



ACORN Newsletter



Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club (AARC)

P.O. Box 1, Auburn ME 04212-0001

<http://www.w1npp.org>

		<u>Repeaters</u>	
<u>Auburn</u>	<u>Auburn</u>	<u>Poland Springs</u>	<u>Leeds</u>
146.61 PL 88.5	443.300 D-star	147.315 PL 103.5	146.895 PL 103.5

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Club Officers

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

Club Meetings

Wednesday Feb 1st 2017 1830 EDT
Meeting held in Potvin Room
99 Campus Ave. Lewiston, Me.

ARES/RACES Meeting

Wednesday Feb 15th 2017 1730 EDT
Androscoggin Unified EMA Office
Basement of Central Fire Station
2 College Street Lewiston, ME

Club Breakfast

Wednesday Feb 22nd 2017 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.

Club on the Air Net

Wednesday Feb 22nd 2017 @ 1900
on the 146.61 PL 88.5

President's notes

By Tim Bubier

We're approaching one of the busiest times of the year of the Club – convention time and then Field Day. I hope that you've already thought about this but we should all be asking ourselves, "How can I help out?"

Every year it seems that the same small group of people volunteer to work and enjoy these two important events. We are a large group and it should be more than just a handful of you who offer your time to assist at both. The work is not always that strenuous and the rewards can be great.

We are honored each year to host the Maine ARRL state convention here in Lewiston. We have those who have been doing this for decades now, so it makes the planning, setup and running of the event go a bit smoother, but we won't all be around forever to do this.

It can be a burden when we don't have enough help, especially the days of the convention.

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Adroscoggin ARES/RACES

By Paul KE6PIJ

Nothing Received

Announcement

The Hospital Radio Test is
scheduled for Feb. 8, at 1000

H. Norm L'Heureux, W1SCM
is a SK as of Jan. 19, 2017.

May he rest in peace.

Announcement:

The dues for the 2017 year are now due, if you can't, come to me to a meeting or you can send your \$10.00 to:

Ivan Lazure
440 Webber Ave.
Lewiston, Me. 04240

Dues need to be paid by March 31, 2017. Come to the State Convention at Ramada and the dues can be paid there.

Secretary's Report

By Dick Knight N1NYW

The Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club held a meeting at the St. Marys' Medical Arts Building Lewiston Maine on Wednesday January 4, 2017. In attendance: n1dot, kc1aih, n1ty, wa1skp, kc1goh, kb1ypz, kb1doi, kc1dny, n1wfo, wt1a, n1oxa, n1nyw, n1zrl, k1wtx, kc1bep, w1ltx, and w1lwt.

The meeting was called to order at 6:54 p.m. by President Tim Bubier wt1a. Our speaker was unable to attend so we started a little early. Bob w1ltx made a motion to accept the Secretary's report and Andy kb1doi seconded the motion. Both the wrong report in the first newsletter and the correct report in the revised newsletter were approved.

Ivan n1oxa gave the Treasurers report, Miriam kc1aih made a motion to accept the report, Andy kb1doi seconded the report. Vote: passed.

Tim gave us a report on the different repeaters status: Leeds still needs to be installed, we need another tower climber for that job. Poland Spring needs to have its antenna raised or move the whole thing to a different location nearby. The Goff Hill Auburn repeater may have some site improvements coming in the future. Tim will report any news at future meetings or in the newsletter.

There will be another test of the ham radios at area hospitals on February 8 at 10 a.m. Tim wt1a will be net control, operators are needed.

The hamfest was the next topic, we would like to have a vendor come that sells new radios and equipment. If that is not possible we talked about maybe selling radios ourselves, either take advance orders for them or use club money to buy some to resell. Pete n1zrl made a motion to investigate buying radios to sell at the hamfest and research to see if we could get a wholesale price. The motion was seconded by Fred wa1skp. Vote approved. The model MD 380 DMR radio was mentioned as a common ht for DMR, Pete will check to see if they are available in a bulk order and at what price.

Next the topic of purchasing door prizes: Miriam kc1aih brought a small HF rig to show and tell time this meeting. After a little discussion of what the radio can and cannot do Jerry k1wtx made a motion to purchase one of those HF radios, motion seconded by Cory ku1u. Vote: approved. I mentioned that maybe we should investigate having an all day class at the convention to prepare people for the VE exams.

There was a great amount of talk about the topic of speakers for the convention. It was decided to check to see if some of the speakers from previous years would come back again and possible new speakers should be contacted. One person already volunteered to talk about the use of ham radio in astronomy.

We were reminded by Ivan to check into the club meeting on the

air on .61 the last Wednesday of January at 7 p.m. Cory mentioned that his kids really loved talking with Santa on the air and thinks that we should plan to do that on one of our repeaters in 2017.

I mentioned the Lewiston MS Walk is April 29th, hams should save the date.

Lee w1lwt will be hosting the winter Field Day again January 28 and 29 at his farm in Lisbon. He is looking forward to another great time, especially the Sunday breakfast.

Miriam made a motion to adjourn that was seconded by David kc1dny. Vote: approved at 7:51.

John kc1bep won \$ 8 in the 50/50 drawing.

Respectfully submitted,

Dick Knight Secretary

DX News Notes

By Earl Gilmore N1SVB

DX News Notes
January, 2017

The month of December we made 28 DX contacts which represents 19 countries.

Countries contacted were: DAY0TOTA; Germany; YO0YOTA, Romania; 5T5TI, Mauritania; Z21LS, Zimbabwe; 3DA0TM, Swaziland; HK3TA, Columbia; OE5SLN, Austria; VK7XX, Australia; V51WW, Namibia; A25SL, Botswana; PJ2/SM4KYN, Curacao; C91PA, Mozambique; PY5YL, Brazil; HP1RN, Panama; 4U1WB, World Bank, (Wash. D. C.); TM1CEZ, France; ZS6TVB, So. Africa; ON5UR, Belgium, PB5X, Netherlands;

We made one Pacific contacts in December. We contacted VK7XX in Australia

There are several DXpeditions taking place in February, 2017. Some haven't been assigned a call sign so they will use the listed prefix followed with another call sign.

Feb. 01 to Feb. 14	TL8TT	Cent. African Rep.
Feb. 02 to Feb. 08	FG/	Guadeloupe
Feb. 03 to Mar. 11	9X2AW	Rwanda
Feb. 06 to Feb. 18	V5/	Namibia
Feb. 08 to Feb. 18	E51AMF	So. Cook Is.
Feb. 10 to Feb. 17	CE0Y	Easter Is.
Feb. 10 to Feb. 22	HP/	Panama
Feb. 10 to Feb. 24	KG4/	Guantanamo Bay
Feb. 13 to Feb. 26	XX9D	Macao
Feb. 13 to Feb. 27	5J0NA	San Andres & Prov.
Feb. 13 to Mar. 03	FO/a/	Austral Is.
Feb. 13 to Mar. 07	HK0/	San Andres & Prov.
Feb. 14 to Feb. 20	V4/	St Kitts & Nevis Is
Feb. 15 to Feb. 21	PY0F	Fernando de Noronha
Feb. 16 to Mar. 05	VP6ELL	Pitcairn Is.
Feb. 17 to Feb. 21	T88DT	Palau
Feb. 17 to Feb. 24	V63DX	Micronesia
Feb. 17 to Feb. 25	PJ7/	Sint. Maarten
Feb. 21 to Feb. 24	CE0Z	Juan Fernandez
Feb. 22 to Mar. 07	8P9AL	Barbados

ARRL International DX Contest, CW (Feb. 18-19, 2017)

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

Earle Gilmore, N1SVB

Presidents Notes from front Page

We can always use more help setting up. The work isn't necessarily difficult but it is physical work. We set up tables, chairs, banners and various other peripherals to hopefully make the event more fun and comfortable for the participants. On the day of the event we can always use more help at the doors and just running errands, such as selling raffle tickets and being a runner for the speakers and organizers. Clean up is another tasks for which we can use all the hands that we can get.

As for Field Day, if you have never participated, you really should. We will again be holding ours at the Auburn-Lewiston Municipal Airport barring some big change. It worked out to be a great site last year, not only from an area and access point of view but in terms of radio contacts, as well. We traditionally do set up on Friday and then reconvene Saturday in the morning to finish and to get prepared to operate. It's a wonderful opportunity to get on the air on HF, as well as experience other modes such digital and satellite. We always have loads of food and do a group supper on Saturday evening to which everyone is invited along with your family whether you are participating or not.

Again, set up and take down are the hard parts but there's no pressure to do anything you're not comfortable doing. We enjoy just having others show up and watch us operator or sit around and chat about anything from radios to how the garden is growing this year.

In summary, please think seriously about becoming more involved in what this club has to offer. We enjoy seeing you there whether or not the convention or Field Day is "your thing." A club should be all about comradery and building relationships within the hobby. These upcoming events are two of the best opportunities that you'll have to do just that.

73,

Tim, WT1A

Note: The Maine State ARRL Convention is March 31-April 1 at the Ramada Inn Convention Center in Lewiston; ARRL Field Day is always the last full weekend of June, 24-25th this year, with set up on Friday at the Auburn/Lewiston Municipal Airport off Flightline Drive in Auburn.