



# ACORN Newsletter



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

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## Androscoggin ARES/RACES By Paul KE6PIJ

## President's Report By Tim Bubier WT1A

### Repeaters

<u>Auburn</u>	<u>Poland Springs</u>
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 July 6<sup>th</sup> 2016 1830 EDT  
 Meeting held in Potvin Room  
 99 Campus Ave. Lewiston, Me.

### ARES/RACES Meeting

Wednesday July 20<sup>th</sup> 2016 1730 EDT  
 Androscoggin Unified EMA Office  
 Basement of Central Fire Station  
 2 College Street Lewiston, ME

### Club Breakfast

Wednesday July 27<sup>th</sup> 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.

### “Kilo-One-Alpha”

June is behind us, and so is Field Day 2016. The weather was fantastic and the location was excellent. If you were not among those who came by to visit and/or operate this year, you missed out on something special. We held our Field Day station, call sign K1A, at a corner of the Auburn Airport across from the UPS entrance. We had ample space for stations, generators, hospitality tent, and antennas. At least ten wire antennas were strung to trees at my last count, as well as a tri-band beam and some verticals. The weather was warm, sunny, and conditions for propagation were good.

I was asked more than once, “Was your Field Day a success?”, and both times I answered with a qualified, “Yes!”. Everyone has different metrics for what is successful, and that also applies to things other than Field Day. Points are a way to measure contacts and under what conditions, but they don;t measure everything. For myself, the success of Field Day 2016 included the participation and coordination of the group to put this together, operate, and tear it back down. It included the problem solving of unexpected issues that were experienced with the radio, antenna, and matching network. It included the conversations and camaraderie between hams and non-hams alike. Of course, there was also the food!

For me, regardless of points, Field Day 2016 was a true success, and a lot of fun. (think we did pretty good on points, too. Hihi) Now that it is over, it’s time to move forward and enjoy what remains of the Summer. Have a happy and safe July 4<sup>th</sup>!

Please take time to check out  
<http://EC.KE6PIJ.org>

73 de Paul, KE6PIJ  
 ARES EC Androscoggin County  
[ec@ke6pij.org](mailto:ec@ke6pij.org)

So, now Field Day 2016 has come and gone. The big question seems to be, “Was Field Day successful?” That’s a very good question because Field Day’s success cannot be measured by the number of contacts or the number of participants or any other quantifiable measurement that I am aware of. The goal of Field Day is essentially to establish and maintain field communications in a simulated emergency situation in a way that challenges ourselves and points out ways we can improve such operations.

We need to ask ourselves, “What did we learn from this exercise?” I think one of our members best summed that up to me in a statement about what his experience was in attending his very first Field Day this year. “I found out that it (Field Day) is much more than just going out into the field and setting up a radio.” That is very profoundly understated but true.

It takes many people, including a support cast of non-ham family members, CERT members and friends to put together the Field Day experience that we enjoyed this past week. That’s not to mention the great cooperation that we got from the administration and staff at the Auburn-Lewiston Municipal Airport, the commitment from the Walmart Distribution Center to help fund the food and supplies for the endeavor, and all those who just dropped by to visit for a few minutes to see what Field Day is all about.

Sure it was hot and dusty. It was nearly unbearable at times in the command tent where I had one of the two HF SSB stations set up. Dehydration and even heat stroke were definite threats during both set up and take down. But the alternative – rain – would have been much worse. No one was seriously injured, nothing major got broken, and I think all the participants,

## Secretary's Report

By Dick Knight N1NYW

The Androscoggin Club had a speaker at 6:30 Wednesday June first, David we1u explained about sending APRS signals and the equipment used and how to hook up the Audio-Radio-Interfacing. Check the w1npp.org website for the .pdf of the talk if you missed it. I even found the missing part of the file, so it displays fine now!

The Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club held a meeting Wednesday June 1, 2016 at the Potvin Room of the St. Marys' Medical Arts Building in Lewiston Maine. In attendance: we1u, n1dot, ve1aws, w2gpj, w1wfo, n1zrl, kc1ach, wt1a, n1nyw, wa1skp, w1lwt, w1ltx, k1wtx, n1oxa, ke6pij, ke4ucw, n1jd, and kc1bep.

President Tim Bubier wt1a called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Miriam kc1aih made a motion to approve the Secretary' report with the amendment that Tim kc1flj is FROM the town of Winslow and that Winslow is not his last name. Sorry I forgot to add the word "from". Bob w1ltx seconded the motion. Vote: approved.

Ivan read the Treasurers Report and Tim noted that the money from the CD was still in the account and that he has not heard from Mike from Nearfest about a contribution yet. David we1u made a motion to accept the report that was seconded by Miriam kc1aih. Vote: approved.

Tim also tells us that there is a story from 1955 now posted on the w1npp.org website about the building that now houses our DSTAR and the .61 repeater.

The Leeds repeater is not up and running yet. One problem is that the club has not key to the building yet and the second problem is the frequency coordinator gave the Leeds frequency to New Sharon. The coordinator say he will find us a new frequency in a week or so.

Field Day will be at the Auburn-Lewiston Airport near the UPS terminal. We will be using the call sign K1A. I will quote Cory ku1u that we can use 100 watts!!! In past years Walmart has donated \$250 for food

and expenses for field day and this year the letter from the club has gone out requesting the donation. There maybe a VE Exam session at Field Day, check the w1npp.org web site for the day and time.

David we1u will be teaching a tech class for a group of hospital employees at 12 High Street.

Tim Updated the Andy Club information on the ARRL website. He also mentioned that the Club has been an ARRL member club since 1951.

Tim had several radios at the meeting that were looking for new homes. Any that did not go home with a club member would be finding their way to a town dump near you.

Tim also talked about the Central Maine Regional Resource Center, what they do and the people who work there and at hospitals who are ham operators.

Tim also mentioned that n1vvm is now a silent key and that his equipment is up for grabs.

Walter ve1aws told us about his trip to the Dayton Hamvention and showed us some of the handouts and catalogs he brought back.

George w1gpj told us about the MARC club and how to sign up to be a member at only \$ 10 per year per house hold.

David we1u made a motion to adjourn that was seconded by Jerry k1wtx. Vote: adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

After the meeting Lee w1lwt won the 50/50 jackpot of \$ 10.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dick Knight n1nyw Secretary

## President's Notes Continued

whether they were operators or not, went away with a sense that Field Day 2016 was a success.

We operated as 4A, meaning that we had, or at least tried to have, four stations operating at all times: two on HF SSB, one on HF CW and one on HF digital modes. In addition, we had a GOTA (Get on the Air) station, which remained unutilized for the whole weekend (more on that in the future) along with a dedicated UHF/VHF station, and a couple of very dedicated members who were up at all hours of the night trying very hard to make just one satellite contact. In the end, we walked away with 578 total contacts on all modes including 36 digital contacts, a great increase over any such operation in the past, but sadly no satellite QSO again.

Overall, I think that we again put in a very good effort and were even more successful in learning what it takes to provide emergency communications in the field which is, after all, what ARRL Field Day is all about. We learned what works and what doesn't. We understand our equipment a bit better, and we all walked away safely and with a little better understanding of the members of our club and the Oxford CERT communication group who have now become our annual Field Day comrades.

Thanks to everyone who participated.

Tim, WT1A

## May DX News Notes

By Earl Gilmore N1SVB

News Notes  
June, 2016

The month of May we made 32 DX contacts which represents 21 countries.

RU4AA, European Russia; TA1AJJ/m, Turkey; OM3TWN, Slovak Republic; G1PQJ, England; SO1WS, Western Sahara; A66A, United Arab Emirates; PI35ETL, Netherlands; OK2RZ, Czech Republic; A41NN, Oman; 4X6TT, Israel; EA8TL, Canary Islands; 7Y7WTD, Algeria; ZA/S56X, Albania; ZD8RY, Ascension Island; LZ1KU, Bulgaria; 7Z1JA, Saudi Arabia; E41WT, Palestine; TF/EI9FBB, Iceland; 9A8SXG, Croatia; EK6SI, Armenia; TK5AE, Corsica;

We made no Pacific contacts in May. We did receive our QSL card from VP8STI, South Shetland Island this month. That brings our QSL card count of countries worked to 314.

There are several DXpeditions taking place in July 2016. Some haven't been assigned a call sign so they will use the listed prefix followed with another call sign.

Jul. 01 to Jul.10	S79V	Seychelles Is.
Jul. 01 to Aug. 03	CP1XRM	Bolivia
Jul. 02 to Jul. 07	SV9/	Crete
Jul. 04 to Jul. 10	J8/	St Vincent Is.
Jul. 05 to Jul. 12	P40W	Aruba
Jul. 06 to Jul. 08	T88MZ	Palau
Jul. 08 to Jul. 14	YJ0GA	Vanuatu
Jul. 11 to Jul. 16	8P6/	Barbados
Jul. 16 to Jul. 17	EG9LH	Ceuta & Melilla
Jul. 18 to Jul. 25	3DA0AY	Swaziland
Jul. 25 to Aug. 01	VC2Q	Canada

RSGB IOTA Contest (Jul. 30, 2016)

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

Earle Gilmore N1SVB