December 2018 Acorn



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



Lewiston 146.61 PL 88.5 ON AIR

<u>Auburn</u> 443.300 D-star OFF AIR

Repeaters Poland Springs 147.315 PL 103.5 ON AIR

Livermore 146.895 PL 103.5 ON AIR

Take Note

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

Club Officers

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

Club Meetings

Wednesday Dec 5th 1830 EDT Meeting held in Potvin Room 99 Campus Ave. Lewiston, Me.

ARES/RACES Meeting

Wednesday Dec 19th 2018 1730 EDT Androscoggin Unified EMA Office Basement of Central Fire Station 2 College Street Lewiston, ME

Club Breakfast

Wednesday Dec 26th 2018 0700 EDT at Webster St, Conv and Deli, 715 Webster Street, Lewiston

ARES/RACES Net

Every Thursday on the 146.61 pl 88.5 Repeater at 7pm with digital after the voice part.

President Notes by Tim Bubier

The board of directors of the Maine Amateur Radio Foundation voted this past week to approve \$200 from its own budget, in addition to \$1100 already contributed by 5 other groups and individuals, to support the replacement of the 146.880 MHz KQ1L repeater on Streaked Mountain in Buckfield. This should be enough to help the repeater's owner, Dave Hawke, replace the aging equipment at that location with much more modern and reliable technology. As most of us know, the '88 repeater is a critical part of the backbone of linked repeaters owned by Mr. Hawke and others that connects amateur radio communications throughout most of this state. I just wanted to take this opportunity again to thank you club members for also voting to contribute to this worthy cause.

Pete Thuotte N1ZRL ARES Emergency Coordinator

Happy Holidays to all, and as "Captain Obvious" would state, "Winter is here.", and it came upon us in the blink of an eye. equipment, ie.. Voice and Data,(Two

I received some feed-back the other day, concerning the recent SET that occurred in October. Paul, KE6PIJ, commented on some issues that I have been thinking about for some time, and some other ones that I had not considered, and his comments reinforced my concerns.

The EOC is not in an ideal location to act as NET Control in a simplex situation. The EOC should be a "Client" in a "Repeaters Down" situation. The ideal NC would be in a location within Androscoggin County that can hear most of the simple stations and make use of "Relay" stations as required and/or available.

The County Communication Van, most likely, would not be available for Amateur use. The present condition of the

Comm Van, battery condition, radio in it (or not in it), other equipment we would require etc.. are not all there. We can do better.

Suggestions:

NET Control: an operator who can work from his home with the required separate sets of equipment and antenna).

Which leads to something I had not considered, Paul pointed out, Digital Communications on a separate Frequency/Band from the Voice frequency. Distant stations on the same freq. depending on a relays, may not hear that digital data is being transmitting and try making contact to their relay station, causing a potentially confusing situation.

The EOC, "Client", would receive/transmit Voice Only communications, unless the space and equipment for two separate stations, where Voice and Data could be operated at the same time, or close to it, without the need to reconfigure existing.

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Secretary's Report By Dick Knight N1NYW

The Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club held its' monthly meeting Wednesday November 7, 2018 at the Medical Associates Building at St. Marys' Regional Medical Center, Lewiston Maine. In attendance: n1oxa, kc1aih, kb1doi, n1dot, w7vx, n1wfo, n1nvw, wt1a, w1lwt, w1ltx, kb1ghr, k1wtx. kb1hfy, kb1dhi, wa1skp, kc1bep.

The meeting was called to order by President Tim Bubier wt1a at 7:02 p.m. Miriam kc1aih made a motion to accept the Secretarys' report as printed in the newsletter. John kc1bep and Jerry k1wtx seconded the motion. Vote: approved.

Ivan gave the Treasurers report and John kc1bep made a motion to accept the report, Miriam kc1aih seconded the motion. Vote: approved.

Repeater report: Dstar is not up and running yet, the tower for its' antenna is not up yet.

Ivan and others discussed the SET from October 27 that had an ice storm scenario. It was good practice using simplex to talk all around the county.

Rick n1wfo and Ken n1dot had a nice time at Paws for Pets.

The Secretarys' report in this months newsletter reads "Former Vice President Earle Gilmore has donated a tower to the club. It should have read former Trustee Norm w1scms' wife donated a tower to the club. A work detail will be formed to take it down.

Lee w1lwt will be operating at the American Legion in Lisbon on Veterans day on twenty meters. Also Lee will be operating winter Field Day again this year at his house in Lisbon, you are all invited January 26 and 27 2019.

Beaver Park in Lisbon is available as a Field Day site in June 2019 at no charge. Paul kb1qhr made a motion to reserve that day. The motion was seconded by John kc1bep. Vote: approved. Tim the club President will make the reservation.

Bill Woodhead passed along the opportunity to buy a \$ 100 brick for Anniversary Park. The application form was passed around the room, there was no motion to buy a brick so no money was spent.

Tim pointed out an error in the DX report in the newsletter, there should have been 466 contacts and not 266. We will have our annual Christmas party at the next club meeting December 5 at 7 p.m. Ivan will send an email with

the sign up sheet to tell us what you will be bringing for

John kc1bep made the motion to adjourn, Miriam kc1aih seconded the motion. Vote: adjourned at 7:38 p.m. Andy kb1doi won the 50/50 jackpot of \$ 12.

Respectfully submitted, Dick Knight Secretary

Pete Thuotte N1ZRL

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equipment and could print a "Hard Copy" of the digital messages to submit to the supported agency

Those manning shelters or Hospitals may need their own relays. They will most likely only have 2 meters capability, and if we use a different band for Digital traffic, they are not set up for that. Can they print a "Hard Copy" of the Digital Traffic for the supported agency/organization, (is it needed?).

NOTE: The situation with the hospitals is being address by that group involved.

Comm Van. I do not expect the situation with it to be resolved soon. The conditions have been on going as long as I can remember. So in the mean time, possibly forever, we need our own solution. Any suggestions?

We need discussions here to come up with a realistic approach/solution. 73"s,

Pete N1ZRL