum power levels for all three licenses classes: 50 W for Foundation licensees, 200 W for Standard licensees, and 1,500 W for Advanced licensees. Comments will be solicited from the membership before the request goes to the ACMA.

For some time, the WIA has pushed for higher power limits for Advanced licensees, who feel the current 400 W HF power limit (120 W on constant-carrier modes) puts them at a disadvantage, especially in contests, while other countries permit 1 kW or more. In 2013, ACMA ended an 18-month trial that allowed participating Advanced licensees to run up to 1 kW on HF. Currently, Foundation licensees on HF may run up to 10 W PEP on SSB (or 3 W on CW, AM, or FM), while Standard licensees have a 100 W PEP HF power limit (SSB) or 30 W for constant-carrier modes.

Used with permission The ARRL Letter for February 8, 2018

^Sisterhood of Amateur Radio Supports Girl Scouts in Obtaining Radio Wireless Patch

The Sisterhood of Amateur Radio (SOAR), in conjunction with the Girl Scout Council of Southern Nevada, hosted a Radio and Wireless Tech Field Day on February 3 in Las Vegas, Nevada, for more than 60 girls and their adult chaperones.

ARRL began offering its Radio and Wireless Technology Patch Program for Girl Scouts in 2016. The program defines the requirements for Girl Scouts to earn the patch at the Brownie, Junior, Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador levels and provides a platform for participants to learn about wireless technology, including Amateur Radio, and to inspire girls to learn the fundamentals of radio communication and wireless technology. It also prompts participants to take action in their communities to apply their newfound knowledge to connect people, provide safety, and to kindle an interest in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) subjects and careers.

In addition to hands-on activities, the Girl Scouts in Las Vegas also learned about emergency and public service communications, and explored ways wireless technology is used in everyday life and in the workplace. The SOAR participants enthusiastically shared what it means to be an Amateur Radio operator and demonstrated how they can communicate around the world via Amateur Radio.

"As a girl-led and girl-focused organization, Girl Scouts of Southern Nevada understands the importance of providing science and engineering educational programming to girls of all ages," said Linda Bridges, Chief of Communications for Girl Scouts of Southern Nevada. "By partnering with SOAR, we look forward to inspiring all Girl Scouts to pursue a lifelong love of communication and global goodwill."

Highlights of the event were spelling out their name in Morse code and hearing it via a code practice oscillator, learning about antenna directivity and participating in a foxhunt, and actually talking on the radio as well as using Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) modes.

Todd Wilson, WH6DWF, coordinated the *ISLANDS* Conference Server, IRLP 9256, the StarLink System Hub 357087, and DODROPIN 355800, and AllStar, illustrating how Amateur Radio can be used on a tablet or a smart phone, in addition to traditional radio equipment.

ARRL Nevada Section Manager John Bigley, N7UR, expressed appreciation for "the contribution of all the participants who took time out of their day to speak to the girls to demonstrate to these young girls what Amateur Radio can do to connect people around the world." -- *Thanks to John Bigley, N7UR, and Nevada Section PIO Cathy Etheredge, N7HVN*

Used with permission The ARRL Letter for February 15, 2018

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JOTA 2018 Patches to be Available this Summer

The patch design for the US Jamboree on the Air 2018 (**JOTA**) has been selected by the National Radio Scouting Committee. BSA Supply expects to have patches available this summer.

National JOTA Coordinator Jim Wilson, K5ND, said it's never too early to begin planning for JOTA, and quite a bit of information to help in planning is available, including **JOTA Countdown**, **JOTA Station Planning**, and **JOTA Event Tips**. A **podcast** on JOTA-JOTI (Jamboree on the Internet) operations from *Scouting Stuff You Should Know* may also be useful. "It provides a Canadian perspective, but it's sound advice for any location," Wilson said.

The National Radio Scouting Committee has developed a draft ***Troop Meeting Plan for Radio***. Looking ahead, next year is the World Scout Jamboree at The Summit Bechtel Scout Reserve in West Virginia. To recognize the first North American World Jamboree — hosted by Canada, Mexico, and the US — the call sign NA1WJ has been secured for the event.

More information is in the ***World Scout Jamboree Amateur Radio Operational Vision*** document.

Used with permission The ARRLorg NEWS

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AARC Mesh Networking Group,

1:00 to 4:00 PM monthly,

on the 2nd Sunday of the month

AARC Clubhouse, Davidsonville, MD

REPEATER FREQUENCIES

Davidsonville	Millersville	Glen Burnie	Annapolis
147.105+		147.075+	
223.880-	224.560-		
444.400+			442.300+

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.

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