Acorn

March 2019



A.C.O.R.N. Put out by the Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club (AARC) P.O. Box 1, Auburn ME 04212-0001 <u>http://www.w1npp.org</u>



<u>Lewiston</u> 146.61 PL 88.5 ON AIR <u>Auburn</u> 443.300 D-star OFF AIR 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: Lee Trask W1LWT 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 Mar 6th 1830 EDT Meeting held in Potvin Room 99 Campus Ave. Lewiston, Me.

ARES/RACES Meeting

Thursday Mar 21st 1730 EDT Androscoggin Unified EMA Office Basement of Central Fire Station 2 College Street Lewiston, ME

Club Breakfast

Wednesday Mar 27th 0700 EDT at Webster St, Conv and Deli, 715 Webster Street , Lewiston

ARES/RACES Net

Every Thursday except for meeting night 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.

2019 ARRL MAINE STATE CONVENTION AND HAMFEST

March Friday 29 and Saturday March 30, 2019

Plan to attend the convention and hamfest at the end of March and support our club and the vendors that will be there. At the March club meeting we will decide what the main door prize will be.

Pete Thuotte N1ZRLwill be doing a talk on packet radio on Wednesday night before the club meeting at 6:30 pm.

Note from Harold N1LLU:

I'm glad that there is those that are interested in packet radio. When I lived in Lewiston we had a packet network which I was able to use and connect across the US.

KQ1L had a few nodes and backbone on the network. Different issues caused the whole network to collapse. I hope that doesn't happen again.

Issues were one ham in New hampshire cut the link from San node to

New hampshire and there were those that complain that it was to slow and no one wanted to help with maintaining the nodes and the owners didn't want to keep putting more money into the nodes out of their pocket so the nodes disappeared and hasn't been any packet network since the late 90's.

Let's hope more ham's will get involve and build another network.

Secretary's Report By Dick Knight N1NYW

The Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club held a meeting February 6, 2019 in the Potvin Room of the St. Marys' Medical Associates Building Lewiston Maine. In attendance: n1zrl, kc1aih, n1oxa, n1nyw, wa1eoj, kb1doi, w1ltx, w1lwt, n1wfo, kc1rcm, k1wtx, kb1qhr, n1jd, wb1hfy, w2etn, and wa1skp.

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Lee Trask w1lwt at 7:00 p.m. Miriam kc1aih made a motion to approve the Secretarys' report as printed in the newsletter, seconded by Bob w1ltx. Vote: approved.

Ivan read the treasurers report. Miriam kc1aih made a motion to approve the report, motion seconded by Pete n1zrl. Vote: approved.

Jerry reports that Quicksilver is penciled in to come to the hamfest and convention. He says that Kits and Pieces will not be making the rounds anymore and will be missed. Jerry talked about other vendors and is waiting for the forms to be ready to send to vendors to fill out and sign up with. Ivan talked about other aspects of the convention including the \$78 rooms at the Ramada.

The club still has a 40 foot tower with antennas and other equipment from Norms' estate sale. The plan is to put the list of equipment in the newsletter so the club members will have the first dibs on it. Anything that has not found a new home before the convention will be for sale to the public at the hamfest March 30.

As the front page of the newsletter said, Tim wt1a has resigned the Presidents job because of his work schedule. We need someone else to write the DX report that Tim did and Earle started years ago. Write it up and send it to Ivan before the 25 Th. of the month to audition for the job. With the Presidents post vacant Bob w1ltx moved to nominate Vice President Lee w1lwt for the Presidents office. The motion was seconded by Miriam kc1aih. Vote: approved almost unanimous.

Lee asked Pete to do a show and tell presentation at the next meeting about packet radio. Lee reports that thirteen visitors attended Winter Field Day last month. There was more food than contacts. Lee says the logs have been submitted.

The next club breakfast will be held February 27 on Webster Street. Ivan reports that the club will be helping the MS Walk in April and Trek across Maine in June.

Pete n1zrl reports that the club needs to investigate possibly getting used radios that the city of Auburn would

like to pass on. They can be reprogramed to ham frequenies.

Miriam kc1aih made a motion to adjourn that was seconded by Jerry k1wtx. Paul kb1qhr won 12 dollars from 50/50.

Respectfully Submitted, Dick Knght n1nyw Secretary

> Pete Thuotte N1ZRL ARES Emergency Coordinator

This month we are playing with packet, radio that is. Here is a brief on packet Radio. <u>https://www.tapr.org/pr_intro.html</u> (I do not want to re-create what already created.)

Packet radio is a particular digital mode of Amateur Radio ("Ham" Radio) communications which corresponds to computer telecommunications. The telephone modem is replaced by a "magic" box called a terminal node controller (TNC); the telephone is replaced by an amateur radio transceiver, and the phone system is replaced by the "free" amateur radio waves. Packet radio takes any data stream sent from a computer and sends that via radio to another amateur radio station similarly equipped. Packet radio is so named because it sends the data in small bursts, or packets.

Check out the TAPR website, this is where the above was taken from. There is much more there.

Pete Thuotte N1ZRL

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DX Report By Mark Burton KG1Q

I'd like to start off my inaugural DX report by asking folks to keep an eye out for Norbert, VK0AI who has been active in the evenings from the Macquarie Island research station. He only runs 100w, and is pretty much only using the FT8 digital mode, but he is workable. Keep an eye out for him on the cluster during evening greyline. VK0M Macquarie is ranked #11 on Club log DXCC most wanted.

The entire DX community is holding their breath on whether the Rebel DX group will indeed make the trip to Bouvet Island as 3Y0I. Stay tuned to DX News and DX World for the latest. This will be an ATNO (All Time New One) for many hams. 3Y/B is ranked #2 on Club log DXCC most wanted.

Zorro, JH1AJT is once again active in Bhutan from Feb 27 to Mar 9 as A5A. Bhutan is ranked #97 on Club log DXCC most wanted. Zorro and his team work all modes, and lately seem to be focused on 30m and 40m.

Other March activities of note

FO/OK2ZI - Mar 6 to Mar 12 – French Polynesia VY0ERC - Till end of March - Ellesmere Island 6W/ON4AVT - Feb to Mar 30 – Senegal T31EU - Feb 16 to Mar 5 - Central Kiribati XV9YM – Feb 16 to Mar 18 - Vietnam XR0ZRC - Mar 11 to Mar 27 – Juan Fernandez E6ET - Mar 19 to Apr 2 - Niue

Happy DX everyone

Mark KG1Q

Sources: https://bouvetoya.org/ https://www.rebeldxgroup.com/ DX World https://dx-world.net/ DX News https://dxnews.com/ ARRL DX News