



A.C.O.R.N

April 2007

ANDY CLUB OFFICERS

President: Bill Woodhead N1KAT
 Vice President: Earle Gilmore N1SVB
 Treasurer: Ivan Lazure N1OXA
 Secretary: Dick Knight N1NYW
 Trustee: Norm L'Heureux W1SCM

Newsletter of the Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club
 Repeater: 146.610MHz - No PL Tone
 Goff Hill, Auburn Maine

Submit Articles, Corrections and Suggestions to David Lowe KB1NJP kb1njp@arrl.net

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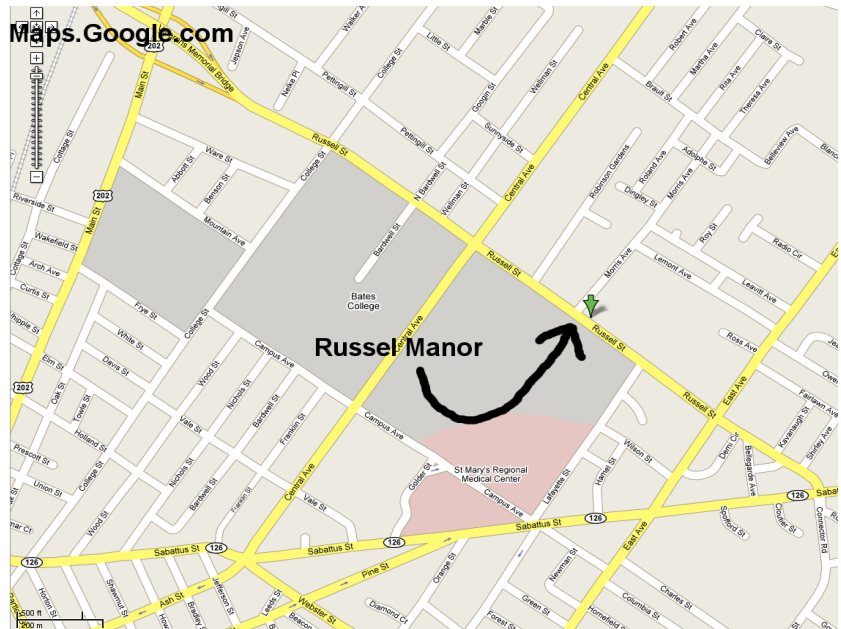
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Meetings

Andy Club Breakfast
 March 28th 2007 0730 EDT
 April 25th 2007 0730 EDT
 Ramada Inn
 Pleasant Street, Lewiston ME

Andy Club On Air Meeting/Net
 March 28th 2007 1900 EDT on 146.61
 April 25th 2007 1900 EDT on 146.61

Andy Club Meeting
 Wednesday April 4th 1900 EDT
 Russell Park Manor
 158 Russell Street, Lewiston ME



Events

<http://www.Near-Fest.com> Hamfest Friday May 4th & Saturday May 5th 2007

2007 SEMINAR TALKS at the Andy Hamfest by Ivan Lazure N1OXA

3/30	FRIDAY			
	Ex Board Room / 18 people	Conference Room / 30 people	Class Room / 60 people	Auditorium / 117 people
7 PM		A Field Day Like No Other 2006 MARA Class 2F Station	HF 101: What Do I Need to Know?	
8 PM	How to Ground your Amateur Radio Station	Getting Amateur Radio Operators and ARES Members Active		ARRL FORUM
3/31	SATURDAY			
	Ex Board Room / 18 people	Conference Room / 30 people	Class Room / 60 people	Auditorium / 117 people
9 AM	QSL-What are they? And how to design them	Getting it up and Keeping it up: Antenna Tower Zoning	Intro - Gel Cell Battery, Using Yankee Ingenuity	HF 101: What Do I Need to Know?
10 AM	Women in Amateur Radio: YLRL and WRONE	VE UPGRADE	The Science of Climate Changes; What it means for Amateur Radio.	ARRL FORUM
11 AM	QCWA MEETING		AMATEUR TEST REGISTRATION	
NOON	VE ROOM		TESTING	

A Field Day Like No Other (2006 MARA 2F Station)

Steve Kerchel, AA4AK, Will talk about the MARA (Merrymeeting Amateur Radio Association) 2007 Field Day 2F station. They had the highest score in New England for 2007.

ARRL FORUM

Members from the Maine and New England Field Organization to discuss the latest news and issues in Amateur Radio.

Getting Amateur Radio Operators and ARES Members Active

Wayne Strout, N1YIS, Oxford ARES AEC, The focus of this forum is to build upon the good things that are happening in the state and see what we can do as a group to help each other get even more people active in the hobby as well as ARES.

Getting it up and Keeping it up! (Tower Zoning)

Fred Hopengarten, K1VR, This talk will cover the “do’s and don’ts” of getting your tower up with town or city approval.

HF 101:What do I need to know

Ray Sirois, N1RY, This talk is oriented towards Techs who have or will upgrade to Gen. and Extra, and therefore need to get familiar with the different characteristics and nuances in HF operating.

How to Ground your Amateur Radio Station

Leo Langelier, N1BOK, RF Spectrum Mgr, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, This talk will cover the right way to ground your station, both for safety and good radio operation.

Intro-to Gel Cell Batteries Using Yankee Ingenuity

Hank Lopez, N2MSS, This talk will create an awareness of surplus/new Gel Cell batteries: what they are, how to buy them and practical applications. The discussion will also cover care and feeding in a manner that is constructive and safe as well as many other “how to” topics relating to portable DC PWR.

QSL-What are they? And how to design them.

Bill Crowley, K1NIT, This talk will explain what a QSL card is, and what should be on the card. Also, will talk about designing your our card, with computer software.

The Science of Climate Changes: What it means for Amateur Radio.

Ray Sirois, N1RY, This will explore the facts/science about this issue, and explore why Amateur Radio Service will be more important in the future.

Women in Amateur Radio: YLRL and WRONE

Anne Manna, WB1ARU, Will talk on two Women Amateur Groups, YLRL (Young Lady Radio League) and WRONE (Women Radio Operators Of New England).

QCWA MEETING

The Quarter Century Wireless Association holds its favorite “Eyeball QSO”



Androscoggin County RACES/ARES by Ivan Lazure N1OXA

The RACES/ARES Meeting was held on March 13, 2007 at the Androscoggin EMA Office in Lewiston. The Packet Station at EMA, W1NPP-1, has BBS running. There is some interference to be investigated on the 2m equipment, may need filters installed.

Red Cross is moving to 1180 Lisbon Street between April 1st and 15th. The Antennas need to be removed from the East St location and moved to the new location. The 75m antenna at the EMA needs to be serviced. Do Antenna work at EMA, Park Ave. School(EMA Shelter) and Red Cross.

We have the MS Walk coming in April, and The Great Falls Balloon Festival in August. We are also starting a monthly ARES Net on the 146.61 repeater, the first one is on March 27, 2007 at 1830. Cory will be editing the RACES/ARES manual. Cory N1URA will be the Net Control Operator for the first Net.

The next meeting is on April 10th, 2007 at 1800, at the Lewiston EMA Office. Hope to see some new faces.

EMA Web Site:

<http://users.adelphia.net/~androsema/>



Nets by David Lowe KB1NJP

HF

Seagull Net Daily 1700 EDT 3940

KQ1L Linked Repeater System

Sunday 2000 EDT Tri-County ARES Net

Monday 1900 EDT Oxford County ARES Net

Tuesday 1900 EDT Maine Elmer Net

Wednesday 1930 EDT WAWA Net

Wednesday 2030 EDT SKYWARN Training Net

Friday 1930 EDT Slow Scan TV Net

Saturday 1930 EDT SKYWARN Training Net



Andy Club Minutes by Dick Knight N1NYW

The Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club held a meeting March 7, 2007 at Russell Park in Lewiston Maine. In attendance: n1llu, w1scm and son Charles, n1oxa, n1nyw, kb5sud, n1jd, n1mdl, kb1iec, kb1doi, n1svb, n1kat, wa1scq, kb1cdu, n1dot, kb1njp, wb1hfy, k1pn.

The meeting was called to order by President Bill Woodhead at 7:00 sharp. After Bill took some ribbing for winning the grand prize at Crystal Falls we got the meeting going. Earle n1svb moved to accept the Secretary's report as printed in the Acorn. Seconded by David kb1njp. Vote: approved.

The Treasurer Ivan n1oxa read his report. Bob kb5sud moved and Brian n1mdl seconded approving the report. Vote: approved.

New business: Bill Woodhead held up a newspaper clipping with Dave Blethen and reminded us about his talk on March 8TH.

Bill reported on his trip to Augusta and the status on PL 696 to require ID cards of RACES / ARES members. Bill said the bill was pulled out of the committee so it will not happen.

Bill reminded us that Field Day will be coming soon. Bill reminded us to be patient with the new operators on HF. Try to teach the proper procedure, be an Elmer.

Ivan reported on the status of the State Convention. Vendors include Kits and Pieces, Quicksilver, and Radio Oasis from South Salem NY with the brand new radios.

The \$480,000 county emergency communications truck is scheduled to be at the hamfest Saturday from 9-11.

[see Events page 2 for Seminar list-editor]

We would also like to get Dave Hawke kq1l to talk about the link system and how it works and what is next, but he is NOT confirmed as of this writing. The VE Group will be set up at 10 AM for those with a valid CSCE to upgrade. 11 AM to register people for exams. The plans are firmed up to have a table where people can take their new purchases to be tested with a power supply or dummy load. Brian reported on all the handouts and catalogs ready to hand out. Ivan reports that reservations for tables are more than in previous years possibly because Hosstraders ended.

Misc: Bill n1kat and Butch kb1knc visited the Raymond Middle School and were warmly received with their plan for ham radio in school.

Bill says the Lewiston Red Cross office will be moving to the building across from the Governors restaurant in Lewiston,. All antenna and equipment will need to be moved. Also in Auburn Lake Street School will be used for a shelter and will need a ham radio station.

Ivan reports the packet station at the Red Cross is up and running on 145.01 MHZ.

RACES / ARES meeting at 6 PM at the EMA office, training and equipment needed to be discussed. Tuesday March 27 RACES / ARES meeting on the air on the 146.61 at 6 PM.

David kb1njp talked about weather spotter training and the SKYWARN nets.

Brian n1mdl moved to adjourn and was seconded by Bob kb5sud. Vote: adjourned at 7:45 PM.



DX contacts by Earle Gilmore N1SVB

The past month we made 23 DX contacts representing 17 different countries. Conditions the month February wasn't that great but also contributing to the low contact count was the constant wind that we had. I wouldn't turn the antenna during strong winds for fear of damage. The countries contacted were:

EC8, Canary Islands; S59, Slovenia; ON7, Belgium, LA7, Norway; YN1, Nicaragua; YT1, Serbia-Montenegro; IT9, Sicily; J3, Grenada; TA3, Turkey; LU3, Argentina; OE3, Austria; SF4, Sweden; TM1, France; IO8, Italy; ZB2, Gibraltar; C5, The Gambia; LZ1, Bulgaria; 9G1, Ghana; 9U9Z, Burundi;

There were a few real exotic stations worked this month however, one station 9U9Z in Burundi, in the middle of Africa, was the Best one as that entity was a new one for me. We made no contacts from the Pacific area this month.

An important notice from the February QST for DXers that send QSL cards through the bureau: A new rate structure for the Outgoing QSL Service took effect January 1. The new basic rate is \$5.00 per half-pound (8 ounces or approximately 75 cards) or any portion of a half pound. That is a change from the current rate of \$4.00 per half pound or any portion.

To read the complete article, see February 2007 QST page 13

DXpeditions by Earle Gilmore N1SVB

There are several DXpeditions to various parts of the world coming up during the month of April. Some haven't been assigned a call as yet or the operators will use the country prefix and their home call.

Apr. 01 to Apr. 08	TZ/	Mali [http://www.3da0fc.be/]
Apr. 02 to Apr. 13	J68WI	ST. Lucia
Apr. 04 to Apr. 19	V63	Micronesia [http://www.3da0fc.be/]
Apr. 05 to Apr. 15	N8S	Swains Island [http://www.yt1ad.info/n8s/]
Apr. 05 to Apr. 09	3DA0FC	Swaziland [http://www.3da0fc.be/]
Apr. 07 to Apr. 09	3DA0/	Swaziland
Apr. 07 to Apr. 13	TA4/	Turkey
Apr. 10 to Apr. 27	YK1BA	Syria.
Apr. 12 to Apr. 23	JW/	Svalbard
Apr. 14 to May. 03	JT1Y	Mongolia
Apr. 16 to Apr. 19	ZK3A	Tokelau
Apr. 20 to Apr. 24	5W5AA	Samoa
Apr. 20 to Apr. 30	BS7H	Scarborough Reef [http://www.scarboroughreef.com/]
Apr. 25 to May. 10	YB9/	Indonesia
Apr. 27 to May. 03	3D2/	Fiji [http://www.3d2.dxe.com.ua/news.html]
Apr. 27 to May. 08	6V7/	Senegal

I invite any club members that have a computer to visit my web page. The address is:

<http://www.qsl.net/n1svb/>

Earle Gilmore N1SVB

