



ACORN Newsletter



Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club (AARC)
P.O. Box 1, Auburn ME 04212-0001
<http://www.w1npp.org>

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Repeaters

Auburn	Poland Springs
146.610 PL 88.5	147.315 PL 103.5
D-Star 443.300	

Club Officers

President: Tim Bubier WT1A
 V. President: Cory Golob KU1U
 Treasure: Ivan Lazure N1OXA
 Secretary: Dick Knight N1NYW
 Trustee: Tim Bubier WT1A
 Newsletter Editor:
 Harold Hartley N1LLU

Club Meetings

Wednesday June 1st 2016 1830 EDT
 Meeting held in Potvin Room
 99 Campus Ave. Lewiston, Me.

ARES/RACES Meeting

Wednesday June 15th 2016 1730 EDT
 Androscoggin Unified EMA Office
 Basement of Central Fire Station
 2 College Street Lewiston, ME

Club Breakfast

Wednesday June 29th 2016 0730 EDT
 Held at the Ramada Inn Pleasant Street
 Lewiston, Maine

On Air ARES/RACES NET

Weekly ARES/RACES Net is every
 Thursday at 1900, on Club 146.610
 PL 88.5, plus Weekly Training net
 follows. Digital will be part of training
 net.

Adroscoggin ARES/RACES By Paul KE6PIJ

We had some good weather in May and enjoyed training on the use of the FT-897 radio provided by WE1U, David at Beaver Park in Lisbon. The training not only raised our awareness to the radio's features but also brought up some discussion and thoughts about equipment that would make full use of the radio in the field.

June will see Weather Spotter training on the 11th at 10AM in the Auburn Public Library. All are welcome for this free training provided by the National Weather Service.

Of course, Field Day is rapidly approaching, and we would enjoy seeing all of your smiling faces come to the operation and participate as much or as little as you would like. The location has not been confirmed as of the time of this article, but updates will be posted on the Androscoggin ARES web site.

"Where is this web site?", you ask. It is at <http://ec.ke6pij.org> and the email address to contact me regarding ARES/RACES is ec@ke6pij.org How is that for convenience?

President's Report By Tim Bubier WT1A

Cory has been extremely busy at work. His office has been short staffed by 4 people, so he's had to cover a lot of overtime shifts for the past couple of months. To help continue his efforts towards another successful Field Day this year, I've been doing some legwork particularly in securing a location. As some of you already know, the Poland Spring

President Report continued

Heritage Day committee felt that there was not enough space for us at that location this year so we were temporarily left homeless. At the Club breakfast this morning, we were discussing possible alternative sites when I mentioned the Auburn-Lewiston Municipal Airport. It has some pluses for us in that it's a public place, lots of open space, convenient for many because it's situated right off the Turnpike, Rtes. 202/4 and near Rt. 26, it's a location that hams could potentially be sent during an actual emergency, and it's a place that local public officials would be familiar with.

So, I met with the Airport Manager, Rick Lanman, after our breakfast and he has enthusiastically welcomed us to use some open space located on Flightline Drive, across from the UPS terminal, that was previously cleared as a parking lot for the proposed railroad passenger station which never came to be. The area is flat, there are numerous tall trees lining the field, it's easily accessible and there is plenty of room to spread our operation out. The airport will supply us with water from a nearby maintenance garage and will even dispose of our trash if we leave it neatly in bags onsite. The manager even offered to advertise the event for us. I've now posted the location on the ARRL Field Day locator web page for those of you who are curious. Progress on the getting the Leeds repeater site has been slow. I'm still waiting for a copy of the keys to the building which I have been promised now for over a month. Once that is up and running, I'll be sure to let everyone know and look for your feedback concerning that site's best use, whether it's UHF or VHF, digital, analog or both, and so on. Special thanks go out to Walter, VE1AWS/W1, for his nice report from the Dayton Hamvention to be included in this newsletter. Hope to see you all at this month's meeting. We'll have plenty to discuss.

Secretary's Report

By Dick Knight N1NYW

May Report

The Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club held a meeting Wednesday May 4, 2016 at the Potvin Room of the St. Marys' Medical Arts Building in Lewiston Maine. In attendance: kb1cdu, k1wtx, we1u, w1lwt, ke6pig, ke4ucw, w1ltx, wa1skp, kb1doi, kb1zlv, kc1amq, n1zrl, kc1aih, n1oxa, n1nyw, n1dot, ve1aws, kc1dny, and Tim kc1flj Winslow, n1jd, and w2gpj George from the Oxford ARES group.

First at 6:30 Jerry k1wtx gave an excellent presentation about cutting the cable or satellite cord and getting TV by old fashioned antenna. The meeting was called to order by Ivan n1oxa at 7:16 p.m. Both the President and Vice President could not attend. Bob w1ltx made a motion to approve the Secretary's report as printed in the newsletter and Andy kb1doi seconded the motion. Vote: approved.

Ivan n1oxa gave the Treasurers report making note that \$ 300 went to pay the rent at the Poland repeater site and that extra money is in the account because a CD matured so the money was moved temporarily to the checking account until we receive a contribution from NEAR FEST and then add the CD and NEAR FEST and buy another CD. David we1u made a motion to approve the report, the motion was seconded by Miriam kc1aic.

Cory is looking for operators and plans to work QRP for Field

May DX News Notes

By Earl Gilmore N1SVB

The month of April we made 56 DX contacts which represents 37 countries. Countries worked were:

5J0P, San Andres & Providencia; SV3GLL, Greece; LZ1KU, Bulgaria; LY26A, Lithuania; ON7TQ, Belgium, PY2NZ, Brazil; Z370CEF, Macedonia; PJ2/VA7AM, Curacao I2ROO, Italy; TA1O, Turkey; D4Z, Cape Verde; 9A709A, Croatia; KL7RST, Alaska; 3V8CB Tunisia; C5FUD, The Gambia; DP7D, Germany; OG6N, Norway; OM5ZW, Slovak Republic; E7DX< Bosnia Herzovenia; C31AT, Andorra; 9G5GH, Ghana; RC55YG, European Russia; EA1ABT, Spain; YU1AGA, Serbia; OK2ECH, Czech Republic; YB9SNX, Indonesia; T77LM, San Marino; SM5CAK, Sweden; 9K2OS, Kuwait; CV2GC, Azores; OE3XMA; EN30A, Ukraine; CE0Y/LU4DXU, Easter Island; BD3CB, China; OH1NH, Finland; 7T7T, Algeria; DL65TRS, Germany;

We made Three Pacific contacts in April. We contacted YB9SNX in Indonesia, CE0Y/LU4DXU on Easter Island and BD3CB in China.

There are several DXpeditions taking place in June 2016. Some

Day. George w2gpj was in attendance from Oxford county to talk about the event. Also mention were the New England QSO party and a west coast QSO party. There was a reminder that Saturday June 4th there will be a hamfest in Hermon.

David we1u says he is hoping to get a weather spotter training class set up for Auburn in the near future. Also it was announced that volunteers are still needed for the Trek Across Maine. Lee w1lwt announced that he will be getting married on September third at the Lisbon Legion Hall. It was not announced if the happy couple will be married in a balloon a thousand feet in the air.

Paul ke6pij reminded us there will be an ARES meeting at the EMA office May 18 with training. Also a Fox Hunt May 21 at 2 p.m. at Beaver Park in Lisbon. Also visitors to the w1npp.org web site will notice there is now a link to a NEW Androscoggin ARES RACES web site. The "old" page link is still there until someone tells me if I should push the delete button on it or not.

JOTA is the weekend of October 14 and 15 this year. George w2gpj explained what happened at the meeting where the Yankee Club was disbanded and a new club formed. George is the Treasurer of the new club.

Work on the Leeds repeater should start sometime after May 18th. David we1u will talk about APRS at 6:30 before our next meeting June first.

David we1u made a motion to adjourn that was seconded by Miriam kc1aih. Vote: approved at 8:10 p.m.

haven't been assigned a call sign so they will use the listed prefix followed with another call sign.

Jun. 02 to Jun. 07	V73HA	Marshall Is.
Jun. 03 to Jun. 17	ZF2MH	Cayman Is.
Jun. 05 to Jun. 23	FS/	St. Martin
Jun. 07 to Jun. 09	V63AN	Micronesia
Jun. 09 to Jun. 14	T88AN	Palau
Jun. 11 to Jun. 16	FS/	St. Martin
Jun. 14 to Jul. 15	V47JA	St. Kitts & Nevis
Jun. 15 to Jul. 14	3B8/	Mauritius
Jun. 17 to Jun. 29	FJ/	St. Barthelme
Jun. 20 to Jun. 28	8Q7HW	Maldives
Jun. 22 to Jul. 11	J79XE	Dominica
Jun. 23 to Jul. 08	C6AUX	Bahamas
Jun. 28 to Jul. 04	9H3G	Malta

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

A Day at Dayton Saturday May 21, 2016 Walter VE1AWS/W1

A day at Dayton 2016 proved that ham radio is not dead! With 240 internal exhibits and vendors, and approximately 2000 flea market tables, the 2016 Dayton Hamvention again claims its place as the mecca of all hamfests. The event attracted radio amateurs from around the globe. In addition to the tsunami of US callsigns, prefixes from Australia, Canada, many European countries, Japan, and Russia were observed.

For those who have been to Dayton before, you will remember that the exhibit floor is comprised of the main arena plus four auxiliary exhibition spaces. The main arena floor hosts all the big guns: DX Engineering, Ham Radio Outlet, Icom American, Kenwood, and MFJ. The auxiliary show space hosts the hundreds of smaller vendors, radio clubs, and associated activities: ARCI-QRP, Begali Keys, Green Heron Engineering, Old Timers Club, Straight Key Century Club, and Wireless Holdings, offering the new DV4 multi mode digital voice radio. The outside flea market exhibited a common theme will hundreds of clubs and individuals attempting to sell vintage and legacy HF transmitters, receivers and transceivers. A few vendors had selections of surplus parts available. And FAR Circuits, probably in business for the last fifty years, was selling PCBs for ARRL and associated projects published in QST, the Handbooks and associated articles over the years.

VE1AWS/W1 participated in the Kansas City DX Club CW Pile Up Contest held from 2000 to 2400 local time at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. (It so happened that the author's hotel room was just down the hall from where the KCDC Hospitality Suite/Test Facility was located). Again, for those, including your author, who had never heard of this event previously, KCDC has been hosting its CW Pile Up Contest at Dayton since 1980. The contest employs a computer simulated contest pile where participants attempt to copy and record callsigns for five minutes. Six CW ops per run are invited into the test center. They each sit in front of a laptop with headphones. Instructions are given. The CW run commences with a "DX station" sending CQ, and then the cacophony begins. Callsigns must be typed directly into the contest software. At the end of five minute, the results are presented: number of correct callsigns copied plus the number of correct characters copied (The callsigns are of different lengths so the number of characters is used in the event of a tie). VE1AWS/W1, being a rookie to the contest, was quite happy with successfully copying and recording 10 callsigns during the five minute run, representing a contest QSO every 30 seconds. The big dogs at the event, however, were a group of Russian contesters who had just returned from a couple of South Indian Ocean DXpeditions. Although many had US and Canadian callsigns, the room was filled with Russian conversation. The evening's winner was Yuri VE3DZ, who won an ICOM 7300 for taking first place. The simulation software was developed by NO5W and is available for download at www.no5w.com/pileupnetpractice.php

As a final note to the day's events, VE1AWS/W1 was a little disappointed in the lack of vendors supporting both the QRP and

homebrew communities. In years past at Dayton hamfests, many component manufactures would have designer kits available and smaller vendors like Oak Hills Research and Green Mountain Labs would have kits available. And QRP clubs like 4SQR and NJQRP would be present. This lack of QRP/homebrewer participation may, in fact, be the result of the Four Days in May event (FDIM) occurring in Dayton at approximately the same time. FDIM may emerge as the Dayton of the QRP world. Stay tuned for next year.

73 de VE1AWS/W1



1400 local time Saturday May 21, 2016, Dayton Hamvention flea market Hara Arena Dayton OH