Acorn

February 2019



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>Lewiston</u> 146.61 PL 88.5 ON AIR
 Auburn
 Pol

 443.300 D-star
 147.31

 OFF AIR
 OI

Repeaters <u>Poland Springs</u> 147.315 PL 103.5 ON AIR

<u>Livermore</u> 146.895 PL 103.5 ON AIR

<u>Take Note</u> 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 Feb 6th 1830 EDT Meeting held in Potvin Room 99 Campus Ave. Lewiston, Me.

ARES/RACES Meeting

Wednesday Feb 20th 1730 EDT Androscoggin Unified EMA Office Basement of Central Fire Station 2 College Street Lewiston, ME

Club Breakfast

Wednesday Feb 27th 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 1930 (7:30pm) with digital after the voice part.

Planning for the Convention and Hamfest in March 29 and 30, 2019 is ongoing.

Letter from Tim Bubier

After a lot of serious thought and with much regret, I must inform you all that I will be stepping down as president of the Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club. I do not take this decision lightly but I think it is in the best interest of the organization that I do so for a couple of reasons. First, and undoubtedly the deciding factor, is my current lack of time due to increased demands of work and the unpredictability of my current schedule. The club should have a leader who is able to attended the vast majority of its meetings and functions. Secondly, I think it's time for someone new to take his or her turn at leading the club, steering it not necessarily in a different but in a fresh course.

I have enjoyed my time as your leader and wish to thank all of you for your support and help through these past few years. We are not only a large group but an active one, even if we don't always follow the same course in our hobby. It is our diversity and wealth of experience that makes the AARC such a vital club.

I will also no longer be doing the DX News portion of this newsletter because I have not even had the time to be in the shack the last couple of months for more than a few minutes at a time. Hopefully someone with more time behind the mic, key or keyboard can pick this up and carry on the tradition that Earle kept up for so many years.

Lastly, I am glad to stay on as trustee of the club. I certainly have enough time to support that role and it is frankly a bit of a pain to transfer all that paperwork to another party. I am, of course, open to suggestions if anyone has a different idea on that matter. I also have every intention of remaining an active member of the club but I just can't continue to act in a leadership role at this time.

Again, thank you all for all you have done for the club but I cannot in good conscience continue to be your absentee leader. 73, Tim, WT1A Acorn

Secretary's Report By Dick Knight N1NYW

The Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club held a meeting Wednesday January 2, 2019 at the Potvin Room at St. Marys' Regional Medical Center in Lewiston, Maine. In attendance: kc1aih, n1oxa, kc1bep, n1nyw, n1zrl, ac1ae, w1ltx, w1lwt, kb1doi, n1jd, and n1wfo.

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by Vice President Lee Trask w1lwt. John kc1bep made a motion to approve the Secretary's report as printed in the newsletter. The motion was seconded by Miriam kc1aih. Vote: approved.

Ivan read the Treasurers report. Again John kc1bep made the motion to approve the report. Again Miriam kc1aih seconded the motion.

Ivan told about taking down a tower with antennas at the home of silent key Norm w1scm. It is being stored at the garage of Bill n1kat. Lee tabled the decision on what do with it until at least the next meeting. Ivan will be making an inventory of the equipment and will take bids by email if you would like to buy any or all of it.

Ivan reports that Beaver Park in Lisbon was confirmed as the clubs Field Day site for 2019. More details as the date gets closer.

7:22 p.m. Tim texted Ivan and reported that he was absent because he was called in to work.

Ivan told us that the ARRL confirmed our hamfest will be the ARRL State Convention as usual. Ivan told us he plans to change the program and NOT have talks until 10 a.m.

Decembers breakfast meeting was moved to Chummys in Lisbon Falls because Webster Street was closed for the holiday. The January meeting will be held back at Webster Street.

Again Lee will be hosting the Winter Field Day the last weekend in January at his home on Upland Road in Lisbon. He says "the goal is to have fun and eat".

Andy kb1doi passed around QSL cards from the special events station at the Dempsey Challenge.

Pete n1zrl tells us that there is a packet network on 145.01 MHz and also talked about the need for more gps trackers.

There was no 50/50 drawing. Walter ac1ae made a motion to adjourn that was seconded by John kc1bep. Vote: approved at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dick Knight n1nyw Secretary

Last ARES/RACES meeting, on 16 JAN, was a FLDIGI training session and discussions also included the "Wish List" Dave, WE1U had put together addressing what is needed to make the "Go Kits" really ready to go. Mike, power cord, coax jumper were the main items required. Other items, that would be go to have, are still up for discussion. Include it the FLDIGI training was a program called FSQ.

Taken From: <u>http://www.w1hkj.com/FldigiHelp-3.22/fsq_page.html</u>

Fast Simple QSO. is an Incremental-Frequency-Keyed mode using an offset differential modulation scheme similar to DominoEX, and Thor. It is a unique mode for fldigi users in that it is a line by line transmission rather than character by character. FSQ uses 33 tones spaced by 3 times the 3 baud symbol rate or 8.8 Hz. The offset rotation of the IFKP sequence offers improved performance under NVIS conditions, because the rotation significantly reduces the risk of adjacent symbols causing inter-symbol interference.

One can Query another station for "Most Heard", sig level, station info. and you can exchange photos.

Thanks to Dave and Ivan for the prep required for this training session.

If you are interested, on 145.010 checkout BBSEMA:N1ZRL-2 and if you are into sending e-mail using Winlink, RMSEMA:N1ZRL-10. Still learning this stuff but, it's up and running. Future enhancements possibility incude being able to post a message on BBSEMA:N1ZRL-2 and the BBS will forward it to the recipient's Home BBS, (automatically), working with Richard Bate, WD1O on this. I should say, He is working on it and I will copy and adjust for our node.

Pete N1ZRL

Pete Thuotte N1ZRL ARES Emergency Coordinator