



# ACORN

## March 2012

<p><b><u>ANDY Club Officers</u></b>                  President: Bill Woodhead N1KAT                  Vice President: Earle Gilmore N1SVB                  Treasure: Ivan Lazure N1OXA                  Secretary: Dick Knight N1NYW                  Trustee: Norm L' Heureux W1SCM</p>	<p><b>Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club                  (AARC)</b>  <b>P.O. Box 1, Auburn ME 04212-0001</b>  <a href="http://www.w1npp.org/">http://www.w1npp.org/</a>  <b>Repeater 146.610MHz – No pl tone</b>  <b>Goff Hill, Auburn Maine</b></p>
<p>Please submit articles, corrections and suggestions by the 16<sup>th</sup> of the Month to Ivan Lazure and he will send them to n1llu.</p>	

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Coming up...

#### Contesting

Mar 3, 0000Z to Mar 4, 2400Z ARRL International Phone DX Contest Rules at <http://www.arrl.org/contests>

Mar 24, 0000Z to Mar 25, 2400Z CQ WPX SSB Contest Rules at <http://www.cqwp.com>

#### SPECIAL EVENT STATION

Mar 10, 1700Z to 2359Z, NI6IW, San Diego, Ca USS Midway (CV-41) Museum Radio Operators Room.

Navy Seabees' Birthday and Girl Scouts of America Founded 1912. SSB 14.320, 7.250. QSL USS Midway

Museum Radio Room, 910 N Harbor Dr., San Diego, CA 92101. Include a SASE with your QSL card.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Andy Club Meetings</u></b></p> <p>Wednesday March 7<sup>th</sup> 2012 1900 EDT          Andy Meeting at LaPage Conference Room          99 Campus Avenue, Lewiston, ME</p> <p>Wednesday March 21<sup>st</sup> 2012 at 1800          Androscoggin ARES/RACES Meeting          Androscoggin Unified EMA Office          Basement of Central Fire Station          2 College Street Lewiston</p>	<p>Wednesday March 28<sup>th</sup> 2012 0730 EDT          Monthly Andy Breakfast          Ramada Inn, Pleasant Street          Lewiston, ME</p> <p>Wednesday March 28<sup>th</sup> 2012 1900 EDT          Andy Club On-air Meeting and Net          on the Auburn Repeater          146.610MHz no pl tone</p> <p>ARES/RACES NET          Every Thursday at 1930 on 146.61 Repeater</p>
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## **ARES/RACES Comments by Ivan N1OXA Androscoggin EC**

The big news in February is the ARES/RACES net has been changed to 1930. Also, had to cancelled the monthly meeting due to training that Tim had to attend. The March meeting should be a busy one, we need to program the frequencies into the Kenwood and the Yaesu radios. Also, we need to plan an exercise for this spring. Bring your idea's to the meeting. Don't forget the weekly nets on 146.61 at 1930 hope to see you on the air. On page 4 is an online program that is free. So go online and register so you can get the schedule of these events. I plan to do the Feb 25, as well as the March 29 exercise.



Ivan, N1OXA

**Secretary's Report**

The Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club held a meeting February 1, 2012 at the LaPage Conference Center in Lewiston. In attendance: w1lwt and his father, n1kat, n1oxa, n1jd, n1dot, w1scm and son Charles, kb1doi, n1nyw, w1ltx, k1wtx, kb1qhr, and kb1ogs.

The meeting was called to order by President Bill Woodhead n1kat at 7:04. Bob w1ltx made a motion to approve the Secretary's report as printed in the ACORN. Seconded by Andy kb1doi. Vote: Approved.

Ivan read the Treasurers report and Jerry k1wtx made a motion to approve the report that was seconded by Norm w1scm. Vote: approved.

Ivan reported on the Hamfest March 23 and 24 TH. Leo n1bok will do a talk about transmatch and transmission lines. Bill k1nit will give a talk about basic CW operation called CW 101 on Friday night. QCWA will be having their meeting like usual. Ivan would like several people to act as Elmers to do a question and answer session to help with questions from new hams or those who don't know about other modes they have not worked and answer general questions. Is there someone who could do a talk on APRS or grounding or other subjects? Please let Ivan know what you would like to hear or which talk you would like to give. Could someone make an antenna like previous years or talk about how to make an antenna or maybe talk about SKYWARN or maybe get a speaker from the National Weather Service? Let's hear the ideas!

One thing that will be different this year is, tables that are reserved and payed for in advance will be \$7, \$8 on Saturday. Ivan will be taking volunteers to work the different jobs at the convention at our March meeting.

Bob w1ltx reports that he has received catalogs from MFJ and HRO and will be getting items from Icom and Yeasu, but no word yet from Kenwood. Lentini in Connecticut will "help us out" and R and L and AES will be contacted again.

Dick n1nyw mentioned that the .61 repeater still does not ID after 10 minutes.

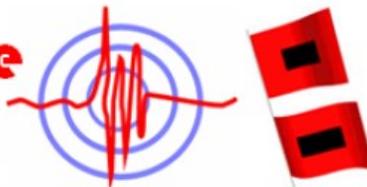
Meeting was adjourned at 7:34 to hear a talk by w1lwt on how to make a phone patch with a magic jack.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dick Knight Secretary

Please Share This Important Disaster Exercise Opportunity With Others



**Earthquake**  
**Hurricane**



**National Community / Neighborhood Exercise Series**

The series of [Formidable Footprint](#) exercises for neighborhood, community and faith based organizations continues.

**February 25 – Hurricane / March 29 – Earthquake**

**Exercises have also been scheduled for the following scenarios:**

[Flood – Pandemic – Tornado – Wildfire](#)



The Formidable Footprint exercise series has been developed in accordance with Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) protocols. The objective of the exercise series is for CERTs, Neighborhood Watch Programs, Neighborhood Associations, Community / Faith Based Organizations, Citizen Corps, Fire Corps and others to work as a team to become better prepared for the next disaster their community may face.

There is **NO CHARGE** for participation in any of the Formidable Footprint exercises.

For additional information or to register for up-coming exercises please access the following web site today:

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

Please Share This Important Disaster Exercise Opportunity With Others



Chris Floyd - 850-241-3565  
Disaster Resistant Communities Group LLC  
[www.drc-group.com](http://www.drc-group.com)  
Office Locations  
6224 Wake Robin Ln - Tallahassee FL - 32309  
12 Stoneybrook Dr - Sturbridge MA - 01566

- First, make sure you can copy them well enough for a good QSO. If signals are poor, it would be better to wait a while for better propagation? It can be very embarrassing to you for them to call you when you can't hear us.
- Unless otherwise noted, they will utilize split operation only. This means you cannot succeed by calling on our frequency. We aren't listening there. Be very careful to set up your transceiver so that you do not call on our transmit frequency. You must find where they are listening and then pick your next transmitting frequency accordingly.
- DX operators try hard to work everyone in the world. Some areas will require more effort than others. Listen carefully to determine if we are trying to work a particular geographical area. Call if you are in that area. They will not respond to callers who are not in that area. If you are not in the desired area, spend the waiting time studying the pileup procedure of the operators.
- Call only if they are calling your exact call sign, if they are calling a very similar call sign or if they are asking for anyone to call. One matching letter in your call sign is NOT enough! Listen to the pileup again, and wait for the next opportunity to call. They will not respond to calls from stations other than those we are addressing. You could earn a bad reputation in this way.
- If you do not hear who has been called, listen for a short time as the operator will probably call again. You don't want to miss his second call. When in doubt, DO NOT call, but rather try to determine the correct procedure. You will be far more successful by listening more and transmitting less.
- Be sure you have made a good QSO. If you aren't sure, make another QSO. It is best not to send a report until the operator sends your call sign correctly. If the operator does not send your call sign correctly, make another QSO. He may have actually worked someone else.
- Reiterating, they will not work stations who are:
  - o Calling out of turn – when they are trying to work someone else
  - o Calling out of the called area – study the pileup and wait for your turn
  - o Calling with an obviously wrong partial call sign – use the time to study the pileup.
- These simple guidelines are intended to help you to get into they log quickly. They are consistent with our intended operating procedure. If you call the way we expect you to call, it makes sense that you will be in the log more easily and more often.
- They understand that no one is perfect, and that everyone will make mistakes. Keep your own house in order; make sure to minimize your own mistakes. Don't get frustrated. These operators are some of the best in the World. Summon your greatest self-control, and let them deal with the others. Soon, you will be in the log.

Thanks to the HK0NA DXpeditions for this info.

During the past month we made 28 DX contacts representing 20 different countries. The low is still because of the out of adjustment of the A3S beam antenna. Come spring we will look into having someone come and service it.

Countries contacted were:

9Y4LAS, Trinidad; TO5G, French Guyana; VK2GWK, Australia; ZT1T, So. Africa; ZD8S, Ascension Is.; EA8?RW3DO, Canary Is.; 9A208DX, Croatia; TI2CDA, Costa Rica; VE7FE, BC Canada; VP8LP, Falkland Is.; CX1DZ, Uruguay; KC4USV, Antarctica; J67ZF, St. Lucia; V5/DJ2HD, Namibia; HZ0HN/p, Saudi Arabia; FG1GW, Guadeloupe; HK0NA, Melpelo Is.; PJ4C, Bonaire Is.; EA3JE, Spain; TN2T, Congo

We had one Pacific contact this month. We contacted VK2GWK in Australia.

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

Mar. 01 to Mar. 05	J37K	Grenada
Mar. 01 to Mar. 30	V73FW	Marshall Is.
Mar. 02 to Mar. 08	6V7T	Senegal
Mar. 04 to Apr. 04	5H3MB	Tanzania
Mar. 05 to Mar. 18	PJ7PT	St. Maarten
Mar. 05 to Mar. 23	9Y0A	Jamaica
Mar. 05 to Mar. 31	V21/	Antigua
Mar. 07 to Mar. 12	3W4JK	Vietnam
Mar. 07 to Mar. 14	NP2/	Virgin Is.
Mar. 07 to Mar. 24	A37YZ	Tonga
Mar. 08 to Mar. 13	LZ7/	Chatham Is.
Mar. 08 to Mar. 18	VP9/	Bermuda
Mar. 08 to Mar. 15	9H3C	Malta
Mar. 12 to Mar. 28	S79NEN	Seychelles
Mar. 12 to Mar. 30	PJ2/	Curacao
Mar. 15 to Mar. 21	3D2YA	Fiji
Mar. 17 to Mar. 23	S9/	Sa0 Tome & Principle
Mar. 17 to Mar. 27	V5/	Namibia
Mar. 18 to Mar. 27	A25DS	Botswana
Mar. 21 to Mar. 27	P40S	Aruba
Mar. 22 to Apr. 22	JX9JKA	Jan Mayan
Mar. 22 to Apr. 06	TO7BC	Mayotte Is.
Mar. 24 to Apr. 06	J52HS	Guinea Bissau
Mar. 24 to Apr. 14	TO2R	Reunion Is.
Mar. 28 to Apr. 10	E51M	North Cook Is.

ARRL International DX Contest SSB (Mar. 3 - 4, 2012)

CQ WW WPX Contest (Mar. 24 -25, 2012)

The above DXpeditions are correct to the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to printing The A.C.O.R.N. For additions after that date, go to my web page and click On the link "Reported DXpeditions by NG3K".

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