

January 2021



A.C.O.R.N

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



Lewiston
146.61 PL 88.5
ON AIR

Livermore
443.300 D-star
ON AIR

Poland Springs
147.315 PL 103.5
ON AIR

Livermore
146.895 PL 103.5
ON AIR



Announcements

Every Wednesday at 7pm. on 146.61, pl 88.5 is the well check net

Update on the Repeater project: Still working on it, with the Holiday period things have slowed down, but we are making progress.

Club Meeting, Wednesday Jan6, 2021, on .61 repeater with 88.5pl at 1900

Club Breakfast, Due to Covid-19 Break out no Breakfast in Jan.

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 Jan 6th 1900 EDT
Meeting held on the .61 repeater 88.5 pl.

ARES/RACES Meeting

APRS/RACES meeting Jan 12th at
5:30pm on Zoom

Club Breakfast

Club Breakfast, Due to Covid-19
Break out no Breakfast in Jan.

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.

Club Meeting On the .61 repeater
only.

A look back by Pete Thuotte

Beginning of a new year.

As 2021 begins, time to reflect and hope for a better year this year. The Pandemic has caused us to find other ways to remain in contact and conduct our business. We, as Amateur Radio Operators, already know how to accomplish this, and have put it into practice, or should I say..continue to practice, just more frequently.

Reflection of the past year 2020.

This past year, members of the club have completed the new tower, antenna and feed line installation in Poland. Thank-you Richard NU9C, Thank you for hosting the repeater . Our condolences in regards to the lost of your wife. Harold N1LLU recovered from the virus in August, Jerry K1WTX, had more than his share of hospitalizations, and wish him the best. The D-Star Repeater has been back on line, thank-you Tim WT1A. No Ham Fest this past year
We had a “Mini” Field day at Beaver Park.
Weekly Wellness nets
Thank-you Lee W1LWT for your initiative. I look forward them and it’s a way to stay up on happenings within our group.

Goals for the up coming year

Repeater linking Project

As of this writing, 12/28/20, I need to test the “Fusion” capabilities of the new RC210 Controller and the Yaesu DR-1X Repeater. I do not any radio that does that function. I will be reaching out to membership to come over to my location with their Fusion capable radio (need two) to determine if the repeater is functioning as it should be.

The next step, if all is good with the above test, is to interface the RC210 Controller with a Raspberry Pi3 which will be running the “AllStar “ software. Simply put, this software allows the repeater’s signal to be sent via internet to another similar setup (linking the repeater).

The Controller to Raspberry Pi interface(s) will be arriving this week so, the above two steps may not be executed in that order.

D-Star Repeater Relocation

We appreciate that Tim WT1A has done, getting the D-Star online. Shortly after the repeater came online, users realize that getting into the repeater is limited (RF wise).

The repeater committee needs to “officially” discuss our options, and present it’s findings, recommend a solution or solutions to the membership for discussion and vote.

Convention.

We need pursue alternate methods to determine how to hold a convention. Consider which platform, and there are others than zoom ,that we want to employ to hold our conventions. Zoom, or similar program, would work well for our talks, forums, discussions, that would normally take place in the classroom.

The challenge will be how to present vendors and allow sales to occur . I have some ideas, but welcome a discussion concerning this among club members.

Maybe Covert restrictions will change, and allow large groups the interact but, I would not count on it.

I have my own thoughts concerning this subject (Many of us do) but, will spare you for now.

Thanks to members for your support and attending our “Over the Air” Nets.

Secretary's Report by Dick Knight N1NYW

The Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club held a meeting on the .61 repeater at 7 p.m. December 2, 2020. Check ins were: w1lwt, w1ltx, n1nyw, kc1hbl, ke4ucw, kc1hjj, k1wtx, kc1aih, kb1qhr, n1kat, n1zrl, and wa1skp.

Lee w1lwt started taking check ins at 6:58 pm and asked for suggestions for projects for the club when the repeater projects and their linking is finished. Bob w1ltx did not have many contacts for a DX report.

Keith ke4ucw said that face to face contact may not be normal for some time to come so we will have to get used to the new normal and go virtual.

Taking our meetings to ZOOM was the suggestion from kc1hjj, and asked if there is a mentoring program for new hams. Lee suggested checking into the usual Wednesday night net to ask questions and maybe having a net on another night.

Jerry k1wtx gave us a weather report and commented that we may need to change our plans for our hamfest.

I made the comment that the convention web page instructs visitors to check back because changes may be needed.

Miriam kc1aih had a helper cancel so she will have to postpone work on her two meter antenna, she also agrees the mentor / Elmer is important. Miriam also passed on the news that the Winterfest at Le Club Calumet will not be held in 2021.

Paul kb1qhr said we should work on Winter Field Day and passed on to the members that he had a mentor and it was great.

Bill n1kat is looking forward to Field Day and likes the way it is presented in the QST this time.

Pete n1zrl has ordered a schematic for the repeater he is working to fix along with helping Roger ka1usa with antenna work. Pete also thinks mentors are a great idea.

Fred wa1skp agrees that mentors are great and that we need younger people to enter the hobby.

No business was conducted at this on the air meeting so there was no voting and no money spent.

Respectfully submitted

Dick Knight n1nyw Secretary

DX Report by Mark Harmon KG1Q

ZD8HZ – Ascension Island

Tev, TA1HZ has announced that he will be working on Ascension Island throughout 2021 and hopes to be QRV as ZD8HZ when time permits. Will try to be on the air using a Yaesu FT991 HF rig running 100w to a Windom wire antenna (80m-10m).

5H, TANZANIA Roman, RA/3W3RR (ex-9Q9RR) has announced plans to be active from Zanzibar island, AF-032. Currently no set dates as to when 5H1RR activity may happen due to COVID-19. More info to follow in due course..

VQ9RA – Diego Garcia

You may need to be quick and at your radio at the right time, but look for Randy, WW6RG to be active from Diego Garcia, Chagos Islands as VQ9RA on January 18, 2021. Check 20m SSB. QSL via H/c.

Coming Soon

VQ9, DIEGO GARCIA Look for Randy, WW6RG as VQ9RA on January 18, 2021. Check 20 meter SSB. QSL via home call.

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5T, MAURITANIA Tom, DL7BO has plans to be active as 5T7OO soon and staying there for a long period. More info to follow. QSL via DJ6TF.

8Q, MALDIVES Nobby, G0VJG will be active as 8Q7CQ (pending) from the Reethi Faru resort between January 14 and January 29. Activity from 80 to 10 meter using SSB and digi. QSL via M0OXO.

A3, TONGA Stan LZ1GC and Ivan LZ1PM will be operating as A35GC somewhere in 2021. Activity from 160 to 10 meter using CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8. Logs uploaded during the DXpedition to Club Log. QSL via LZ1GC OQRS, direct or bureau.

CE0Y, EASTER ISLAND The Polish DXpedition Team with Jan SP3CYY, Jurek SP3GEM, Wlodek SP6EQZ, Janusz SP6IXF, Roman SP9FOW and Piotr SP9RCL will be active somewhere during 2021 as XR0YSP. Plans are to be QRV with 3 stations from 160 to 10 meter using CW, SSB and FT8.

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DX Notes.

CP, BOLIVIA Antonio, EA5RM will once again be active as CP1XRM from San Ignacio de Moxos between January 9 and January 26, 2021. Operation on HF using SSB and digi. QSL via home call, LoTW.

CY0, SABLE ISL Permission for a DXpedition has been authorized with the team: WA2DAN, N2IEN, K5DHY, K5YY, K4UEE, WW2DX, AA4NC, N8AA, N2TU. The CY0C Sable Island DXpedition team will be active somewhere October 2021.

E6, NIUE Stan LZ1GC and Ivan LZ1PM will be operating as E6AM during October/November 2021. Activity from 160 to 10 meter using CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8. Logs uploaded during the DXpedition to Club Log. QSL via LZ1GC OQRS, direct or bureau.

FP, ST PIERRE & MIQUELON Chris, VO1CH updates DX-World that due to Covid-19, the TO5T DXpedition to St Pierre & Miquelon has been postponed until August 8-16, 2021. Activity from 160 to 6 meter using CW, SSB and FT8. <http://www.to5t.com/>

FP, ST PIERRE & MIQUELON Eric, KV1J will once again be active as FP/call between June 29 and July 13, 2021. Operation from 160 to 10 meter using CW, SSB and digi. QSL via home call, LoTW. <http://www.kv1j.com/fp/July20.html>

FW, WALLIS & FUTUNA Tom, KH0/KC0W informs: due to Covid this trip will be postponed. As soon the situation changes Tom will let us know when he departs Saipan.

HC8, GALAPAGOS ISL A DXfriends DXpedition will take place to San Cristobal. QSL via EA5RM. More to follow.

J8, GRENADINES Brian, GW4DVB will be operating as J88PI between July 23 and August 1, 2021. Operation from 40 to 6 meter using SSB and FT8. QSL via home call. <https://www.g4dvv.co.uk/dxpedition-2017>

KH4, MIDWAY ISL Ron, KH6DV announces a trip to Midway during the second half of February 2021 for about 2 weeks (if the COVID 19 is under control). Midway Atoll is #14 on the Clublog most wanted list and has not been active for some time. The aircraft used for the logistics flights has been downsized and visitors are no longer allowed to fly to the island. Operators interested in joining the expedition should be prepared to undertake a 6.75 day ocean voyage. The vessel DXpedition veteran A/S Machias can be seen on my QRZ page KH6DV. The vessel will provide all power (2 x 27KW generators and air conditioned sleeping, operating and galley areas.) More to follow.

KH8, SWAINS ISL Due to the Covid-19 pandemic it is still impossible to travel to Swains Island. This means that we have to postpone our DXpedition until Spring 2021 at the earliest. Alex Jennings (owner of island) and the team will start planning again as soon as we are allowed to travel to American Samoa without restrictions (such as 14 days in quarantine).

OJ0, MARKET REEF Joseph, AD7D will be operating as OJ0D during the summer 2021. Dates not yet confirmed. More to follow.

PJ5, SINT EUSTATIUS John, W5JON will be active as PJ5/call between October 25 and November 1, 2021. Operation from 40 to 6 meter using SSB and FT8. QSL direct or LoTW.

PJ7, SINT MAARTEN Tom, AA9A will once again be active as PJ7AA from February 27 until March 27, 2021. Operation from 80 to 10 meter using CW, SSB and digi. QSL via LoTW and Club Log.

PZ, SURINAME Markus, DJ4EL informs: Due to the rising Covid-19 cases in Europe tourists who would like to visit Suriname must bring a negative Covid-19 test and are required to be quarantined for 10 days after arrival. The second problem is that on the way back to Germany I would have to travel via Amsterdam airport which could make another Covid-19 test and another quarantine at home necessary. New dates: PZ5GE, Easter 2021. Operation from 40 to 10 meter using SSB. QSL via home call, LoTW.

TI, COSTA RICA Members of AB3G will be operating from different Costa Rican provinces during a week of Summits on the Air. They will be QRV between January 3-9, 2021. <https://ab3g.weebly.com/#>

TT, CHAD The Italian DXpedition Team will be active as TT8RR (CW, SSB and RTTY) and as TT8XX (FT8) somewhere during 2021 from Ndjamena. Nine operators (I1FQH, I1HJT, I2PJA, I2YSB, IK2CIO, IK2CKR, IK2DIA, IK2HKT and IK2RZP) will be active with four stations on all bands. QSL via I2YSB (direct only).

<http://www.i2ysb.com/idt/>

V4, ST KITTS John, W5JON will once again be active as V47JA from Calypso Bay between February 13 and March 5. Operation from 160 to 6 meter using SSB and FT8. QSL via LoTW or via home call direct.

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VK9W, WILLIS ISLAND The 2016/2019 CY9C team, and the upcoming Sable Island DXpedition CY0C team, is pleased to announce our next DXpedition. After the Sable CY0C DXpedition, they will go to Willis Island VK9W in 2021. 8 Operators from those two teams will comprise the 2021 Willis Island DXpedition team. Boat arrangements have already been made. We are currently working with the Australian government for the necessary permits. (WA4DAN). More to follow.

VQ9, DIEGO GARCIA Dates are not confirmed, nor length of activity, but Bob DU7ET could again be active from Diego Garcia as VQ9ET later this year. Update to follow...

XT, BURKINA FASO Max, DK1MAX will once again be active as XT2MAX somewhere during 2021. QSL via EA5GL. More to follow.

YN, NICARAGUA Robert, DL7VOA will be QRV from Guacalito de la Isla as YN5AO. Dates are still in planning phase due to COVID. Operation in 'holiday-style' with a focus on the low bands. QSL via Club Log OQRS. <https://www.qrz.com/db/YN5AO>

Z6, KOSOVO A Belgian team will be active somewhere in 2021 from Kosovo. QRV from 160 to 6 meter using CW, SSB and digi. QSL via Club Log, OQRS.

Happy DX everyone,

Mark
KG1Q

Sources:

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

Clublog <https://clublog.org>

<https://bouvetoya.org/>

ARRL DX News

January Acorn Calendar 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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	1
	2
	1930 – Ragchew net on 28.460 Mhz

3
1700 - MECN
net on
3.940 Mhz

4
1930 AM net on
50.400

5

6
Club Meeting
On the .61
repeater only.

7
1930 –
ARES/RACES
Net 146.61 Mhz
PL 88.5

8
1930 – Ragchew
net on 28.460
Mhz

9

1930 –Ragchew
net on 50.2
Mhz

10
1700 - MECN
net on
3.940 Mhz

11
1930 AM net on
50.400

12
APRS/RACES
meeting Jan 12th
at 5:30pm on
Zoom

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
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16

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1700 - MECN
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19

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Mhz

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1930 –
ARES/RACES
Net 146.61 Mhz
PL 88.5

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1930 – Ragchew
net on 28.460
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23

24
1700 - MECN
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1930 AM net on
50.400

26

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1930 –Ragchew
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ARES/RACES
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Mhz

30

31
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net on
3.940 Mhz