

# THE MONITOR

June 2015

Published Monthly for members of the Amateur Radio Clubs in Virginia's Central Shenandoah Valley

## VARA Meeting: June 2nd

The **Valley Amateur Radio Association**, will hold its **June 2nd** meeting at Hometown Grille & Buffet (Old Shoney's) at 30 Sanger Lane, Staunton, VA. Dinner starts at 6:00pm, and the general meeting begins at 7:00pm.

## MARA Meeting: June 4th

The **Massanutten Amateur Radio Association, Inc.**, will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, **June 4th** at the Wood Grill on Reservoir Street in Harrisonburg. Dinner starts at 6:30 p.m. Meeting starts at 7:30 PM. All hams and their families are invited and welcome.

## PVARC Meeting: June 5th

The **Page Valley Amateur Radio Club** will hold its regular meeting on **June 5th** at 6:30pm at the Page County Sheriff's Training Room in Luray. All hams and their guests are invited.

## Weekly Friday Luncheon

The **Friday weekly** casual lunch meetings are at Hometown Grille & Buffet (Old Shoney's) at 30 Sanger Lane, Staunton, VA at 11:00AM. Directions: I-81 to Exit 222, Richmond Rd. & Rte 250. Turn East, Hometown Grille & Buffet will be on the left across the street from Mrs. Rowe's.

~ June 2015 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	Notes: The FOURTH full weekend in June			

# Directions To the Field Day Site

38° 21' 8.5" N || 79° 9' 7" W Degrees, Minutes, Seconds

38° 21.142' N || 79° 9.117' W Degrees, decimal Minutes

38.35236° || -79.19194° Decimal Degrees

Directions to the 2015 Field Day site start at the sharp turn on Rt. 42 exactly 3 miles south of Bridgewater. Proceeding south from Bridgewater you will turn right at this sharp turn. If you are coming north on Rt. 42 from Churchville you will see a sign with flashing yellow lights on it just before you turn left on Rt. 747.

Go west on Rt. 747/613 towards Mt. Solon. Just follow the main road. After 3.4 miles you will come to a 4-way stop at Mt. Solon – continue straight ahead following the main paved road. The road number will change from 747 to 730 but just follow the main road and you will probably not even notice the number change. After a 3-way stop, you will come to a one lane steel bridge - You Have Arrived. Turn left up the drive by the yellow house just Before you cross the bridge.

Note that when you leave the site, immediately after getting back on the paved road at the bridge, the main road BEARS RIGHT to take you back through Mt. Solon to Rt. 42. Remember Bear Right!!

## Field Day Equipment Policy

Adopted by \_\_\_\_\_ .

Be it understood that:

As a participant in Field Day operations, whether a club member or visitor, you are using equipment that may belong to someone else. Care for it as if it were your own.

**No repairs** or modifications, no matter how slight, shall be made to any equipment without the owner (or owner's designated representative) present.

Any apparent malfunction of the equipment shall be reported immediately to the owner.

Be it further understood that:

Equipment which is brought to the Field Day site and made available for use is done at the owner's discretion, and said equipment should be supervised by the owner or his /her designated representative.

Any damage to, or failure of, the equipment at Field Day will be the responsibility of the owner, and NOT that of the \_\_\_\_\_ or sponsors, organizers, participants, or management of the Field Day Activities.



I wonder if his friends from DC will be joining us for Field Day



Building at entrance to Stokesville Campground.

Campground



View toward Massanutten Peak

Pavilion and Rest Rooms





## MARA President's Column

MARA president's \$0.02 worth:

Well June has arrived, best known in ham radio as the month when Field Day occurs. Many thanks to the Field Day committee for their tireless effort to plan and organize the event as a joint effort between **MARA** and **VARA**. This year they had an extra task, to go find a location after learning that the site on top of the mountain would not be available. **Jeff, W4PJW**, found a good alternative site, the Stokesville campground near the Stokesville Observatory. Direction to the campground should be elsewhere in this newsletter. A big improvement is running water and flush toilets, and there is also a pavilion with

electrical power so lighting should not be a problem, and those wishing to camp don't have to "rough it" unless they want to. The radios, however will still be powered by generators as this event is to simulate emergency conditions.



The next **MARA** meeting is June 4 at the Wood Grill Buffet on Reservoir St at 6:30 pm for the meal with the meeting starting at 7:30. I hope to see many of you there.

Gerald, KN4FM



### Dan Hale's (KC8TEN) Wife Terri

Dan Hale's wife, Terri, is losing her battle with cancer. Dan is fighting Alzheimer's and Terri has been his main support. We are not sure how much longer Terri will be here. The family is all in and surrounding them, so please keep them in your prayers as they work through this difficult time.

Thanks! Dan KE4JSX

Let's all keep Dan and his wife in our prayers.

Ray...KE4HVR

### Pat Smiley's (KD4WWF) wife Dianne

I just got a call that Pat Smiley's (KD4WWF) wife had a heart attack and is in UVA for a bypass. Let's all keep Diane and Pat in our prayers.

73...Ray...KE4HVR

## On the Sick List

### Diane, XYL of Pat, KD4WWF

Hello Valley Hams

I just got off the phone with Pat KD4WWF. He brought Diane home this evening around 4:00pm. she is doing fine and the doctor was pleased with her progress. He said they were getting ready to eat so I didn't talk long.

Let's all keep them in our prayers.

73...Ray...KE4HVR

### Phil Rinaca, KQ4D

Hello Fellow Hams,

If everyone is wondering why they don't hear Phil on the Big Mountain repeater, Tuesday May 19, Phil fell and broke a hip, at this time he is in RMH awaiting surgery to repair the hip, keep Phil in your prayers.

Mark-N4YSA,



## Silent Keys



**25 May 2015 0100: Bill Shott, W2ZVM** became a silent key. . **Ray, KE4HVR** advises he will be cremated and there will be no visitation.

My sincere condolences to the family. John KT4CB, Editor

## VARA President's Column

Greeting fellow hams! I hope all of you are getting out in this spring weather and getting those outside projects done before the summer heat makes it impossible to enjoy being outdoors.

The Dayton Hamfest was a big success this year ,it took all my money once again. I really tried to keep some, but with hundreds of sales pitches and so many new radio toys who can resist.

I interrupt this letter to bring you a special bulletin from Field Day Command Center.

### **ATTENTION ALL MARA and VARA HAMS and OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:**

It is now official the location of this years Field Day site is: **Stokesville Campground Observatory**

The field day committee has been working tirelessly to secure a site this year and after several sites fell by the wayside, we now owe a great huge Thank You to W4PJW and N4DSL for finally finding us a great location.

I have included some pictures of the campsites and area and also a direction letter for all of you to enjoy, compliments of W4PJW.

This years site will feel like a resort , as we have a pavilion, rest rooms and hold on to your mic's, real hot showers!!! It is an easy drive to the location with easy directions and a great view for the whole family to enjoy. We will have our usual Friday night dinner potluck at 6:00pm, please bring a hot dish and or salad, dessert. The clubs will provide plates, utensils and cups.

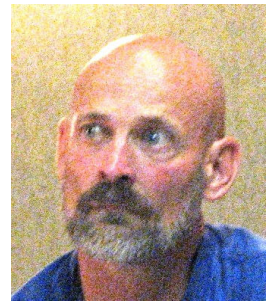
To all the hams in the area who read this letter, I would ask ALL of you to make it a point to come to field day and give your time for a couple of hours, The men and woman who have put in countless hours to prepare all the necessary pieces to make it a great Field Day weekend deserve your support.

Any further questions on this years Field Day 2015 can be answered by contacting Field Day Chairman John Keller W4ZAO at [eaglehiker@hotmail.com](mailto:eaglehiker@hotmail.com)

We now return you to your regularly monthly VARA Presidential Letter .....

Please be safe over the Memorial Day weekend and plan on being at Field Day June 26-28, 2015

**John Keller W4ZAO**  
President VARA



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## Pics from Reddish Knob area

By Jason Armentrout, N4DSL

I rode up yesterday (10 May) to Reddish Knob and back through the old Field Day site all the way to Switzer Dam on my motorcycle. Thought I would share pictures I took along the way.

First there was some kind of repeater installed on Reddish Knob. Don't think it was amateur. The forest service was doing a controlled burn so maybe it was for them. Surprised they just left things laying on the

ground like they did, however it was interesting to look at.

Then I posted pics of old field day site and how it is blocked off with logs.

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/lx2s8ojjbgkkiuz/AACmsNyWYuLKcjrSiEqf2eCa?dl=0>

Click the link above to view pictures.

Jason  
N4DSL

## Luray Invaded!

**Luray**— On Saturday, April 25th, the city of Luray was invaded by hordes of bicycles and riders from areas as far away as Texas. The Sheriff’s Department, along with the local ARES group from the Page Valley ARC managed to keep them corralled at the Page Valley High School. A group of motorcyclists were also on hand to assist.

The Page County Annual Bicycle Race had begun!

The cyclists had been separated into three groups, and by 0730, began escaping into the surrounding area, being led and followed by the Sheriff’s Deputies. A prescribed course had been reserved for them to frolic in. By 1100, they had succeeded in completing four laps. After a break for food and refreshments, they were off and riding again! Three different groups started the afternoon festivities. One group completing five laps, the second group completing six laps and the third group seven laps by 1500.

The sweep rider, referred to as “The Backward Rider” made a final sweep to insure no riders disappeared into the surrounding countryside. The Page County Rescue Squad was in attendance to assist with any emergencies.

With six checkpoints manned by the ARES group, no riders were lost.

The coordinators of the invasion and the Motorcycle Group that assisted expressed their gratitude to the club for providing communications.



Just tell the second group to turn left here.



Fearless Leader





The "Backward" rider



# Area Hamfests

Eastern Pennsylvania Section Convention (Firecracker Hamfest)

Saturday, July 4, 2015

Location: Shumaker Public Safety Center - HACC

1 HACC Drive

Harrisburg, PA 17101

Website: <[www.w3uu.org](http://www.w3uu.org)>

Sponsor: Harrisburg Radio Amateurs' Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 146.760 (PL 100)

Public Contact: Tim Lehman, KB3OZA

PO Box 453

Hummelstown, PA 17036

Phone: 717-982-8550

E-mail: <[kb3oza@arrl.net](mailto:kb3oza@arrl.net)>

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Manassas Hamfest & Maker Technology Show

Sunday, June 14, 2015

Location: Prince William County Fairgrounds

10624 Dumfries Road

Manassas, VA 20108

Website: <[manassashamfest.org](http://manassashamfest.org)>

Sponsor: Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 146.97

Public Contact: Terry Erlacher, KC4DV

PO Box 1255

Manassas, VA 20110

Phone: 571-292-1490

E-mail: <[chariman@manassashamfest.org](mailto:chariman@manassashamfest.org)>

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BARC Father's Day Hamfest

Sunday, June 21, 2015

Location: Arcadia Volunteer Fire Company Grounds

16020 Carnival Avenue

Upperco, MD 21155

Website: <[www.gbhc.org](http://www.gbhc.org)>

Sponsor: Baltimore Amateur Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 146.67 (PL 107.2)

Public Contact: Bill Dobson, N3WD

PO Box 120

Reisterstown, MD 21136

Phone: 410-842-5019

E-mail: <[w3ft67@yahoo.com](mailto:w3ft67@yahoo.com)>

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RadioActivity 2015

June 25-27, 2015, Thurs. 6:30-9pm, Fri. 6am-9pm, Sat. 7am-12p

Location: Holiday Inn Timonium

9615 Deereco Road

Timonium, MD

Website: <<http://www.maarc.org>>

Sponsor: Mid-Atlantic Antique Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: None

Public Contact: Bruce Pellicot, KA3EIE

10348 Route 99 Woodstock, MD 21163

Phone: 410-461-7441

Email: <[brucepellicot.md@netzero.net](mailto:brucepellicot.md@netzero.net)>

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65th Annual Berryville Hamfest

Sunday, August 2, 2015

Location: Clarke County Ruritan Fairgrounds

890 West Main Street

Berryville, VA 22611

Website: <[www.shenvalarc.org/hamfest](http://www.shenvalarc.org/hamfest)>

Sponsor: Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 146.820 -

Public Contact: Thomas Brownlee, AF2D

744 Gafia Lodge Road

Middletown, VA 22645

Phone: 540-869-7065

E-mail: <[af2d@arrl.net](mailto:af2d@arrl.net)>

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Delaware State Convention (Delmarva AR & Electronics EXPO)

Saturday, October 3, 2015

Location: Sussex Technical High School

17099 County Seat Highway

Georgetown, DE 19947

Website: <[www.radioelectronicsexpo.com](http://www.radioelectronicsexpo.com)>

Sponsor: Sussex Amateur Radio Association

Type: ARRL Convention

Talk-In: 147.090 (PL 156.7)

Public Contact: Herb Quick, KF3BT

PO Box 1431

Seaford, DE 19973

Phone: 302-629-4949

E-mail: <[herb@hamiltongraphics.com](mailto:herb@hamiltongraphics.com)>

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CARAFest 2015

Sunday, October 4, 2015

Location: Howard County Fairgrounds

2210 Fairgrounds Road

West Friendship, MD 21794

Website: <<http://www.carafest.org>>

Sponsor: Columbia Amateur Radio Association

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 147.390 (PL 156.7)

Public Contact: David Parkison, KB3VDY

1257 Stevens Avenue Arbutus, MD 21227

Phone: 410-977-1249

Email: <[vendorsales@carafest.org](mailto:vendorsales@carafest.org)>



# Shenandoah Memorial Day Parade



Left to right: Mark, N4YSA, Gene, KI4HFO, Bob, KI4VFP, John, KT4CB, and Paul, KK4IRS



Parade is moving

**Shenandoah, VA**— The hot afternoon sun beat down on the 100 plus entrants in the parade as they shuffled for position. Getting restless and with nowhere to go until the festivities began, they moved from their floats to seek some respite in the sparse shade from the onslaught of the summer heat. The announcement finally came “The parade is moving!”

The entrants scrambled to their floats, fired up their tractors, cars and trucks. They waited what seemed like forever, the last of the entrants were moving toward the finish.

A long hot day came to a merciful end. And no floats went missing! Thanks to the able assistance of the Page Valley ARES group, the communications kept the parade on time and moving.

Many thanks to the ARES group consisting of Mark, N4YSA ( The head cheese), along with Bob, KI4VFP, Gene, KI4HFO, John, KT4CB and Paul, KK4IRS kept the entrants corralled until the parade began moving. And no floats ended up in the river.

An excellent way to remember and honor our heroes. I'm honored to have been a small part of it.

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## MARA Treasurer's Report

MARA Treasurer's Report April 21, 2015 - May 20, 2015

Beginning Balance April 20, 2015 (Last Report)		\$ 2,505.20
Add:	\$ 0.00	
Total Deposits		\$ 0.00
Less: Bank Fee (April)	\$ -2.00	
SVEC (April)	<u>-21.88</u>	
Total Disbursements		\$ <u>-23.88</u>
Ending Balance as of May 20, 2015		\$ 2,481.32



Submitted by Sheryl Tonini, KJ4DOC, MARA Treasurer

## Run 100 miles on foot? ... Yep!

### Amateur Radio support for the MMT-100 Foot Race

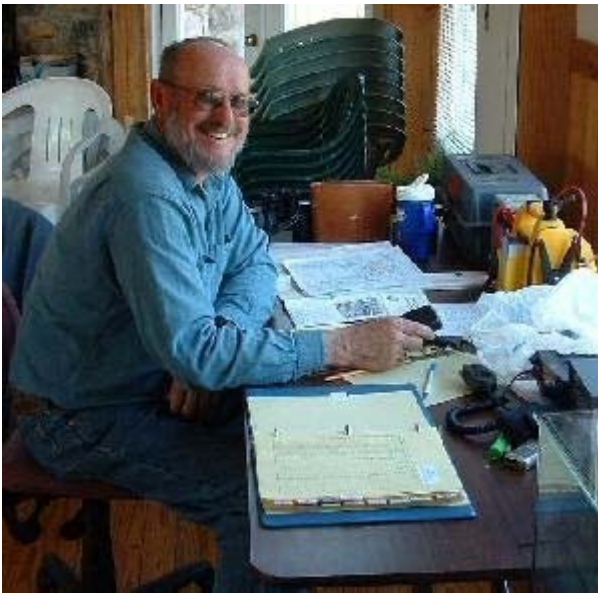
The 21<sup>st</sup> Massanutten Mountain Trails 100 foot race was held the weekend of 16 and 17 May 2015, and was supported by amateur radio operators for the duration of the 24 hour race.

One hundred twenty of the starting 199 runners actually finished the race. The cut-off time for the race was 36 hours, with the last place finisher coming in at 35:57:42. That's hours! The first place finisher broke the tape at 19:36:25; he was actually in second place when I clocked him at the 50-mile midway point, Indian Grave Trail station 8.

This race is very well organized and supported, with many volunteer hours required to host such a first class event. Kevin Sayers was race director and volunteer coordinator and **Larry Miller KB6VAA** coordinated our amateur radio support as well as serving as Net Control along with others.

It was very enjoyable to support this event and witness the outpouring of support by runners for their comrades on the Massanutten Mountain trails.

**Patrick Sprague, KE4EI**, PIO Page County ARES



KB6VAA—coordinator and sometimes Net Control



Amateur Radio Operator vehicle

For those with an interest, the details and results of the MMT-100 can be found here: [vhtrc.org/mmt/](http://vhtrc.org/mmt/)





MMT-100 participant vehicle license plate



Pot hole on AS # 8



Future MMT-100 Runners



50 miles and smiling



Indian Grave Trail Aid station 8



Thrill of victory agony of de feet



# VARA Secretary's Report

The **Valley Amateur Radio Association** held its May 5th, 2015 meeting at the Hometown Grill and Buffet in Staunton.

The meeting began at 7:00 pm. President **John Keller W4ZAO** asked us to do the usual introductions. The 50/50 drawing was held, and **Ed Varner N4EDI**, won ( again; he won last month's drawing, too! ) \$7.00.

**Jeff Rinehart W4PJW**, related a story of how we never know who we might run into in our lives, such as the man who was marking lines for cables in his yard, that recognized Jeff from the Self-Reliance Expo event. We also had Ed and Shirley McGuire as visitors, having been in the area for about 2 years, since moving from Colorado. He wants to take the test in June at the WOW building in Dayton( Virginia ).

**ARES Report: David Tanks AD4TJ**, EC for Augusta County, reminded us that hurricane season starts next month. He also announced the **Augusta County May ARES** net will be held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month, on the 14th, at 8 pm; NC and frequency to be determined.

**Secretary's report:** David asked that the minutes be accepted as printed in *the Monitor*; seconded, and passed.

**Treasurer's report:** Greg gave the report; seconded and passed.

**Field Day:** John announced that the 3rd Field Day Committee meeting would be May 6th, at 6:00 pm, at the Burger

King at Mt. Crawford. Anyone is allowed to attend. There will not be a GOTA station this year, and the VHF/UHF station, as last year, will not be sponsored by the clubs( **Ray K4NRA** will probably do something ). And if anyone wants to do a satellite station, it will not be sponsored by the clubs. The Field Day location was discovered to be an issue, as the old site and the Todd Lake sights will be unavailable this year, due to re-seeding of the old site. The welcome center will be run by Ellsworth and Jeanie. We will have Phone and CW stations, as usual.

**Dayton Hamfest:** John is going, as is **Bob VanFossen K4DJG**.

**Upcoming contests:** David told the members that the Armed Forces Communications Test will be the 9th; the last week-end of the month is the CQ WW WPX CW contest. Special Events going on: the 100th anniversary of the sinking of the Lusitania; on the 9th is the Inaugural Special Event celebrating the 150th anniversary of the last shot fired in the Civil War; also on the 9th is the Armed Forces Day Special Event from the USS Midway Museum Ship Radio Room; the 23rd is the 50th anniversary of the Chesapeake Maritime Museum.

As Ed McGuire is going to take the test in June, we discussed whether to take his check for the club dues, as any new ham gets his membership free, or give it back to him( with the presumption that he will earn his license ); we gave the check back.

Nothing has been heard from the Bike Festival director, so we know nothing of their plans yet.

**New business:** none.

**Old business:** none.

David mentioned that sometimes we don't have a program for the meetings; what do the members want to hear presented as a program? Let him, or John, or someone know, so we can get more programs.

A new-to-the-area ham, **James Williams KC5RAT**, wants help programming his radio( s ) for the area repeaters.

With no further business to discuss, and no program, the meeting was adjourned at 7:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

**David Tanks, AD4TJ**, VARA Secretary



Fly the flag proudly, remember our fallen heroes.



# PVARC Secretary's Report

The Page Valley Amateur Radio Club held its May 1, 2015 monthly business meeting in the Page County EOC Training Room in Luray on this date. **Tim Ramey, AK4CJ**, PVARC President, called the meeting to order at 1830 with the Pledge of Allegiance. Fifteen members and two visitors were in attendance .

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Zory, KB3VQC announced a piece in his local newspaper had an article about the Luray Bike Race, but had failed to mention the Club's participation in it.

## Secretary & Treasurers Reports:

The Secretary asked the minutes of last month's meeting as printed in *The Monitor* be accepted. There being no corrections; a motion was made to approve them as printed. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. The Treasurer gave his report. A motion to approve the report was made, seconded and passed unanimously.

## Committee Reports:

**Membership Committee:** Morgan, K4RHD. Nothing to report.

**Education/Training Committee:** Chair – Morgan, K4RHD, Chief Instructor: Phil, KQ4D: A demo for the Page County High School was tabled for this meeting.

**Widow's Assistance Committee:** Chair – Morgan, K4RHD—nothing to report

**Historian Committee:** **Patrick Sprague, KE4EI** solicited photos and items for the History scrapbook.

**Website Development:** Dave, K4DPF - Brian, W3TTT . Dave explained problems he was experiencing with getting the web site operational. To date, the web site is still unavailable.

**Program Committee:** Co-Chairmen - Zory/KB3VQC & Morgan/K4RHD

**Technical Assistance Committee:** Co-Chairs – Mark, N4YSA & Paul, N4PJI, no report.

**Field Day Committee:** Details are being worked out. The Field Day site will be the same as last year.. Equipment needs being firmed up.

**OLD BUSINESS:** The paperwork for incorporation is complete, and the 501(c)3 application is moving forward smoothly.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

\$22.00 was collected for the 50/50 drawing ,netting the club \$11.00 with Dave Fire4stone winning \$11.00.

A motion to adjourn @ 1859. The motion was seconded and passed,

Donuts, coffee and good fellowship followed the meeting.

Submitted by:  
John Spillman,  
KT4CB,  
PVARC Secretary



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## VE News (No, we're not talking about Canada)

Thanks to those who helped with the April 11th test session:

Our next testing will be held **June 13th**.with **Gayle, KU4XN** in charge at the Woodmen of the World building on Highway 42 (John Wayland Highway) just north of Dayton, Virginia. Sign-in starts at 9:00 am, followed immediately by testing. If you are an accredited VE and would like to help, contact **Gayle Shull, KU4XN** at [gshu7411@gmail.com](mailto:gshu7411@gmail.com)

Looking forward to the same good help as always.



Gayle Shull, KU4XN



# MARA Secretary's Report

May 7, 2015

Meeting called to order at Wood Grill, Harrisonburg, by President **Gerald Nauman, KN4FM**, at 7:31 p.m. 18 members and 6 guests were present. Introductions were made all around.

**New Members:** An application for **MARA** membership was received from **Bob Hume, W4DMV**, with a first reading.

**The Secretary's Minutes** for last month's meeting were approved as published in the April *Monitor*.

**The Treasurer's Report for May** was approved as published in the April *Monitor*.

## Committee Reports:

**ARES:** **Bryan Daniels, K4RMY**, reported that the Mountain Valley Emergency Communications Group now meets on the last Sunday of the month at 1830 local time, on or close to 7.189 MHz. Active members are from Rockingham, Page, Warren and Shenandoah (?) Counties. As reported in the April Monitor, the next face-to-face meeting will be May 30, 3 p.m., but the location was not mentioned at this **MARA** meeting, if known.

Following the 40 meter SSB net, the Page County **ARES** net meets on the 146.625 repeater.

**Repeaters:** No report

**Volunteer Examiner (VE) Committee:** Next session will be 9:00 a.m. Saturday, June 13, at Woodmen of the World, Dayton.

**Public Service:** **David Collins, N4WDC**, reported that the Orkney Springs horse ride on Saturday, June 13 needs 6 ham stations to provide communications for its one-day event. For more details, email [N4DWC@arrl.net](mailto:N4DWC@arrl.net). It was also reported that there is a National MS Society bike ride in Purcellville on the same Saturday. It was noted that these events are on the same day as the VE session.

**Announcements:** **David Collins, N4WDC**, discussed the MFJ Cub QRP kit and some available QRP books, as well as **MARA** tee shirts. He suggested the club consider using the **MARA** logo designed by **Andrew Pearson, N4RCE**, on the tee shirt, and place orders for any or all of these items. A motion was made and passed, that the club should look into **MARA** apparel.

**Old Business:** **Herb Slade, AA2BF**, reported that most plans for Field Day are well in hand.

We will not have a GOTA station this year, but **Ray Ritchie, K4NRA**, and **Matt Huffman, KD4UPL**, plan to operate the VHF/UHF station again.

One important detail needs to be settled: After initial hope that the old Field Day site near Flagpole would be accessible at last, we learned that the area will not be open to any vehicular traffic until the Forest Service has repaired damage done by thoughtless people in four wheelers chewing up the mud. After that has been done, access will be by permit only. At the time of this **MARA** meeting, we were still talking to the Frontier Culture Museum about having the FD site on a large field on its property. The next FD committee meeting will be Wednesday, 6/3, 6:00 p.m., at Mt. Crawford Burger King.

**New Business:** Representative Bob Goodlatte is supporting H.R. 1301, which would direct the FCC to extend "reasonable accommodation" of amateur radio to private land use such as where C&C rules apply to permitted structures. The **MARA** Secretary was directed to write Mr. Goodlatte a letter under our club letterhead, thanking him for his important support for amateur radio.

**50/50 Drawing:** \$22 collected, with \$11.00 won by **Foster Farone, WF40**, who donated his share to the club. \$22 will go to the **MARA** Treasury.

**Motion to adjourn:** Passed at 8:30 p.m.

**Program:** A HT Show & Tell session followed Adjournment. It was mentioned that GMRS radios, as opposed to FRS types, must be licensed. Several members discussed old or new favorite HTs, including Andrew Pearson's Yaesu 4T60 dual bander, Bryan Daniel's ICOM T90A (which receives from 90kHz -999MHz!), John Bottemiller's 1985 2-m single bander, and Ray Ritchie's Yaesu 530(?). There were no hand-held spark-gap transmitters at this S&T. (Just checking to see who reads the whole Secretary's minutes :).

Respectively submitted,

**Herb Slade, AA2BF**, Secretary





# ARRL RTTY Results for the Valley Hams

In the **ARRL's RTTY Roundup** of January 2014 the following hams operated Single Operator Low power:

**Jason Armentrout N4DSL** came in 3rd in the Roanoke Division, and 2nd in Virginia, in the Single Operator Low Power category, with a score of 70,756 points, 738 Q's and 98 M's.

**Paul Wyse W4PFM** was 6th in Virginia with 22,910 points, 295 Q's, and 79 M's.

**Butch Washer N5SMQ** was 10th in VA with 7,488 points, 149 Q's, and 52 M's.

**Jeff Rinehart W4PJW** was 11th VA with 4,200 points, 100 Q's, and 42 M's.

**Jay Suter W4QDC** was 15th VA with 1,144 points, 47 Q's, and 26 M's.

In the **CQ WW RTTY DX Contest** of September 2014, the following hams operated in the Single Operator Low Power category, and placed in the 4th Call Area as follows:

<u>Place</u>	<u>Call</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Q's</u>
5th	W4PFM	253,396	391
16th	AD4TJ	100,320	246
19th	N4BCC	64,408	175
25th	W4PJW	29,158	132
36th	N5SMQ	4,346	55

( 20th in the 5th Call Area, as posted by CQ )

**Jim WS6X** operated in the Assisted Category, and, like Butch, was posted by CQ in the 6th Call Area, instead of Virginia, where he operated.

Jim's result for the 6th Call Area:  
2nd Place WS6X 436,652 505  
His score would have placed him in 12th Place, 4th Call Area.

All 6 of the above operators combined their scores as the Shenandoah Valley Wireless contest club; we came in 29th out of 35 clubs.

73, David AD4TJ

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## How Long Has It Been Since You Checked Into One of the Nets?



**Don't forget:** The local ARES groups hold regular nets to let you check out your radio equipment, antennas, and other station gear. Take advantage of these opportunities to get signal reports and get to know the other local hams.



The **Page County ARES Net** meets the first Sunday nights on the local 146.550 simplex, the remaining Sundays on the 146.625 (PL 131.8) repeater, at 8:00 pm local time.

The **Rockingham County ARES Net** meets Monday nights at 8:00 pm local time, the first Monday on 146.55 simplex, all other Mondays on the 147.225(-) repeater (PL 131.8).

The **Augusta County ARES Net** meets the second Thursday of each month at 8:00 pm local time, usually on the 146.850 repeater (PL 131.8).

The **NVTN (Northern Virginia Traffic Net)** meets daily on the 147.300 (PL 131.8) repeater at 7:30 pm local time.

The **Old Dominion Emergency Net** meets every first and third Monday on 3.947 kHz at 6:30 pm local time. **All hams are welcome!**

The **VSBN (Virginia Sideband Net)** meets daily on 3.947 kHz at 6:00 PM local time. **All hams are welcome!**

## Amateur Radio in Play in Aftermath of Nepal Earthquake

At least one HF net is reported to be handling emergency and relief-related traffic in the wake of a devastating and deadly earthquake in Central Nepal. The magnitude 7.9 quake on April 25 caused landslides on Mount Everest during the climbing season, killing an unknown number of mountaineers and stranding others. A strong aftershock hit April 26. So far, some 2200 people are reported dead. The earthquake hit an area between the capital city of Kathmandu and the city of Pokhara. An emergency net has been running around the clock on 20 meters (14.205 and/or 14.215 MHz), with Jayu Bhide, VU2JAU/AT150ITU, as net control station and other stations in India participating). The net has been attempting to organize relief logistics. Amateur Radio DX.com also has reported activity on 7.100, 18.160 and 21.360 MHz.

Running just 25 W from solar power, Satish Kharel, 9N1AA, was reported to be coordinating his activity with Nepal police and sharing duty with Suresh Up-

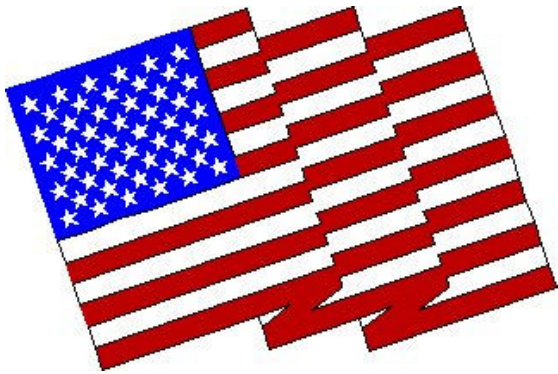
reti, 9N1HA. Both are in Kathmandu. Amir Bazak, 4X6TT, in Israel joined the net and helped to keep the frequency clear. "Our stations are working with no break," said Bhide, who is Amateur Radio Society of India (ARSI) National Coordinator for Disaster Communication.

Nepal's first Amateur Radio repeater, set up in 2012 by the National Society for Earthquake Technology (NSET), and at least a dozen ham in various locations were reported on VHF. The 9N1KS repeater (434.500 MHz in/145.000 MHz out) is on the NSET headquarters building on the outskirts of Kathmandu. A drill conducted in 2012 indicated good coverage of the Kathmandu Valley.

The US chapter of the Computer Association of Nepal provided technical and financial assistance for the repeater and supplied equipment to use it. The repeater has a battery back-up power source.

The NGO "Humanity Road" is maintaining an [updated summary](#) of damage as well as immediate needs.

*From the ARRL Newsletter*



"Death leaves a heartache no one can heal; love leaves a memory no one can steal."  
From an Irish headstone

### VE News (No, we're not talking about Canada)

Thanks to those who helped with the April 11th test session:

Our next testing will be held **June 13th** with **Gayle, KU4XN** in charge at the Woodmen of the World building on Highway 42 (John Wayland Highway) just north of Dayton, Virginia. Sign-in starts at 9:00 am, followed immediately by testing. If you are an accredited VE and would like to help, contact **Gayle Shull, KU4XN** at [gshu7411@gmail.com](mailto:gshu7411@gmail.com)

Looking forward to the same good help as always.



**Gayle Shull, KU4XN**





# Hurricane Watch Net "Special Event"

Celebrating our 50th Anniversary Season  
Serving the National Hurricane Center  
and Mankind Since 1965



The Hurricane Watch Net will be holding a two-day, on-air, "Special Event". This event is to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Hurricane Watch Net. During this event, June 13 and 14, our members will be using the callsign "WX5HWN". We will be operating on 14.325 MHz, of course, but we will also have stations active on or near 7.268 MHz.

Our net control stations located around the continental US, eastern Canada, the Caribbean, Mexico, and Honduras will all use WX5HWN as we pass the virtual baton from member to member.

We are planning this "Special Event", hopefully, before the Atlantic Tropical Basin becomes active. While the Atlantic Tropical Season is June 1 through

November 30. The peak of the season is generally mid-August to late October. However, tropical cyclones can develop any time of year.

This will be our first special event using WX5HWN. To request a specially designed certificate, please submit your request to [wx5hwn@hwn.org](mailto:wx5hwn@hwn.org) by June 30, 2015. Certificates for valid contacts will only be sent electronically to your email address. No QSL Cards or other postal requests please.

For more information about this event, and, the Hurricane Watch Net, please visit our website at [www.hwn.org](http://www.hwn.org).

**Bobby Graves - KB5HAV**

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## Broadband Hamnet (BBHN ) on The Big Mountain site

The Big Mountain site now has Broadband Hamnet (BBHN). As of May 17, 2015 the first step of the Page Valley BBHN is in place with the installation of two nodes 2.4Ghz. Directional antennas at the Big Mountain Site, one pointed South (Shenandoah, Elkton area) and one pointed East (Stanley area). This is just the first steps in hope of many more nodes, and many more Amateur Radio operators involved. Our next step is hopefully putting a server at



the Big Mountain site along with a tower cam. Many thanks to **Mike-KM4IDK** for all that he has invested in this project.

Anyone wishing to know more about this project email **Mark-N4YSA** [n4ysa@gmx.com](mailto:n4ysa@gmx.com) or **Mike-KM4IDK** [mwenson88@gmail.com](mailto:mwenson88@gmail.com) or go to [www.broadband-hamnet.org](http://www.broadband-hamnet.org) for general information on Broadband-Hamnet.

# The Opinionated One:

Report on Dayton Daze

Reprinted from June 2006 issue of The Monitor

On Friday, at the agreed-upon lunchtime pow-wow at the top of the ramps

The annual pilgrimage to the Dayton Hamvention began on Thursday, May 18, at 7:30 am at the Redwood Restaurant. Over a dozen hams ate there and got gas before hitting the road west on I-64. The group traveled in a caravan which resembled the final stretch of the Indianapolis 500. In the front position for much of the race was Geneva "Leadfoot" Suter, XYL of Jay W4QDC, driving a tidy green Toyota speedster capable of land velocities that would make any NASCAR enthusiast drool.

Jay and Geneva were followed closely (perhaps a little too closely?) by Jason Armentrout N4DSL and Matthew Huffman KD4UPL in a scaled-back Peterbilt wannabee. These two good-looking single guys, with their Oxleys, great hair and wide smiles, appeared as though they were cruising through the chick-infested neighborhoods of Beverly Hills 90210. The popular phrase "babe magnet" would have applied, except that for some reason, babes seemed to be in short supply in West Virginia and Ohio this year. Perhaps it was the mild winter ... oh well...

Next in the line-up came Richard Wilkins KR4V, and his XYL Pamela KC4HYT in their self-contained living apparatus. At the West Virginia welcome station, Richard and Pamela gave free tours of their luxurious mansion-on-wheels, including the marble hot tub, the big-screen TV, the teak patio, and the master-bedroom's walk-in closet equipped with disco-ball lighting.

Bob Gay KE4BOB was driving a sporty little Volkswagen which unfortunately was suffering from Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and had to be pushed by hand up some of the West Virginia hills. He said something about a diesel vacuum, but hey, we've seen Orecks and Hoovers which ran faster than Bob's Jetta.

Bob Van Fossen K4DJG and his XYL Laura were in his mobile intelligence center, equipped with navigation and communication consoles which are serving as prototypes for the next generation Space Shuttle. Bob also had what looked like a covered-up keg of moonshine attached to his rear bumper. (It turned out to be his go-cart covered in a tarp!)

Jeff Rinehart, W4PJW rode alone, which was good because every five minutes Jeff tried, vainly, to make contact on 40-meter HF mobile with Neal Buckingham, WA4KKL. It was later learned that Neil, a professional radio systems designer, technician, and installer, was having — get this! — radio problems!

Neil and his wife Peggy had a several-hour head start. They

waited for the group at the Bob Evans lunch stop at Interstate 64 and WV Route 34. While their mobile mansion had more rooms than Richard and Pamela's (including a bowling alley and indoor pool upstairs), it lacked the most important feature: an engine! Neil's manor house had to be pulled along by a separate vehicle. Luckily, Neil and Peggy had brought one along, just for such a purpose.

Gerry Brunk K4RBZ and his XYL Shirley were also in the caravan. Gerry's vehicle served as the wildlife lookout, spotting deer, rabbits, and lots and lots of bull from the other cars in the convoy.

David Fordham KD9LA and Richard Huttinger AA4RH brought up the rear, which is entirely appropriate, if you happen to know these two guys.

The caravan disbanded somewhere just east of Dayton, with the various vehicles going their individual ways to the hotels. (Rumor has it that the Jetta ended up in a dumpster outside a Hooters off I-70.) Outside the Mendelson tent, the gang was paid a surprise visit by none other than George Brunk, WB4IXG, who apparently was in town as part of his band's 75th reunion tour.

If you get a chance, ask Gerry K4RBZ where he got his Yae-su world map. Ask Jeff W4PJW how easy it is to find the cute little girls giving out the Icom hats. Get Dave KD9LA to tell you about the fellow who was selling lightning arrestors "under the influence". Ask Richard AA4RH about the tuna-tin QRP rig that requires a real can opener! Ask Bob K4DJG about how easy it is to maneuver around 28,000 convention attendees in a motorized cart! Ask Jay W4QDC about the impromptu game of musical chairs held at the Old Country buffet. Ask Richard KR4V about the Dr. Jekyll Mr. Hyde personality change that happens when Dave KD9LA gets really hungry! These hams will be glad to share their knowledge and experiences with you!

Some great bargains and show specials were obtained by most of the hams who went. You can buy everything, including the kitchen sink, at Dayton. You can buy a yellow Civil Defense Geiger Counter for \$10. You can buy over 60 million surplus Motorola business band walkie-talkies at various prices. You can buy things that look like they've been IN the landfill for at least two years. You can buy all kinds of assorted hardware for \$1 per pound! You can buy a Heath HW-101 or parts for a Collins S-Line. After enjoying your oriental massage at booth 519, you can buy a pair of Drake twins (no, sorry, Jeff, they weren't the ones handing out the Icom hats!)

Some of the group returned to the valley Sunday, but sadly, many couldn't tell directions and ended up in Indiana, Illinois, and other states west. Really! No Fooling. Just ask 'em!



# The Phillips Code

From the June 2008 issue of The Monitor. By Hugh Pettis, K3EC

It was one of those great "AHA!" moments. Circulating around the Internet as "Only great minds can read this " floated across my screen. You may have seen it:

"fi yuo cna raed tihs, yuo hvae a sgtrane mnid ... "

Of course I could read the scrambled and garbled text. Then came comprehension. A great light dawned in this Old Timer's CW consciousness. This little exercise from some researchers at Cambridge University reveals the secret of copying highspeed CW plain text. That is, the CW op doesn't need ALL the letters in a word to recognize it, much less in correct order – just enough letters (initial and terminal) to fit it to its context for a fully transcribed text. I have known and marveled at highspeed ops who could copy plain-text English 60-65 WPM. I personally clocked one at 68 WPM, the highest setting we could get on a Boehme keyer. Awesome.

I knew that such high speed ops had to slow down significantly to receive and transcribe five-letter cipher groups. Such coded texts preclude subliminal recognition of content; every letter has to be accounted for individually – there is no "context" of meaning in raw cipher traffic. So the 60 WPM high speed press op, for example, had to brake down to 35-40 WPM to handle five-letter code groups. Many high speed ops could comfortably copy press ten to twenty words behind transmission. No problem remembering context and meaning as the plaintext words flow across the page. (I've known and seen shipboard ops copy press for the ship's newspaper directly on mimeograph stencils.)

Copying five-letter code groups behind is tougher. There is no "meaning" to recall while pounding the mill. Although I have friends who could copy four or five groups behind (i.e, 20-25 characters), the best I could do in my salad days was one to two groups (or five to ten letters) behind. Years later, a psychology prof explained this exhibited a typical short-term memory "bin" of the mind. That's why we can easily recall 7-digit telephone numbers but have difficulty with the 10-digit ones or commercial 9-digit zip codes.

Wait – there's more! More than a century ago telegraphy was our only mechanism for transmitting news and mes-

sages across the land. Electricity beat out the Pony Express in just one year when the trans-continental railroad came along in 1867. The telegraph flourished with avidly sought-after sports and political news, all usually charged at a unit cost-per-character. High speed telegraphers (such as Thomas Edison) made bundles of money for Western Union, Postal Telegraph and other companies producing hand-written messages at speeds of up to 30-35 WPM. Exactly as the 20th century's high speed radiotelegraphers could do with plaintext press as noted above.

In 1879 Walter J. Phillips developed a "telegraphic shorthand" to speed up transmission times and economize on per-character cost. Mr Phillips' code embodied one to four letter abbreviations for roughly 10,000 common English words. (Did you know your own English storage bin recognizes about ten times that number?) In Phillips Code, for example, "MST HV IMT AR TO OU TGM O YA" is written out as "Must have immediate answer to our telegram of yesterday" – a saving of 49% of per-character charges, and a freeing up of 33% more available circuit capacity.

By century's end (1900) the Phillips code was in common use by skilled telegraphers across the land. When typewriters came into general use, telegraphers knowing Phillips Code abbreviations would directly transcribe text into plain language as heard on the sounder. Although telegraphic and radio circuits were advanced with the machinery of 20th century electro-mechanical technology (e.g. teletype, ticker tape), brass-pounding old timers still used it through WW-2 on both military radio and LL circuits if they found a knowledgeable partner on the other end and the text was unclassified plain English.

Morse telegraphy, including HF CW, has indeed faded away into a dim and distant past. Phillips Code itself occupies a small niche in the annals of American communications technology.

Yet we as amateur radio operators occasionally using CW Morse code on the air employ some vestiges of this long-forgotten Phillips Code: ES for "and" and TT for "that." Two from ten thousand is a tiny remainder and minuscule percentage indeed, but maybe as with the South, Mr Phillips' English language code Will Rise Again!

Hugh Pettis, K3EC



## ARCNEM D-Day Commemoration (W2W Special Event)

The Amateur Radio Club of the National Electronics Museum (ARCNEM) is planning to again help to commemorate the allied D-Day landing during WW2. The Club's station at the Museum in Linthicum, MD (close to BWI Airport) has again been granted the Special Event call of "W2W", and plans to operate on 20m and 40m during the period of June 2 - June 10, 2015, with primary operation on June 5 - 7.

Certificate and/or QSL card will be available: W2W Special Event, P.O. Box 1693, MS 4015, Baltimore, MD 21203. (Please consider making a small contribution to help defray our copy and mailing expense. Thx) Look for us near 14.244, 14.044, 7.244, and 7.044 MHz (+/-) phone. (Possibly also CW, and RTTY, depending on who signs up/ shows up to operate).

73 de KB3VQC, Zory (Member of PVARC and ARCNEM)

### How's DX

**LZ - Bulgaria:** The Bulgarian Radio Club Blagovestnik (LZ1KCP) offers a new All Saints 2015 award, honouring Bulgarian Saints with the following special event calls:

January - LZ290MB	February - LZ550SI
March - LZ386SKI	April- LZ883PI
May - LZ102SIB	<b>June - LZ293MA</b>
July - LZ429PS	August - LZ250MM
September - LZ129WNLS	Oktober - LZ130SAK
November - LZ259PA	Dezember - LZ362MT

**LZ290MB** honours the memory of the martyr Boniface. QSL via bureau, LZ1KCP (d).

**9N - Nepal,** Jacky, ZL3CW (F2CW) works for the UN World Food Programme and will stay in Nepal for **three months** starting on **18 May**, with activity on the amateur bands during his spare time (callsign TBA). He will upload his log to LoTW when he returns home. [TNX The Daily DX]

**C5 - THE GAMBIA.** Alan, G3XAQ will be QRV as C56XA from **May 16 to June 4**. Activity will be holiday style on the HF bands using CW. This includes being an entry in the upcoming CQ WW WPX contest. QSL via G3SWH.

**JT** - Special event station JV150ITU is active **until 31 December** from Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the International Telecommunication Union. QSL via LoTW or direct to JT1CD. [TNX JT1CD]

**ZA, ALBANIA.** Henning, OZ1BII, will be active as ZA/OU2I from Durres between **May 26th and June 2nd**. His activity will include the CQWW WPX CW Contest (May 30-31st) as a Single-Op/All-Band/Low-Power entry. His equipment will be a Elecraft K3, a Diamond BB7V vertical plus a balun

and some wires. Hopefully, some sort of Long Wire antenna. Log will be uploaded to ClubLog, eQSL and LoTW. QSL via direct to his home address or LoTW (preferred). For more details and updates, see:

<http://oz1bii.dk/dx-za2ee.htm>

### IOTA News

**AS-013-8Q** - Nobby, GOVJG will be active as 8Q7CQ from the Maldives (AS-013) on **5-18 June**. He will operate SSB and some PSK on the HF bands and a special effort on 6 metres. QSL via G4DFI. [TNX NG3K]

**EU094, EU-058, EU-070, EU-095, EU-159 + F** - Keith, G3TTC will be touring France between **30 May and 4 July**, and hopes to be able to operate as F/G3TTC/p from a few islands: **Saint-Nicolas (EU-094, 31 May), Sainte Marguerite (EU-058, 9-10 June), Porquerolles (EU-070, 12-13 June), Ratonneau (EU-095, 16-17 June), Banc d'Arguin (EU-159, 27-28 June) and maybe others**. All dates are indicative. Look for him on or around 14260 and 18140 kHz. QSL via G3TTC, direct or bureau. Requests for bureau cards can be sent to keithorchard2[ @ ]talktalk.net. [TNX rsgbiota.org]

**EU-063-JW** - Erik, LA2US will be working on Hopen Island (**EU-063**), Svalbard from the **first week of June for six months**. "When work and other tasks permit" he will operate CW as JW2US, Around the IOTA frequencies or at the lower band edges. QSL via LA2US (OQRS for bureau and direct cards on Club Log), LoTW and eQSL.

**EU-124 - GW** - The Strumble Head DX and Contest Group ([www.mc0shl.com](http://www.mc0shl.com)) will be active once again as MCOSHL from Ramsey Island (**EU-124**) on **19-22 June**. Plans are to have three stations on air 24/7. QSL via MOURX (OQRS on [www.m0urx.com/oqrs/](http://www.m0urx.com/oqrs/)).

This month's bulletin was made possible with information provided by NC1L, QRZ DX, The Weekly DX, The OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX News, The Daily DX, DXNL, Contest Corral from QST, the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.



**NA-070; NA-039** KH7, **ALASKA** (IOTA Op!). Jeff, KL2HD, informs OPDX he will be working on Amchitka Island, Aleutian Islands (**NA-070**), between **June 9-11th**, and Adak Island (**NA-039**) between **June 18-21st**. This is not a dedicated DXpedition, but he hopes to operate in evenings after work which will determine his on-air time. He plans to operate as KL2HD/p (from Adak) or KL7NWR (from Amchitka). He thinks 20m or 17m SSB are most likely. Jeff will use 100w and a homebrew adjustable quarter wave vertical on the ocean. If he can fit a 500w amp into his luggage, he will take. QSL via KL2HD.

**NA-080—C6** - Eric, K9GY will be active as C6AYM from Grand Bahama Island (**NA-080**) from **27 May to 1 June**. He will operate CW and SSB on 80-6 metres, and will participate in the CQ WW WPX CW Contest. QSL via K9GY and LoTW. [TNX OPDX Bulletin]

**NA-097—6Y** - Armin, DK9PY will be active as 6Y6N from Jamaica (NA-097) from **27 May to 2 June**. He will operate CW only, and will participate in the CQ WW WPX CW Contest. Outside the contest he will be QRV around 10-14 UTC and after 22 UTC. QSL via home call. [TNX

The Daily DX]

**Na-105—FS** - Once again John, K9EL will be active as FS/K9EL from St. Martin (**NA-105**) from **28 May to 18 June**. He will be QRV on 80-6 metres CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via home call, direct or bureau (OQRS on Club Log), LoTW and eQSL. Follow his daily activities on Twitter (@FSK9EL).

**NA-168**. Karl, KD5LCP, will be active as KD5LCP/p from Grand Isle (USI LA-003S, Jefferson County, LA) between **June 27-28th**. Activity will be holiday style (fishing trip), so operations will be sporadic on CW transmitting QRP. QSL via his home callsign.

**OC-024—T32, EASTERN KIRIBATI**. Ken, KH6QJ, will once again be active as T32AZ from Crystal Lodge, Kiritimati (Christmas Island) [**OC-024**] between **June 3-8th**. Operators Richie/VK8RR and Paula/VK8ZI will be joining Ken and hope to apply for their T32 callsigns soon. Activity will be on the HF bands and 6 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via KH6QJ. All other callsigns go via VK8RR.

## Contests & QSO Parties

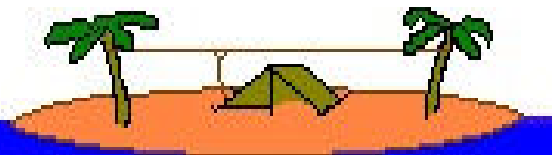
For more details and information, go to:

<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.html>

- 1 RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data
- 2 ARS Spartan Sprint
- 3-4 CWops Mini CWT Test
- 4 NRAU 10m Activity Contest, All modes
- 5 NCCC RTTY Sprint
- 5 NCCC Sprint Ladder
- 6-7 10-10 Int'l Open Season PSK Contest
- 6-7 DigiFest
- 6-7 VK Shires Contest
- 6-7 SEANET Contest
- 6-7 UKSMG Summer Contest
- 6-7 IARU Region 1 Field Day, CW
- 6-7 RSGB National Field Day
- 6-7 AL QSO Party
- 10 NAQCC CW Sprint
- 10 RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW
- 10-11 CWops Mini-CWT Test
- 12 NCCC RTTY Sprint
- 12 NCCC Sprint Ladder
- 12 HA3NS Sprint Memorial Contest, 40m/80m
- 13 Asia-Pacific Sprint, SSB
- 13-14 Portugal Day Contest
- 13-14 DRCG WW RTTY Contest



- 13-14 SKCC Weekend Sprintathon
- 13-14 QRP ARCI QRP Shootout
- 13-14 GACW WWSA CW DX Contest
- 13-14 REF DDFM 6m Contest
- 13-15 ARRL June VHF Contest
- 17-18 CWops Mini-CWT Test
- 18 RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB
- 19 NCCC RTTY Sprint
- 19 NCCC Sprint Ladder
- 20 Feld Hell Sprint
- 20-21 SMIRK Contest
- 20-21 All Asian DX Contest, CW
- 20-21 Ukrainian DX Classic RTTY Contest
- 20-21 AGCW VHF/UHF Contest
- 20-21 Stew Perry Top Band Challenge
- 20-21 WV QSO Party
- 21 WAB 50 MHz Phone
- 21 Kid's Day Contest**
- 22 Run for the Bacon QRP Contest
- 24 SKCC Sprint
- 24-25 CWops Mini-CWT Test
- 26 NCCC RTTY Sprint
- 26 NCCC Sprint
- 27-28 Ukrainian DX Digi Contest
- 27-28 His Maj. King of Spain Contest, SSB
- 27-28 ARRL Field Day**
- 6/29-7/5 10-10 Int'l Spirit of 76 QSO Party



**\*Deadline for newsletter articles is the 20th of the preceding month of publication.**

## Calendar of Local Events

### June

- 1 Rockingham County ARES Net [K4NRA]
- 1 Old Dominion Emergency Net [3,947 kHz]
- 2 VARA Club Meeting**
- 4 MARA Club Meeting**
- 5 PVARC Club Meeting**
- 5 Friday Luncheon
- 7 Page County ARES Net [146.550 Simplex]
- 8 Rockingham County ARES Net [KN4FM]
- 12 Friday Luncheon
- 13 VE Testing
- 14 Manassas Hamfest (VA)
- 14 FLAG DAY**
- 14 Page County ARES [146.625/131.8]
- 15 Rockingham County ARES Net [K4RMY]
- 15 Old Dominion Emergency Net [3,947 kHz]
- 19 Friday Luncheon
- 20 Deadline for July Newsletter submissions\***
- 21 FATHER'S DAY**
- 21 Page County ARES Net [146.625 / 131.8]
- 21 BARC Father's Day Hamfest (MD)
- 22 Rockingham County ARES Net [KG4KUR]
- 25 Timonium Hamfest (MD)
- 26 Friday Luncheon
- 27-28 ARRL Field Day**
- 28 Page County ARES Net [146.625 / 131.8]
- 29 Rockingham County ARES Net [KU4XN]



### July

- 2 MARA Club Meeting**
- 3 PVARC Club Meeting**
- 3 Friday Luncheon
- 4 Independence Day**
- 5 Page County ARES Net [146.550 Simplex]
- 6 Old Dominion Emergency Net [3,947 kHz]
- 6 Rockingham County ARES Net [1jul]
- 7 VARA Club Meeting**
- 10 Friday Luncheon
- 12 Page County ARES Net [146.625/131.8]
- 13 Rockingham County ARES Net [2jul]
- 17 Friday Luncheon
- 19 Page County ARES Net [146.625/131.8]
- 20 Rockingham County ARES Net [3jul]
- 20 Old Dominion Emergency Net [3,947 kHz]
- 20 Deadline for August Newsletter submissions\***
- 24 Friday Luncheon
- 26 Page County ARES Net [146.625/131.8]
- 27 Rockingham County ARES Net [4jul]
- 31 Friday Luncheon



The club newsletter, *the Monitor*, is provided free of charge monthly to all members of all three clubs via email distribution, in PDF format. However, it is the individual club members' responsibility to notify the newsletter editor directly of all changes in email address. Electronic back issues will be provided free to members on request.

Elderly, disabled, or special-needs members may make special arrangements with their respective club officers to receive a hardcopy of the Monitor via U.S. mail in lieu of the electronic PDF version. However, the hardcopy requires additional production and delivery time and is not guaranteed to arrive before the scheduled monthly club meeting dates.

Members not receiving the electronic Monitor in a timely fashion (e.g., before their monthly club meeting) should notify the newsletter editor promptly to investigate and resolve the problem with distribution. Members who are using the latest update version of Adobe Reader and experience trouble opening the Monitor email attachment can contact the newsletter editor for assistance.



# Club Information

## MASSANUTTEN AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, Inc.

**President:** Gerald Nauman, KN4FM  
**Vice President:** Andrew Pearson, N4RCE  
**Secretary:** Herb Slade, AA2BF  
**Treasurer:** Sheryl Tonini, KJ4DOC  
**Board (exp 2015):** Bryan Daniels, K4RMY  
**Board (exp 2016):** Foster Farone, WF4O

<http://mara.ws>

MARA meets the first Thursday of each month at Wood Grill Buffet on Reservoir Street in Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Dinner begins at 6:30 pm,  
the business meeting begins at 7:30 pm

**Visitors are always welcome.**

Dues (\$12 per year) should be mailed to:

MARA  
PO Box 1882  
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

## VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

**President:** John Keller, W4ZAO  
**Vice President:** Ed Varner, N4EDI  
**Secretary:** David Tanks, AD4TJ  
**Treasurer:** Greg Czerniak, W4GRC

<http://w4xd.com>

VARA meets the first Tuesday of each month at the Hometown Grill & Buffet off Richmond Road in Staunton, Virginia

Dinner starts at 6:00 pm,  
the business meeting starts at 7:00 pm

**Visitors are always welcome**

Dues (\$15 per year) should be mailed to:

VARA, Greg Czerniak  
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Staunton, VA 24401-1661

## PAGE VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

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<http://www.k4pmh.org>

PVARC meets the first Friday of each month at the Page County Sheriff's Training Room in Luray, VA.

The meeting begins at 6:30 pm

**Visitors are always welcome.**

Dues (\$12 per year) should be mailed to:

PVARC  
PO Box 245  
Luray VA 22835-0245

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