

Acorn

April 2018



A.C.O.R.N.

Put out by the

Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club (AARC)

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

<http://www.w1npp.org>



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

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Club Officers

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

Club Meetings

Wednesday April 4th 2018 1830 EDT
Meeting held in Potvin Room
99 Campus Ave. Lewiston, Me.

ARES/RACES Meeting

Wednesday April 18th 2018 1730
EDT
Androscoggin Unified EMA Office
Basement of Central Fire Station
2 College Street Lewiston, ME

Club Breakfast

Wednesday April 25th 2018 0730
EDT
at Ramada Inn in Lewiston

Take Note

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

Dates to Remember

Lewiston/ Auburn MS Walk is in a new location, Edward Little High School in Auburn on April 21, 2018.

THE 2018 ARRL MAINE STATE CONVENTION & ANDROSCOGGIN ARC HAMFEST

**Friday March 30, 2018 7pm to 9pm and Saturday
March 31, 2018 8am to Noon**

Attend and support our club!

**We have found someone to to the tower work for both
Auburn 146.61 and Leeds 146.985 repeaters to installed
in late spring.**

**Hope to see everyone on Friday and Saturday,
We have a VE Test session at 12:30pm after the Hamfest.**

Secretary's Report
By Dick Knight N1NYW

The Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club held a meeting March 21, 2018 at the Androscoggin EMA office in Lewiston Maine. In attendance: n1oxa, n1zrl, kc1aih, kb1wkt, n1dot, kb1rsd, kc1bep, kb1doi, ke6pij, wt1a, n1wfo, k1wtx, wa1skp, ke1u, n1nyw, kc1rhm, w1lwt, w1ltx, wa1kli. I am sorry if I missed anyone.

At 6:38 David we1u started a presentation on Raspberry Pi and Ardvino use with APRS trackers. At 7:09 p.m. President Tim Bubier wt1a called the meeting to order. Miriam kc1aih made a motion to accept the Secretary's report as printed in the Acorn. The motion was seconded by David we1u. Vote: Approved.

We paused for introductions and then Ivan read the Treasurers report. David we1u made a motion to accept the report as read. Miriam kc1aih seconded the motion. Vote: approved.

Tim and Ivan report they made the rounds of the Leeds and Poland repeaters and got the numbers and information they need for insurance. The premiums for both the Leeds and Poland repeaters will be less than \$ 300 per year. The 61 is housed in Ivans' house and is covered by his home owners insurance. When it is moved to the tower a policy will be purchased. The club voted to set aside an amount of money for a tower climber. The antenna work will start later in the spring. Tim plans to talk to the climber at the convention and visit the sites with the climber to let him see how much there is to do and get a better estimate of costs.

The cause of the scratch sound in the Poland repeaters' reception will be checked into.

A program for the convention was passed around and also a sign-up sheet for members to sign up for hamfest duties. Bob reported on the hamfest items sent to him so far. The MFJ 949 tuner for a door prize does not seem to be available. Miriam kc1aih made a motion to get the 948 tuner instead. David we1u seconded the motion. Vote: approved.

Ham radio tests at eight area hospitals Tuesday March 27 were discussed, and hams assigned to cover the hospitals and DFW medical centers.

Miriam kc1aih made a motion to adjourn. David we1u seconded the motion. Vote: adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

There was no 50/50 drawing, I forgot to remind (nag) anyone to have the drawing.

N1ZRL
ARES Emergency Coordinator

Spring is here! (Well everyone hopes so).

Time to think of summer "Go Kits". Black fly season will soon be upon us the kits should include bug dope.

I prefer the barely legal, high percentage of deet type. I think I am getting away with something, HI HI.

Water, should also be considered, any meds, and snacks, all this is a subject for a Thursday 1900 Net on 146.610.

I recently have been offered the honor, of the position of ARES Emergency Coordinator for Androscoggin County, and have accepted.

We have a group of experienced and motivated amateurs, which, I am sure, will make my duties an enjoyable one.

As a "Coordinator" one of my first duties will be assign individuals as Assistance Emergency Coordinator (AEC's). Filling positions with people with the skills that reflect our county's needs. So, if you have a skill, high interest, or passion concerning any aspect of Amateur Radio Communication, relay that interest to me.

I would like to match AEC's with their interest. AEC's have to be members of ARES/RACES, if not, we can do the application process.

See you on the radio,
73's N1ZRL
Pete

Dx Notes

By Earl Gilmore N1SVB

DX News Notes
March, 2018

The month of February we made 21 DX contacts which represents 12 countries.

Countries contacted were:

VA6YA, Canada; CU2KG, Azores; ZS6TVB, So. Africa; 5V75M, Togo; TM15AAW, France; EA7GX, Spain; HC2AO, Equador; J52EC, Guinea Bissau; FG4KH, Guadeloupe; HP9SAM; Panama; Z60A, Kosovo; 4X/EA3HSO, Israel

We made no Pacific contacts in February.

There are several DXpeditions taking place in April, 2018. Some haven't been assigned a call sign so they will use the listed prefix followed with another call sign.

Apr. 01 to Apr. 28	EA8/	Canary Is.
Apr. 01 to Apr. 30	KH9/	Wake Is.
Apr. 05 to Apr. 17	3B7A	Agalegae &
St. Brandon Is.		
Apr. 08 to Apr. 15	T2AR	Tuvalu
Apr. 09 to Apr. 19	VK9/	Australia
Apr. 13 to Apr. 19	T88UW	Palau
Apr. 15 to Apr. 20	E51BCP	So. Cook Is.
Apr. 15 to Apr. 22	Z66D	Kosovo
Apr. 15 to Apr. 28	6W/	Senegal
Apr. 17 to Apr. 24	T32AW	E. Kiribati
Apr. 17 to Apr. 25	T8/	Palau
Apr. 17 to Apr. 29	YJ0AO	Vanuatu
Apr. 18 to Apr. 27	FJ/	St. Barthelemu
Apr. 22 to Apr. 25	H44R	Solomon Is.
Apr. 24 to Apr. 28	HB0/	Liechtenstein
Apr. 29 to May. 03	C96RRC	
Mozambique		
Apr. 29 to May. 03	H40D	Temotu
Apr. 29 to May. 05	A52/	Bhutan

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

Earle Gilmore, N1SVB

President's Notes

As I sat at the memorial service today for one of our club members and a great friend, Dave Gilcrest, N1OXE, I was reminded how all our lives are a series of events and choices, actions and inactions. We are remembered more for the things we do than what we don't do. For some reason, all of us decided to DO ham radio. Some of us have chosen to do more ham radio than others. Amateur radio is a hobby, an option. It's one of the few things in this life that cannot be done professional just by it's own definition. So, why do it at all?

I think that for Dave, like many of us, we do radio because it's a very social hobby, For the most part we are not even allowed to use our radios unless it's to communicate with someone else. It's a way to be social without ever seeing the other person face to face. We get to meet people and make friends not just locally but even internationally. We get to share our lives and our passion for communication over radio waves with a wide variety of people under a huge assortment of circumstances. We also get to help people without actually physically interacting with them. We volunteer for events to raise money to help others, we assist during times of distress and disaster, we pass messages to family, friends and loved ones for those otherwise unable to communicate directly through other means.

Ham radio has always existed with the intent of assisting others. We get enjoyment from our hobby not just through meeting our own personal goals of operational proficiency, building or obtaining new and better equipment, or reaching some other aspiration that we may have but also by knowing that in some way we have contributed to betterment of the hobby, helping others, and making friends. There is little negative to be said about what we do or why we do it. Sure, there are those who try to make this hobby less enjoyable for others by causing intentional interference and grief, but for the most part we do a good job of self policing and, fortunately, those incidents are relatively few. Most of the time we're met on the airwaves by interesting, smart, enthusiastic people who actually want to talk to us and hear what we have to say. In turn, we listen, share, debate, encourage, and enjoy. If not, we can always turn our radios off and wait for a better day. That is why I enjoy amateur radio - it never has to be a negative in our lives, or at least it shouldn't.

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Presidents Notes Continued

So, I encourage you all to DO more amateur radio. Take the time out of your busy days to sit in front of that rig and get some enjoyment out of what you hear, see, and feel. Life is too full of negative things. Use this hobby in a positive way to touch others and it will make yourself feel better that you did.

Like Dave, be positive and be a friend.
73,

Tim, WT1A

This is the correct story below to the photo in last months Newsletter.

Amateur Radio on Display

" Amateur radio was on display at the IEEE Maine Section booth, Maine Engineering Expo, New Balance Field House, University of Maine Orono, Febuary 24, 2018. The display portrayed the evolution of communications from the use of Morse Code, to high frequency radio, to internet connected remote communications, to software defined radio. Display items included a hand key with a Heathkit code practice oscillator. a Yaesu HF transceiver, an Echolink connected laptop with headset, and a laptop connected to the WebSDR server at the University of Twente, Enschede, The Netherlands. AC1AE served as control operator at the display."

Photograph courtesy of Walter Rawle AC1AE
Walter

