



ACORN



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ANDY Club Officers

President: Tim Bubier WT1A
 Vice President: Cory Golob KU1U
 Treasure: Ivan Lazure N1OXA
 Secretary: Dick Knight N1NYW
 Trustee: Tim Bubier WT1A

Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club (AARC)

P.O. Box 1, Auburn ME 04212-0001
<http://www.w1npp.org/>
 Repeater 146.610MHz – PL 88.5
 Goff Hill, Auburn Maine

Please submit articles, corrections and suggestions by the 16th of the Month to Ivan Lazure and he will send them to n1llu.

Andy Club Meeting

Wednesday May 6th 2015 1900 EDT
 Meeting held in Potvin Room
 99 Campus Ave. Lewiston, Me.

ARES/RACES

Wednesday May 20th 2015 1730 EDT
 Androscoggin ARES/RACES meeting
 Androscoggin Unified EMA Office
 Basement of Central Fire Station
 2 College Street Lewiston, Me.

Andy Club Breakfast

Wednesday May 27th 2015 0730 EDT
 Held at the Ramada Inn Pleasant Street
 Lewiston, Maine

On Air ARES/RACES NET

**Every Thursday night at 1900, Weekly
 ARES/RACES Net 146.610 Mhz
 with a PL 88.5**
 Andy ARES/RACES Digital net at 1730
 on same repeater

LIST OF UP COMING EVENTS IN MAINE FOR 2015

Trek Across Maine June 19-21, 2015, Bethel to Belfast, Me



April Secretary's Report By Dick Knight Secretary N1NYW

The Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club held a meeting Wednesday April 1, 2015 at the Potvin Room at St. Marys Medical Arts Building in Lewiston Maine. In attendance: wt1a, n1wfo, kb1doi, n1oxe, wa1skp, k1wtx, kb1rsd, w1ltx, kb1qhr, w1box, n1dot, n1nyw, kc1aih, n1svb, n1jd, kc1dxx, n1zrl, ke6pij, ku1u, kb1yyc, kb1zlv kc1amq, and ke4ucw.

Vice President Cory ku1u called the meeting to order at 6:58 p.m.. Ivan n1oxa made a motion to approve the Secretary's report that was seconded by Andy kb1doi. Vote: approved.

Ivan n1oxa read a lengthy Treasurers report that included the expenses of the hamfest and the income. Miriam kc1aih made a motion to accept the report as read and it was seconded by Andy kb1doi.

Ivan gave a report on the hamfest and corrected the attendance number, 331 paid attendance and 22 volunteers, more volunteers than normal and the expenses and profits. Jerry k1wtx showed a power point presentation explaining the results of survey feedback forms that were passed out during the hamfest and discussed the feedback. Ways to do a better job of selling 50/50 tickets were discussed. Ivan reported that 27 persons took 33 tests, 7 were women. Comments about talking during the exams were passed on to the VE team.

Tim wt1a reported that the clubs call sign has been renewed and told of the problems with making that happen.

Vice President Cory ku1u gave Earle n1svb a membership for life in the Andy club for his many years of service as Vice President.

Tim wt1a informs us that Walter ve1aws will be making band pass filters to be used at field day and the club will be paying him for them with money previously approved.

New business: Elections, Bill Woodhead is retiring from the Presidents job so Bob w1ltx made a motion to promote Vice President Cory ku1u to President, that motion was seconded by Earle n1svb. Cory declined the nomination and made a motion to make Tim Bubier wt1a President. Fred wa1skp seconded the motion. Vote: Approved.

Several members nominated Cory ku1u for Vice President and several seconded the motion which was approved.

Bob w1ltx nominated Ivan n1oxa for Treasurer, John n1jd seconded the motion. Vote: Approved.

Bob w1ltx made a motion to nominate Dick n1nyw Secretary, the motion was seconded by Fred wa1skp. Vote: approved.

Newly elected President Tim wt1a looked through the by laws and noted that those just elected and the past President Bill n1kat are the Board of Directors.

Tim told us that Tom Frenaye requested that ham radio clubs donate \$ 10 to buy a \$ 50 plaque for the New England QSO Party winner John k1ese. Jerry k1wtx made a motion to send the request to the

Secretary's Report continued

Section Manager to have him ask the clubs for funds.

Rick n1wfo made a motion to have Curiosity Sales make a plaque to recognize Bill n1kat for his years of service to the club. Fred wa1skp seconded the motion that was approved along with a budget for the plaque.

Tim wt1a will be having Field Day organizing meetings at the regular ARES meetings the third Wednesdays of the month at the EMA office.

I was asked to post this URL on the w1npp.org website. www.broadband-hamnet.org.

Ivan is looking for volunteers to work communications for the MS Walk on April 25. Ivan would like emails from those who would like to participate.

Cory says that Dave Blethen wants fellow hams on packet, so dust off the tnc.

Tim wt1a tells us that the Remote Ham Radio organization that allows hams access to stations by remote control on the Internet would like to give those hams under 25 years old free time and would like to sponsor schools also. Tim recruited Paul ke6pij and Miriam kc1aih to help look for school to get the ham radio time.

Bob w1ltx made a motion to adjourn, Cory ku1u seconded the motion at 8:20 p.m. without a vote.

In A Nutshell

April's meeting brought about a few changes for the club, most notably the passing of the baton from Bill, N1KAT, to me as president. I want to thank you all for your support and confidence. I know that Cory, Ivan, Dick and myself can do a good job for you.

I just wanted to share a few exciting things that are going on right now with the club. First of all, my hat is always off to the VP for his continued effort to be proactive in contacting as many hams in Androscoggin County as possible in an attempt to entice them into our meetings or just to see why it is they are not as active in the hobby as some of us are. Cory continues to work hard on recruitment, along with a number of other ambitious projects.

Secondly, my pet project, Field Day, is off to a promising start. We established a standard with last year's effort that will be hard to top but so far it looks like we'll be able to do that and more. We've secured a spot at Poland Spring Heritage Days and Strawberry Festival again (even if it might not be exactly where we were located last year). We also seem on the verge of securing donations to support our perishable needs. I'm also going to propose at the May meeting that we take some of the funds in

Nutshell continued

excess to what was appropriated back to the scholarship fund and use them to purchase some equipment, such as filters, tents or other enclosure, mast or towers, signage and so on, that can not only be used year to year at Field Day but also for other events and emergencies. We still need more volunteers to step up and help out in all sorts of various ways. Our next FD organizational meeting will be on May 20 at 6:30 PM at the EOC. Hope to see you there.

For those of you that missed the email from Ivan regarding the scholarship fund, the club had a CD that was maturing on April 18 the proceeds of which we needed to reallocate. We posted in an email and on the website a question to all active club members giving three options for these funds:

1. Keep the money (\$10,089.90) in another CD for scholarship:
2. Keep \$5,000 for scholarship and the \$5,089.90 balance put in checking account:
3. Put all monies (10,089.90) into checking account for club to use for projects it would vote on:

The results of this survey to which 19 members responded were overwhelmingly to keep \$5,000 towards the ARRL scholarship fund and deposit the balance into the club's general fund. Thank to all of you who weighed in on the matter.

I'm also continuing to work on the youth initiative and have been in contact with members of the local schools departments in an attempt to to get our foot in the door. My goal is to establish at least one school radio club by the end of this year and to secure equipment and guidance to stir interest in the hobby with the younger crowd. The people at Remote Ham Radio have generously offered to provide equipment and airtime from their service free of charge to clubs or groups of amateur radio operators under age 18. I hope that we can be one of the first in the country to take them up on this offer.

We're working on trying to bring back packet radio to the area. Packet is a tested, reliable means to pass information during both emergencies and quiet times, but we need to establish a network of stations to make it work effectively. So dig out your old TNCs and fire up that old VHF or HF rig and put it back to work on packet!

Finally, there was one matter that was recently brought to my attention by our outgoing president that I think the general membership should be aware of. Lefty, K1TOL, has decided that at his passing (and no, Lefty's fine, he's just looking ahead) his substantial station will be willed to the club.

So thanks to everyone for your continued hard work to make AARC one of the premier and most active clubs in the state. We will continue to grow if we all stay active in any way we can.

73

Tim, WT1A

Androscoggin ARES / RACES

April 2015

Paul Leonard / KE6PIJ
EC Androscoggin County

Maine Partners in Emergency Preparedness Conference was held April 21 and 22 at the Augusta Civic Center. Our Androscoggin ARES/RACES group was represented by Ken, N1DOT, Fred, WA1SKP, Ivan, N1OXA, Rick, N1WFO, and myself, Paul, KE6PIJ. The event featured a wealth of resources in the form of exhibitors, speakers, and networking opportunities. They even fed us and gave out door prizes. We attended with our CERT group and the Androscoggin UEMA Communications van pulling the CERT Animal Sheltering trailer. I think we all found this event valuable and look forward to attending again next year.

At the time of my writing this entry, the MS Walk-a-thon in our county has not yet occurred. Ivan, N1OXA is our key contact for this event and we anticipate a good turn out by our group in support of this activity. It looks to be a bit damp, however that seems to be the normal weather this time of year.

Our training net has focused on Net Control Operating Guidelines and was well received by those who checked in. We look forward to having simulated emergency exercises as the weather improves so we can all have a chance to put our Winter training to good use.

The digital net, which follows our voice training net, continues to have good participation and appears to have provided us with several solid FLDIGI operators. FLDIGI and its associated programs are becoming second nature to our members. Now that we are all very comfortable with this mode, we're starting to introduce Packet Radio. This will evolve into wider uses of Packet as it progresses, but for now, its simply getting the TNCs operational and getting us familiar with this rediscovered mode of communication.

As Winter leaves us, Spring and Summer are looking to provide an active period for us in training, activities, and participation. The momentum we are gaining should provide an exciting use of the coming warm weather and help prepare us for doing much better in the SET this Fall. Thanks to all who regularly check-in to our nets and participate in our County's activities.

DX News Notes
April, 2015

The month of March we made 48 DX contacts which represents 41 countries. Stations contacted were: V51WW, Namibia; FP/KV1J, St. Pierre & Miquelon; CU7MD, Azores; MM0GOR, Scotland; TA1HZ, Turkey; ZD8D, Ascension Is; PJ7C, St. Maarten, VP2MLL, Montserrat; LX1JX, Luxembourg; YN2AA, Nicaragua; T77LA, San Marino; HZ1SK, Saudi Arabia; 9Y4D, Trinidad & Tobago; PT7ZT, Brazil; LU5FP, Argentina; 9A1A, Croatia; DL65DARC, Germany; OZ7X, Denmark; TG9ANF, Guatemala; E30FB, Eritrea; CE2MT, Chile; FR5DX, Reunion Is.; VE6LK mob, Canada; VP9/KG9EE, Bermuda; JW6VDA, Svalbard; CT9/DK7YY, Madeira Is.; E30FB, Eritrea; EA8OB, Canary Is.; SU9HM, Egypt; CE5ERO, Chile; YB0AZ, Indonesia; ZS1TMJ, So. Africa; DK65DARC, Germany; 4X6TT, Israel; 2I0FLO, No. Ireland; GP0STH, Guernsey; XE1Yqq, Mexico; HB9HLM, Switzerland; M0JWK, England; 9Q0HQ, Congo; C35MO, Andorra;

We made 2 Pacific contacts in March: YB0AZ and YB0IBM both from Indonesia.

There are several DXpeditions taking place in May. Some haven't been assigned a call sign so they will use the listed prefix followed with another call sign.

| | | |
|-------------------|--------|----------------|
| May 02 to May 08 | 6Y5/ | Jamaica |
| May 02 to May 08 | S79RPS | Seychelles |
| May 02 to May 11 | JD1YBT | Ogassawara |
| May 07 to May 10 | VK9X | Christmas Is. |
| May 07 to May 13 | ZL7/ | Chatham Is. |
| May 08 to May 11 | Mt0IXD | Isle of Man |
| May 09 to May 15 | ZF2ZL | Cayman Is. |
| May 10 to May 17 | 8Q7BI | Maldives |
| May 10 to May 19 | 3B8/ | Mauritius |
| May 14 to May 18 | MJ/ | Jersey |
| May 15 to May 25 | E6ZS | Niue |
| May 17 to May 23 | E51/ | So. Cook Is. |
| May 19 to May 24 | 3B9/ | Rodriguez Is. |
| May 20 to May 25 | ZF2EM | Cayman Is. |
| May 20 to May 25 | XT2AW | Burkina Faso |
| May 23 to May 31 | J28/ | Grenada |
| May 28 to Jun. 16 | FS/ | St. Martin Is. |
| May 30 to Jun. 16 | 5U5U | Niger |

CQ WW WPX Contest, May 30-31, 2015

The above DXpeditions are accurate to the 15th of the month. For later additions visit NG3K web page.

Earle Gilmore N1SVB