

May 2020



A.C.O.R.N.

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



Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club.Repeaters

Lewiston
146.61 PL 88.5
ON AIR

Livermore
443.300 D-star
OFF AIR

Poland Springs
147.315 PL 103.5
ON AIR

Livermore
146.895 PL 103.5
ON AIR

Club Officers

President: Lee Trask W1LWT
V. President: Pete Thoutte N1ZRL
Treasurer: Ivan Lazure N1OXA
Secretary: Dick Knight N1NYW
Trustee: Tim Bubier WT1A
Newsletter Editor:
Harold Hartley N1LLU

Club Meetings

Wednesday Mar 4th 1830 EDT
Meeting held on the .61 repeater.

ARES/RACES Meeting

Canceled

Club Breakfast

Wednesday **Canceled** 0700 EDT
at KRISTI'S CAFE on 767 Minot Ave. in Auburn, Me.

ARES/RACES Net

Every Thursday except for meeting night on the 146.61 pl 88.5 Repeater at **1930 (7:30pm)** with digital after the voice part.

Take Note

The deadline for all articles for the Newsletter is the 25th of each month.

Hamfest news

Hamfest is canceled until further notice.

There will be NO breakfast until further notice.

The club meeting will be held on the .61 repeater until further notice.

VE Exams are canceled until further notice.

ARES/RACES meeting canceled until further notice.

Please follow State and Local information

Secretary's Report
By Dick Knight N1NYW

The Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club held a meeting April 1, 2020 on the Lewiston 6.1 repeater. The meeting was called to order / net control by Lee Trask w1lwt at 7:00 p.m. Checked into the net / meeting was w1lwt, n1zrl, n1oxa and n1nyw for officers, members kc1aih, n1dot, w1ltx, n1kat, we1u, kb1doi, kc1bep, and wa1skp. The Secretary's report was approved by a roll call vote. A reminder: the report is available in the newsletter available on line or by email.

The Treasurers report was read by Ivan and approved by the members checked in. Ivan also mentioned the MS walk has been canceled, a virtual walk will raise money instead.

Lee tells us the next meeting will be May 6 and most likely held on .61. Check the website to be sure. Lee also recommended a delay on the Poland repeater tower work to at least June (or whatever the guidelines are at the time) to be sure to cut down on the chances of catching the coronavirus.

Lee explained the options for the election of officers that is scheduled for the April meeting today. There was a roll call of officers and members. Ivan checked the bylaws that said the voting is done at the April meeting. The vote was 10 votes to keep the present slate of officers and vote again next year, and two votes to visit the subject in six months.

Other news: Jerry k1wtx has been fighting pneumonia and is out of ICU and is now in a regular private room now at CMMC. We all

wish him a very speedy recovery. Bob w1ltx asked what to do with the materials that were not used because the hamfest was canceled. Lee will stop by Bobs' place and pick them up and store them at his barn. David we1u reminded us to vote in the Section Manager election. Also Beach to Beacon runners can register now, no word about ham radio volunteer sign ups yet.

DX REPORT

by Mark Burton, KG1Q

DX Clusters – What are they?

As promised last month, we are going to talk a little about clusters. The formal definition of a dx cluster is

A DX cluster is a network of computers, each running a software package dedicated to gathering, and disseminating, information on amateur radio DX (long-distance contact) activities.

Huh? Well, in my language, a DX Cluster is simply a website where fellow Hams like you and I 'spot' who we are working on the bands. By 'spot', I mean literally posting a contact we just made on a cluster website. Sometimes Hams post stations that they are hearing, and haven't actually worked. Perhaps they do this to simply let others know that a rare station is out there. Sometimes, Hams post contacts they just worked in a sort of bragging way. I feel this is not really what the Ham spirit is all about, but I witness this sort of thing all the time.

Take a minute to check out these Cluster websites. You can sort by the band your interested in, you can select certain modes to display and you can sort by a particular station if you want to.

Some of my favorites are

<http://new.dxsummit.fi/#/>

<https://dxwatch.com/>

<https://dxheat.com/dxc/>

they all provide different nuances, slightly different layouts, etc. I find them very useful

when I am chasing long distance dx or especially rare stations. Some of them can be configured to send you alerts when a particular station is on the air. I haven't had to much luck with this feature. If you have, please let me know which ones you've had success with.

Coming Soon

W8S, Swains Island, Sep 23 to Oct 6, 2020

KH6VV/KH4, Midway Island, Oct 2020

3Y0I, Bouvet Island, December 2020

COMING IN NEXT MONTHS NEWSLETTER

Take off angle, and why its important when DXing.

Happy DX everyone,

Mark
KG1Q

Sources:

DX World <https://dx-world.net/>

Clublog <https://clublog.org>

<https://dxheat.com/dxc/>

<https://dxwatch.com/>

<http://new.dxsummit.fi/#/>

ARRL DX News

May Acorn Calendar 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 1930 – Ragchew net on 28.460 Mhz	2
3 1700 - MECN net on 3.940 Mhz	4 1930 AM net on 50.400	5	6 Club Meeting On the .61 repeater only. 1930 –Ragchew net on 50.2 Mhz	7 1930 – ARES/RACES Net 146.61 Mhz PL 88.5	8 1930 – Ragchew net on 28.460 Mhz	9
10 1700 - MECN net on 3.940 Mhz	11 1930 AM net on 50.400	12 Ares/Races meeting Canceled	13 1930 –Ragchew net on 50.2 Mhz	14 1930 – ARES/RACES Net 146.61 Mhz PL 88.5	15 1930 – Ragchew net on 28.460 Mhz	16
17 1700 - MECN net on 3.940 Mhz	18 1930 AM net on 50.400	19	20 1930 –Ragchew net on 50.2 Mhz	21 1930 – ARES/RACES Net 146.61 Mhz PL 88.5	22 1930 – Ragchew net on 28.460 Mhz	23
24 1700 - MECN net on 3.940 Mhz	25 1930 AM net on 50.400	26	27 Club Breakfast Canceled	28 1930 – ARES/RACES Net 146.61 Mhz PL 88.5	29 1930 – Ragchew net on 28.460 Mhz	30
31 1700 - MECN net on 3.940 Mhz						