

THE MONITOR

July 2015

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

MARA Meeting: July 2nd

The Massanutten Amateur Radio Association, Inc., will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, **July 2nd** 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: July 3rd

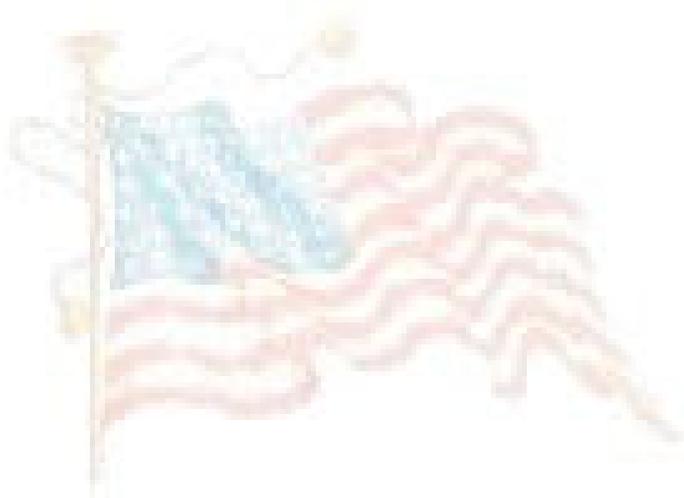
The Page Valley Amateur Radio Club will hold its regular meeting on **July 3rd** at 6:30pm at the Page County Sheriff's Training Room in Luray. All hams and their guests are invited.

VARA Meeting: July 7th

The Valley Amateur Radio Association, will hold its **July 7th** 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.

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.



VARA Presidents Letter



Greetings fellow Hams!! Well summer is definitely here and I for one am looking forward to fall arriving fast.

By the time you receive this month's copy of the Monitor, Field Day will have come and gone and I want to thank all those who have worked so hard to make it another successful event. I will be writing more on Field Day in the August issue of the Monitor.

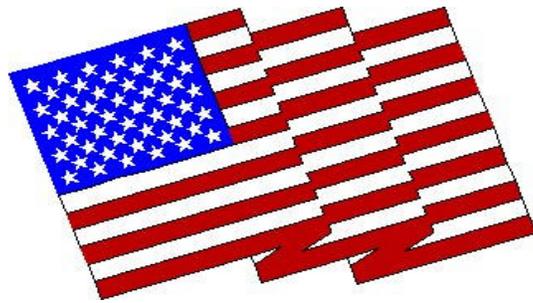
With summer here, many of you are fixing issues from the past winter and also maybe installing new towers

and antennas, so be safe and ask for some help so that you do not over extend yourself or cause damage to your home or other neighbor's belongings. We have had several new Hams join both VARA and MARA clubs and this would be a great time to invite them over to teach them the proper way to install your new items. For the new Hams there are many experienced members who would be more than glad to help you advance your knowledge, but you have to ask, so don't be shy, pick up the phone or get on the radio and ask someone to increase your knowledge of Amateur radio.

Well til next month, be safe and get on the radio.

John Keller W4ZAO

President VARA



Page County High School gets Amateur Radio Demo

On Wednesday, May 27 **B.H. KM4CKD** and **Morgan K4RHD** arranged a demonstration of amateur radio portable capability for several interested students at Page County High School, where **KM4CKD** teaches science, technology, and robotics. The set up included battery, generator and solar power, a portable 28' mast with 2m vertical and 40-10m OCF dipole. and included 2m communication on the 146.625 and 147.300 repeaters on HTs and 1 75 mobile rig, as well as contacts on 20m and 40m on an IC-756. Two of the students plan on studying for their license. **PVARC** appreciates the support of Page County High School, and Eric Benson, principal, was also present for the demo. There are tentative plans to set up an amateur radio club and club station at the school.



HAM PICNIC-GET TOGETHER and PVARC Monthly Meeting

Saturday 08 August 2015

Sharry XYL and I are hosting a picnic and get together for PVARC hams and their XYLS, YLs, OMs, OBs at our QTH in Rileyville, VA. This is also open to any new or prospective hams in Page County that you may want to invite. So, invite them!

DETAILS

DATE: Saturday 08 August 2015 RAIN or SHINE

TIME: Noon 'till Grayline, or the Owls sing. Eats ~ 14:00 to 15:00. Stay as long as you like.

MEETING: The PVARC monthly meeting will be held at Noon. Please note that this meeting has been moved from its normal Friday night 07 August date to coincide with the picnic.

WE WILL PROVIDE: Burgers n dogs, buns, beans, cole slaw, potato salad, COFFEE, lemonade, water, condiments, carrot cake, ice cream, propane grill, place to eat, lounge around, play horse-shoes, compare antennas, make contacts, etc. Ham camaraderie also available for just being here. Relax, kick back, share a fun afternoon with friends, and maybe meet some new ones.

COST: FREE. A club officer will pass the hat for free will donations, with Any and All donations received going to the club to be

used for a public service project deemed fitting by the club officers.

PLEASE: Let me know by 15 July if you will be attending and how many in your party. We have picnic tables and a few chairs but bring a lawn chair JIC we are "under roof".

DIRECTIONS: Travelling north on US 340 from Luray, approximately ½ mile north of Springfield Elementary School, turn west (left) on route 661, Cavalier Road, which immediately becomes a gravel road. Drive ~ 8/10th mile to a cluster of mail boxes, turn right on to Baylor's Ferry Road, ride ~ 4/10th mile, turn left into driveway at # 421. Park anywhere, allow the dogs to sniff you, watch for "land mines" (we will try to sweep the area) and join the festivities.

We look forward to seeing you on 08 August!

73,

Patrick KE4EI
421 Baylor's Ferry Road
Rileyville, VA 22650
540-743-4874 pspragueatshenteldotnet

Virginia QSO Party Winner

John Keller, W4ZAO, won the plaque for contacting the highest number of Virginia counties and independent cities in the 2015 Virginia QSO Party. John contacted 108 of the 131 available counties and independent cities, winning first place. John was presented the plaque in the awards ceremony held at the Manassas Hamfest on June 14th.

Also at the Manassas Hamfest, John submitted his latest QSL cards to bring his total countries confirmed to 241. An important item to note: John has worked 241 countries practically all of them using only 100 watts and a wire antenna, in less than five years of being a ham, and while working full time! This is a really rare accomplishment. Hats off to John!



Upcoming Events

Mountain Mama Bike Ride

HELLO TO ALL ONCE AGAIN

THE HIGHLAND CO MT MAMA BIKE RIDE COMING UP THE FIRST SATURDAY OF AUGUST. (August 1st)

Time is closing in and I am late in sending out my 2nd email in calling for help for the 2015 Mountain Mama Bike challenge.

I am hoping to hear from a few more to help out. If you are a YES and I don't have you listed, please let me know. All that are possibilities, if you could let me know which way it is leaning would be nice. There are some on the email list that I haven't heard from yet, so I'm just including y'all in hopes of at least hearing from y'all to say 'Hi'. This year we will again be using the 147.180+ 100.0 tone and the 147.285+ 103.5 tone. Also have 146.535 simplex ready just in case it's needed. I would like to ask that if at all possible SAG's be there by 7am Saturday morning for assignments. Again for those not familiar with the Mtn Momma, it offers ride from 25, 50, 75 and 100 miles at the same time with overlapping routes. It is on the first weekend in August on Saturday Aug 2nd this year and starts at 8am from the Highland County High School in Monterey, VA.

In the past there has been camping allowed at the school and many have taken advantage of that(I just may be with y'all this year!!)... There may

also be some lodging available still at the Highland Inn and Montvalle Motel, now there is probably limited A/C at these locations so be aware of that. There are lots of other lodging in the area and you just need to ask. www.highlandcounty.org is the local chamber of commerce web site, it will give info on a lot of lodging and more info on the ride.

Please email me directly at n5smqw4@gmail.com if you are interested in helping or have more questions before deciding. I am keeping a separate list of people that are interested.

Thanks in advanced for your interest and help...

Butch /N5SMQ



Elkton Field Day Parade

The Elkton Field Day Parade will be held Saturday July 11, those wishing to help with Parade lineup should meet at the Corner of 5th Street and Wirt Ave. at 9:30am. we should be finished by 11:30am, any help would be appreciated. Mark-N4YSA,



Berryville Hamfest

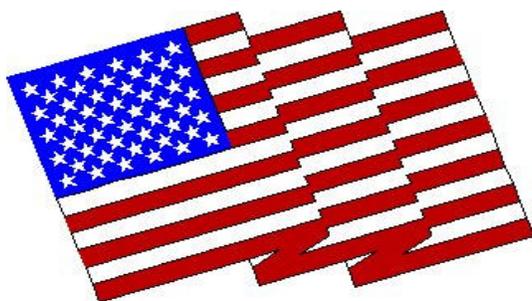
65th Annual Berryville Hamfest
& Computer/Electronics Show
Sunday, August 2, 2015
Clarke County Ruritan Fairgrounds
in Berryville, Virginia
Always the first Sunday in August!
Presented by the Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club
Web site: <http://www.shenvalarc.org/>

PVARC Member Recognized by ARRL



PVARC member Zory Glaser (KB3VQC) was surprised recently when he received a package by mail from the ARRL. Contained within the package was a beautiful small Plexiglas panel with brass support legs. The panel has 2 large attached heavy multicolor medallions: the 1st from the Maxim Memorial Station W1AW, and the 2nd commemorating the 100 years of the ARRL. A card with the panel states "Thank you for activating W1AW during the ARRL's Centennial. Enclosed is a gift commemorating the event for you. ... Thank you and 73". The panel is engraved with "KB3VQC was W1AW/3 MD".

Glaser operated W1AW/3 (on 20, 17 and 10m) on 3 separate days (as a member of the Potomac Valley Radio Club (PVRC)), as a guest op, from Frank Donovan's (W3LPL) beautiful contesting station located in Glenwood, MD.



Astounding Discovery: It Does Indeed Sometimes Rain at Field Day!

In one of the most earth-shattering scientific discoveries of the last century, local Valley Amateurs this year discovered what many of them still have trouble believing: It can indeed sometimes RAIN at Field Day!

Beginning with a crack of lightning Friday evening, the thunderstorms continued off and on through Saturday afternoon.

Estimates of rainfall ranged from "just over four inches" to "just under seven inches".

The Field Day site held up remarkably well, and there were no reports of stuck vehicles or mudholes, in spite of the heavy rains.

And in spite of fears to the contrary, the rains did nothing to interfere with the operation of the radios, either.

As this issue of the Monitor went to press, we didn't have a preliminary score report from the Field Day Activity.

MARA Secretary's Report

MARA Secretary's Report— June 4, 2015

Meeting called to order at Wood Grill, Harrisonburg, by **President Gerald Nauman, KN4FM**, at 7:36 p.m. 22 members and 4 guests were present. Introductions were made all around.

New Members: Ballots were passed for the membership application of **Bob Hume, K4DMV**. The vote was unanimous in favor. Welcome, Bob!

The Secretary's Minutes for last month's meeting were approved as published in the May Monitor, with the correction that Bob Hume's call sign is K4DMV, not W4DMV.

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

Committee Reports:

ARES: **Bryan Daniels, K4RMY**, reported that clarification of earlier remarks of the **Virginia SM** have indicated that only the state level ARES Coordinators have been released from their offices. Lower Section, District and Local ECs have the privilege of keeping their offices.

Repeaters: Local repeaters are "lonely"!

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

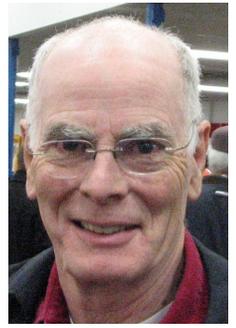
Public Service: Gayle Shull reported that the July 17/18 Bridgewater Lawn Party needs help seeing that traffic and parking signage is adhered to, with intra-communications for coordination. (**Secretary's note:** Bridgewater **Mayor Dinkle** has been invited to visit our Field Day again this year. His appearance would garner some bonus points for our team).

Announcements: The Manassas Hamfest is Sunday, June 14.

Old Business:

Field Day: **Herb Slade, AA2BF**, reported that arrangements have been made for the **MARA/VARA** Field Day site to be at the Stokesville Campground (adjoining the observatory). There is a large, permanent pavilion with picnic tables. It will be our Welcome Center, as well as the place for the Friday evening potluck supper.

There are electric and water hookups for ten campers, with five more sites with water hookups only, and sites for tent camping. (It was mentioned that there are warm water showers, but a subsequent visit by the Secretary didn't bear that out). The Secretary also learned at the June 3 FD Committee meeting, that the cost, \$300, would also cover the FD campers who will camp out there during the previous week. Directions are posted in the VARA website.



A question was raised, concerning when Field Day antennas can be raised. According to the ARRL rules, a FD site setting up antennas after the 2:00 P.M. Saturday starting time can continue running contest QSO's for 27 hours from that point. We have traditionally taken the option to set up our antennas prior to the 2:00 P.M. Saturday starting time, even though we are then limited to the 24-hour period until 2:00 P.M. Sunday. We have taken that option partly because other entrees universally do, and the bands suddenly get very quiet at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday.

H.R. 1301: The Secretary sent a letter of thanks to Congressman **Bob Goodlatte** in the name of our club, for his support of the bill to direct the FCC to extend "reasonable accommodation" of amateur radio to private lands (e.g. CC& R rules).

MARA Logo Shirts: Bryan Daniels has looked into the costs for purchasing polo and tee shirts with the MARA logo. A shirt screener company has a one-time setup fee for Logo polo shirts, but not for tee shirts. Prices depend on the quality of the fabric, and can range from ~\$18 to \$40 per tee shirt, and \$5 - \$6 more for buttoned polos.

New Business: An offer from the Motorcycle event sponsors to present a transceiver to the club as a donation for our communication services at last year's and this year's events was turned down. The motion read, "We respectfully decline to accept a radio donation from _____ since we do not see a need for a club-owned radio." The straw poll passed unanimously.

50/50 Drawing: \$22 collected, with \$11.00 won by Sue Finn, who donated her share to the club, with the proviso that it go toward the set-up fee for Logo polo shirts. \$22 will go to the MARA Treasury.

Motion to adjourn: Passed at 8:35 p.m.

Program: None, but several members who made the pilgrimage to Dayton commented on the jam-packed event. There were numerous vendors and table displays, and many seminars to choose from, but the latter

had a fee. Overall, the experience was “like being a kid in a candy store!”

Respectively submitted, **Herb Slade, AA2BF**, Secretary

MARA Club Shirts

The possibility of getting MARA club shirts has been discussed during the last two meetings. Here is some information concerning those discussions. The Board would like input as to how to proceed and has asked that the following information be made available to all members.

For a T-Shirt the cost would be around \$14 to \$18 depending on the quality of the T-Shirt. No set up fees would be required (not an embroidered design for T-Shirts). The design would be the MARA logo (either the old one or the new one, that is yet to be decided) on the left side . A name and call sign on the right side is also possible for an extra fee.

For a collared "polo" type shirt there would be a one time \$40 set up fee for the embroidery. Cost of the shirts would be \$18 to \$30 depending on the quality of the shirt. The MARA logo (old or new) would be embroidered on the left with the possibility of name

and call sign on the right for an extra fee.

The suggestion was made that the club cover the \$40 cost of the set up fee for the embroidered shirt. No formal motion as yet been approved by the members. Each member would then purchase their own shirt. For both of these shirts it was suggested that we do an initial group bulk order to hopefully get a slightly lower price than if each person went and got their own. After the initial order any member of the club could then purchase any additional shirts on their own whenever they wanted to.

The source of this pricing information is the Markt downtown Harrisonburg.

If you have an opinion on which type of shirt we should get if any, and are a MARA member please let a member of the Board know your thoughts so that a formal motion can be put forward and a group decision can be made in the next few months.

MARA Treasurer's Report

May 21, 2015 – June 20, 2015

Beginning Balance May 20, 2015 (Last Report)		\$ 2,481.32
Add: May 50/50	23.00	
June 50/50	10.00	
Donation (towards \$40 shirt setup fee)	10.00	
New Member	\$ 12.00	
Total Deposits		\$ 55.00
Less: VARA (2015 Field Day Pins)	\$ -127.20	
SVEC (May)	<u>-21.32</u>	
Total Disbursements		\$ <u>-148.52</u>
Ending Balance as of June 20, 2015		\$ 2,387.80



Submitted by Sheryl Tonini, KJ4DOC, MARA Treasurer

PVARC Secretary's Report

Friday June 5, 2015

The **Page Valley Amateur Radio Club** held its regular monthly meeting at the **Luray County High School** in Luray on Friday June 5th.

The President, **Tim Ramey, AK4CJ** brought the meeting to order at 1830Hrs. Thirteen members were in attendance.

A 50/50 drawing was held with no takers. The \$12 pot went into the coffers.

Secretary's Report: **John, KT4CB** asked that the report as published in the in the **Monitor** be accepted. It was rejected.

Treasurer's Report: **Paul O'Sullivan, KK4IRS** gave the treasurer's report. It was approved and seconded as given.

Committee Reports:

Web site: **Dave, K4PDF, Brian, W3TTT, Dave** announced that the web site is now operational. A handout was provided to the members with details of the fledgling web-site. He explained it was still in the development stage, and what they would see is a bare-bones web site and as work progressed, there would be visible and invisible changes.

Education and Training: **Morgan, K4RHD**, nothing to report.

Program Committee: **Zory, KB3VQC, Morgan, K4RHD**. Zory discussed the purchase of name badges. A paper was passed around with details for approval by the members. The styles were settled upon and other details were listed. He announced he had all the information he needed to proceed. He also announced he would see what he could do with the brochure.

Field Day Committee: **Morgan, K4RHD** informed the group we have the same place as last year for our Field Day activities. He would provide a press release to the Page News and Courier.



Mark, N4YSA to provide rope, ARES laptop, and a generator.

Letters of invitation were assigned to be sent to the section manager, as well as other local officials. Tim, AK4CJ mentioned he would contact the Sheriff's department to have someone to stop by and sign our log for the served agency points.

Absent members were to be contacted for additional equipment availability.

The menu was confirmed and funds provided.

Old Business: The discussion of the by-law changes were tabled for a future meeting.

The State Registration paperwork was signed by the appropriate parties and **John, KT4CB** stated they would be mailed at the earliest opportunity.

New Business: No new business.

Zory passed around a small plaque he received as an operator in his local special event. (See article elsewhere in this issue)

With no more business to conduct, a move to adjourn the formal portion of the meeting was made and seconded at 1935Hrs.

A brief hiatus of donuts and refreshments and some excellent camaraderie followed.

Respectfully submitted,

John Spillman, KT4cb PVARC Secretary

Happy Independence Day

VARA Secretary's Report

port; seconded and approved.



The **Valley Amateur Radio Association** met at the Hometown Grill and Buffet for their June 2, 2015 meeting. 22 members and visitors were present. President **John Keller W4ZAO** opened the meeting at 7 pm, and had everyone introduce themselves. The 50/50 drawing was held, with the winner receiving \$10.00. And the big winner was Ed Varner N4EDI (this is his 3rd win in a row, for the record!).

David Tanks AD4TJ, EC for Augusta County, gave the ARES report. He noted that this is the beginning of hurricane season, so be prepared in case of a call-up. He is always looking for new members. And he mentioned the net for June will be on the 11th, with Net Control to be determined.

Field Day report: John, who is Chairman this year, thanked **Jeff Rinehart W4PJW**, for getting the Stokesville Campground as our site this year. This should be good for the campers, as there are a few electrical hookups available, and some will have water and sewer hookups. Jeff mentioned that the NO MOTORCYCLES sign will not pertain to us. The gate will be up all week for us. We may perform some electrical work for the owner, as not all of the hookups work. There are many tenting sites. A wedding is planned for the site on the 21st; we will be able to begin camping there around 4 pm Sunday the 21st after they have cleared out. The observatory area is off limits to us. There are plenty of tall trees to hang wire antennas from. The Potluck dinner will be Friday night, the 26th, at 6 pm. We will have a pavilion to us, so we will have cover, in case it rains. Field Day was explained, as we had visitors who are not familiar with what it is. It was mentioned that visitors could operate; they do not have to be a licensed ham to make contacts. John thanked the committee for their hard work this year.

David AD4TJ, club secretary, made a motion that the minutes be accepted as printed in the newsletter; seconded and approved.

Greg Czerniak W4GRC, club treasurer, gave his re-

Upcoming events: John said that the Manassas hamfest will be June 14th, and that Berryville is the 1st Sunday in August.

Contests and Special Events: David mentioned that the 10-10 Digital contest is the 6th and 7th; the ARRL June VHF contest is the 13th and 14th; Kids Day is the 21st; and of course Field Day is June 27 and 28th. There are several D-Day special events operations going on, including several ships/ship museums being on the air; a Wizard Of Oz station; and the 26th annual Masanutten Tractor Show will have a station active. Ham-Nation will be operating stations all week long.

Wayne Bowyer N4EYZ is looking for a Tech license manual for a friend.

New business: we discussed donations to repeater groups/owners. We voted to give \$150(each) to: the 147.075 repeater group, to the 146.850 repeater owner, and the 146.700 owner/group. **Ray Colvin KE4HVR** mentioned that the 146.850 repeater tower will need replacing, as it is not very good shape.

July 7th will be the date for the next meeting; will not conflict with the 4th of July this year.

Programs: it was suggested that the program for next month be on Go-boxes; if you have one, bring it in for all to see.

John Chcvalaz KB2LOZ gave some info on himself, as requested by David.

With no program for the night, the meeting was adjourned at 7:41 pm

Respectfully submitted,

David Tanks AD4TJ, VARA Secretary





Silent Keys



W2ZVM, George "Bill" Shott

STAUNTON - George W. "Bill" Shott, 86, formerly of Fishersville, died Monday, May 25, 2015, at The Legacy at North Augusta, Staunton. Bill had retired to the Valley after raising his family in Fords, New Jersey. He was born Sept. 19, 1928, in Astoria, Queens, New York, son of the late George Edward and Lena Clark Shott. Graveside service was held Saturday, June 12th at 11:00am at St James Lutheran Church on St James Rd.

K4AXL, Owen Brian Showalter

Owen Bryan Showalter, 96, a resident of Bridgewater Retirement Community passed away on Monday, June 1, 2015. He was born on September 20, 1918 in Rockingham County and was the son of the late Ernest and Beulah Coakley Showalter. Owen lived his entire life in the Rockingham County area except for the time he served in the U S Air Force. While serving in the military he worked with the MIT Military Project Felix. He was owner and operator of a machine shop since 1940's. He was a member of Otterbein United Methodist Church. On March 24, 1943 he married the former Madlyn Robinson, who preceded him in death on September 13, 2005.

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

Thanks to those who helped with the June test session:

RAY RICHIE K4NRA	ROBERT VANFOSSEN K4DJG
GERALD NAUMAN KN4FM	BRYAN DANIELS K4RMY
FOSTER FARON WF4O	JIM LEHMAN W4POL



We issued eight licenses, five technician, two general and one extra. If you are interested in being an EC let me know and I will help you get qualified.

Our next testing will be held **August 15th** 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



Looking forward to the same good help as always.

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!**

Broadband Hamnet HSMM Mesh

Mike Swenson, KM4IDK

If you have heard people talking on the KQ4D 146.625 repeater about Broadband Hamnet, nodes, and all kinds of crazy things, then you are probably wanting to know what they are talking about? Hopefully in this article I can explain some of what we have been talking about, and get you on board with the project.

What in the world is Broadband Hamnet or BBHN?

Well, it is a high speed wireless network just like what you may have at work or in your home. Except this network is self discovering, self configuring, self advertising, and fault tolerant. It can do all of this at a great distance between each device. BBHN is a special firmware that was developed by a group of Hams in Texas to establish a high speed network in their neighborhood. This firmware is uploaded to a consumer wireless device and it turns it into a ham radio. Once it is a ham radio, otherwise known as a node it is time for the fun to begin!

What devices can I use, and where do I get the firmware?

There are a few devices to pick from, but we are currently using and suggesting the Ubiquiti wireless devices. This is due to the output power of the devices, distance of connectivity, and the high data rate exchanged between them. If you want a list of devices that can be used, go to www.broadband-hamnet.org. The firmware can also be found there. We are currently using a untested experimental firmware on the nodes we have in operation. We can get into that information at a later date.

Why would BBHN be of value in this area or to me?

The entire world currently relies on the internet for day to day activities. This includes our federal state and local governments, as well as our public servants. Such as Fire/EMS, Law enforcement, and our local Emergency Communication Centers. One day the internet will fail. This could be a local, regional, or world wide event. When this happens the areas affected will lose a lot of their daily resources due to not having high speed communications. A lot of thing done in

emergency services is via the internet, from report writing, to some localities dispatch with text messaging or by sending a message through the internet to a special network in the station. If we could build a system that locally supplements the internet we could back up these systems and reassure that all forms of emergency communication are still present. Also, we can provide email, voice over IP, Chat, and file transfer services. The possibilities are unlimited with this system. Therefore, this system is not only beneficial to us, but it is essential to our area in a time of need.

Where is the mesh in our area?

Currently we have most of the Luray, Stanley, Shenandoah, Elkton, New Market, and Harrisonburg covered on Page Valley HSMM. This heart of this system is located on the KQ4D repeater located on Big Mountain. Some other Ham's in the region are covering parts of Winchester City, Warren and Fredrick County's. The system is steadily growing day by day, and the best thing about this dynamic system is the more people that connect, the great the coverage area becomes

What do I need to do to get involved?

First go to the links below and read as much information as you can about the system. Once you have a better understanding of the HSMM Mesh you can contact Mark Hensley N4YSA or myself, Michael Swenson KM4IDK about any questions you may have. Third buy a suitable device to reliably get into the system, upload the firmware, aim the antenna towards another node, and finally enjoy one of the newest thrills in ham radio. It is honestly that easy!

Links

www.broadband-hamnet.org
www.remoteamateur.com
www.aredn.org

Contacts

Michael Swenson KM4IDK
Email: mwsenson88@gmail.com

Mark Hensley N4YSA
Email: n4ysa@gmx.com



Want More Wallpaper? Here's your chance to add some! Cyprus will be in the contest on July 11th and 12th with stations on 6 bands AND on SSB and CW. See below for more details!

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	June - LZ293MA
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]

C4, CYPRUS. The Cyprus Headquarters (HQ) team will participate in IARU HF World Championship Contest (**July 11-12th**). Several contest stations across Cyprus will hit the airwaves on Saturday, July 11th, starting 1200 UTC using the special contest callsign C4HQ. There will be stations on all six HF contest bands (10-160m) on both CW and SSB. The team states, "Please look out for us! Our contest exchange will be our signal report followed by 'CARS' the official IARU abbreviation of the Cyprus Amateur Radio Society. This is our third entry in the contest with an HQ station and for the first time we will be making several awards available to stations that will work us on several band/mode slots, with a minimum of six contacts on different band/modes required to secure an award. We are also offering sprint awards to stations that are able to contact C4HQ on the highest number of band/mode slots in the shortest period of time! All awards will be offered to eligible stations free of charge. For more information about our C4HQ entry in the IARU HF World Championship, including station locations, pictures of operating sites, award program details, QSL policy, etc... please visit the website of the Cyprus Amateur Radio Society - <www.cyhams.org> See you in the contest!"

CHILE, CE. Special event station XR44COPA is QRV until **July 4**

during the 44th Copa America, the major football/soccer tournament for South American teams. QSL via operators' instructions.

SOUTH COOK ISLANDS, E5. Milan, OK1DWC is QRV as E51DWC from Rarotonga Island, IOTA OC-013, for the next few weeks. Activity is holiday style on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL to home call. (From June 18th)

COLOMBIA, HK. Lothar, DK8LRF will be QRV as HK3JCL from **June 20 to October 20**. Activity will be mainly on 20 meters using SSB, with some occasional PACTOR and PSK. QSL to home call.

REPUBLIC OF KOREA, HL. A group of operators are QRV as 6M6M from the Gyeonggi Province until **July 31**. Activity is on 6 meters using CW, SSB, FM and digital modes. QSL via HL2UVH

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] za2ee.htm

NETHERLANDS, PA. Special event station PA50DRAA is QRV until **July 14** to draw attention to the decades-long development of the national park Drentsche Aa. QSL via bureau.

IOTA News

AS-002-A9, BAHRAIN. Fawaz, A92AA, will be active from Bahrain (**AS-002**) during the RSGB IOTA Contest (**July 25-26th**) as a Single-Op entry. QSL via A92AA direct.

AS-020-BVO, TAIWAN. Members of the Amateur Radio Taipei (ART) will be active as BV0TW from Taiwan (**AS-020**) during the RSGB IOTA Contest (July 25-26th) as a Multi-2 entry. Operators mentioned are YL Emily/BU2BE, Adam/BU2BF, Zhong-Hong/BU2BO, Bruce/BU2BW, Leon/BU2CN, Yao/BU2CM, YaoJun/BV500, Sam/BX3AA and Jie/BX3ABH. QSL via BU2BF, direct or by the Bureau. Visit the Amateur Radio Taipei (ART) Web page at: <http://www.art.org.tw/en>

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

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.

be able to operate as F/G3TTC/p from a few islands: **Saint-Nicolas (EU-094, 31 May)**, **Sainte Marguerite (EU-058, 9-10 July)**, **Porquerolles (EU-070, 12-13 July)**, **Ratonneau (EU-095, 16-17 July)**, **Banc d'Arguin (EU-159, 27-28 July)** 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[[@](mailto:keithorchard2@talktalk.net)]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.

CO/T40, CUBA. Organized by Grupo DX de Cuba (GDXC), the Federación de Radioaficionados de Cuba (FRC) will be active as a **Headquarter** entry with the callsign T40HQ, during next IARU HF Championship. [July 11-12] This is the fourth time the FRC is active in this category since 2009 when using the callsign T40C. Setup includes 11 different stations in seven cities from western to eastern side of the island. Most of them will be using home-

brew 2 elements yagis, wire antennas and low power. QSL via OH2TA.

Operators	Band	Mode	City
CO6CAC	80	CW	Sagua la Grande
CO8ZZ	80	SSB	Las Tunas
CO7EH	40	CW	Camaguey
CO6YAC	40	SSB	Santa Clara
CO8CY	20	CW	Baracoa
CO6LC	20	SSB	Santa Clara
CO2FRC*	20	CW/SSB	Habana
CO6RD	15	CW	Sancti Spiritus
CO6EC	15	SSB	Santa Clara
CO6LP	10	CW	Santa Clara
CO6HK	10	SSB	Santa Clara

*Operators - CO2JD, CO2AME, CO2RQ CO2RVA, CM2PTE and CO2CW

NA-113-BAHAMAS, C6. Pete, VE3IKV plans to be QRV as C6AUX from Mayaguana Island, **IOTA NA-113**, from June 22 to **July 6**. Activity may be on the HF bands with an emphasis on 6 meters using CW and SSB. QSL direct to home call.

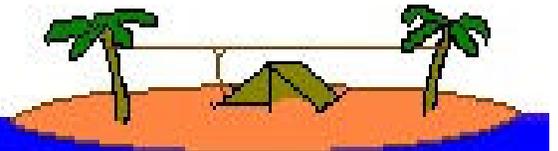
Contests & QSO Parties

For more details and information, go to:

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

- 1 RAC Canada Day Contest
- 1-2 CW Ops Mini-CWT Test
- 2 NRAU 10m Activity Contest
- 3 QRP Fox Hunt
- 3 NCCC RTTY Sprint 
- 3 NCCC Sprint
- 4 FISTS Summer Slow Speed Sprint
- 4-5 PODXS 070 Club 40m Firecracker Sprint
- 4-5 Venezuela Independence Day Contest
- 4-5 DL-DX RTTY Contest
- 4-5 Marconi Memorial HF Contest
- 4-5 Original QRP Contest
- 5 WAB 144MHz Low Power Phone 
- 5 DARC 10-m Digital Contest
- 5 QRP ARCI Summer Homebrew Sprint
- 6 RGSB 80m Club Championship, CW
- 7 ARS Spartan Sprint
- 8-9 CWops Mini-CWT Test
- 10 QRP Fox Hunt
- 10 NCCC RTTY Sprint
- 10 NCCC Sprint
- 11 FISTS Summer Sprint
- 11-12 IARU HF World Championship

- 11-12 SKCC Weekend Sprintathon
- 12 CQC Great Colorado Gold Rush
- 15 RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB
- 15-16 CWops Mini-CWT Test 
- 16 NAQCC CW Sprint
- 17 QRP Foxhunt
- 17 NCCC RTTY Sprint
- 17 NCCC Sprint
- 18 Trans Tasman Low-Bands Challenge
- 18 Feld Hell Sprint
- 18-19 DMC RTTY Contest 
- 18-19 North American QSO Party, RTTY
- 19 RSGB Low Power Contest
- 20 Run for the Bacon QRP Contest
- 22 SKCC Sprint
- 22-23 CWops Mini-CWT Test
- 23 RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data 
- 24 QRP Fox Hunt
- 24 NCCC RTTY Sprint
- 24 NCCC Sprint
- 25-26 County Hunters CW Contest
- 26 ARS Flight of the Bumblebees
- 29-30 CWops Mini-CWT Test
- 31 QRP Fox Hunt
- 31 NCCC RTTY Sprint
- 31 NCCC Sprint Ladder



The Opinionated One: Field Day – Home of the Whopper

From the July 2006 issue of the *Monitor*

We were sitting around the campfire, waiting for Druly Ehrwaxx to show up with some more RG-8 so we could finish erecting the antennas for the 20-meter phone station. I popped the top on another Dr. Pepper, took a sip, and passed it around the circle.

“Field Day is one of the most fun contests we take part in,” said Hack Moore.

“I don’t know about that,” replied Fizzy, “I think the peripheral contests at the Field Day site are more fun than the Field Day contest itself. Let’s see, there’s the Eatin’ Contest, there’s the ‘Who Has The Most Expensive RV’ contest, and the ‘How long has your Kenwood worked without bein’ in the shop’ contest.”

“And the Lyin’ Contest. Don’t forget the Lyin’ Contest, to see who can tell the biggest whopper,” added Verman, breaking off another chew from his Red Man chunk.

“I reckon you’re right,” admitted Hack. “Especially the lyin’ contest. But I’m not sure I’d call that one a real contest. Seems like every year, good ol’ Digby Trowell always wins the lyin’ contest hands down. No one else even comes close to him.”

There was a pause in the conversation, as everyone remembered some of the whoppers told by Digby over the years.

For example, there was the Field Day a few years back where it was raining cats and dogs. Digby was manning the 40-meter CW station. He claimed that he and his logger worked for three hours, putting over 380 QSO’s in the log, and working 172 DXCC countries and 52 ARRL Sections, before they discovered that the radio had been turned off the whole time. They had been copying the two hundred tree frogs chirping outside in the rain.

Or the time that a windstorm had come up and torn down the trees holding up the 160 and 80 meter dipoles. Digby claimed that as the trees came down and rolled down the hill, they cut and coiled up the wire into huge loops that were perfectly spaced to form a twenty-five element circularly-polarized beam for 10 meters, and they were able to work a station

running QRP at 5 watts located somewhere in the fringes of the Andromeda Galaxy.

Or the time they were working the VHF contest way up on the top of Tuning Knob. A thunderstorm came up and a lightning strike blew up their generator. But it didn’t stop them. According to Digby, they’d put their cooking materials in an empty one of those cylindrical Igloo coolers to keep them dry. There was a roll of paper towels in there with a roll of aluminum

foil. Somehow, the two rolls got intertwined, and the foil and paper in the cylinder made a giant capacitor, and the lightning bolt charged it. They hooked up their radios to the cooler spigot and worked the remaining 14 hours of the contest, and still had enough power left over to jump-start Druly’s pickup when the contest was over.

And then there was the time they were working a January contest, and the wire antenna got coated with ice. The ice prevented the signals from getting out. But unknown to the operators, the CQ’s were being frozen and were collecting inside the wire. When the wire was taken down and stored in Digby’s garage, it thawed out three days later, and all the signals came out at once, and he got a warning from an Official Observer about using a 200 kilowatt signal that completely covered up the entire 15 meter band, end to end, for five solid minutes.

Or the Field Day where Digby was in charge of ordering the Porta-Potty, and accidentally dialed the number for Glass and Metals, and when everybody got to Field Day and saw what was there, nobody had the courage to use the bathroom – for three days.

And then there was the situation with Digby’s Icom 706, the two ducks, a bottle of Old Spice after-shave lotion, and the 4-foot rattlesnake that could hum the Greek National Anthem.

Well, anyway, the guys around the campfire were all familiar with Digby’s stories, and they all agreed that it wasn’t really a contest when it came to lying. Well, this year’s Field Day was different: Digby Trowell never showed up! We went over to his house after FD

was over. Digby's wife Lollie answered the door.

"Digby said he wasn't going camping in the woods anymore, ever," she said, with a frown as serious as the mission controllers after the loss of Columbia. "He had a traumatic experience in the mountains last month, and it had a psychological effect on him. He had a run-in with the Hoompaw," she explained.

"No!" we cried. "Not the Hoompaw! When? Where?"

"Yes, it's true. Digby saw the Hoompaw, and he's a changed man. Why, he even offered to take me out to a nice restaurant one night last week. I suggested he go to counseling, but you know how proud he is..."

Now most educated people don't believe in the Hoompaw. It is a mythical creature said to inhabit the far reaches of the George Washington National Forest. Those few people who have seen it (mainly in West Virginia after a night of heavy drinking) say it is a Sasquatch or Bigfoot on steroids.

"Digby actually SAW the Hoompaw?!" The guys were incredulous. About this time, Digby, who had heard us from the back room, came to the door.

"It was horrible," he said, tears welling up in his eyes. "I get goosebumps just recalling the memory of it. It was terrible, just hideous. You guys know how I'm prone to exaggerate. But this time, I'm telling the truth. The Hoompaw is so horrible, even Hollywood couldn't come up with anything close."

"Tell us about it. What did it look like?" asked Verman.

"It was unbelievable. It's got red scaly skin covered in long fur that's all greasy and sticky and smells like hundred skunks. It has long, sharp fangs, and they're dripping green and brown slime. It growls and hisses like bear. Its breath can knock down a 200-year old oak tree at 50 yards. Its eyes are red & it looks like a demented warthog. It must weigh 800 pounds." Digby shuddered. "The thing was getting ready to EAT me! It was right on top of me, holding me down, trying to kill me. I knew I was a goner."

"How'd you let it get so close to you?" asked Hack.

"It snuck up on me while I wuz napping. And the worst part of it," here Digby broke down into sobs again, "IT ATE AMPEL. My good pal, Ampel McPharty,

it killed him and ate him."

"No, not Ampel McPharty," we gasped. "The heavy-set E.M.T. with the beard, down at the rescue squad? It ate him?"

"Yep, it ate him. He's gone. I haven't had the strength to go over there and tell Maudie the truth about what happened to him." Tears streamed down Digby's face.

"Gracious sakes alive," said Hack—or words to that effect. "How'd it happen?"

"Well, me and Ampel wuz up there on Squelch Knob, working the 10-10 contest. We'd set up in his camper. But with our bad luck, the band was completely dead. Ampel got hoarse from calling CQ. After about sixteen hours of listening to static, I decided to take a short walk in the woods. Well, I kinda got lost, and it took me a coupla hours to find my way back. When I got back, there was no sign of Ampel anywhere. With hindsight, after what happened to me, it's plain as day the Hoompaw got him and ate him.

"But at the time, I didn't think about the Hoompaw, I'd always figgered it was just a myth. I was tired from walking around in the mountains after being up all night, so I lay down on the bed and took a little nap. The next thing I knew, the Hoompaw'd somehow got into the camper, and was right on top of me, getting ready to eat me. It's mouth was just inches away from my face, those gaping fangs dripping its corrosive slobber on me. It had some kinda noose or something it was trying to strangle me with. And the smell, oh, (gag) the memory of that awful smell, ooooh..."

Digby began choking, but in a minute or two he was able to continue. "The fright was too much for me. I grabbed something, I don't know what, and shoved it in the creature's face. It let out a horrible bellowing sound, so I threw something else at it and jumped through the camper's window. And you know, it came right after me, right through the window, just inches behind me! It chased me at least a mile, slobbering & hissing & growling on all fours, clawing and snapping at my ankles, no more than a couple of inches away. But eventually I was able to outrun it. I ran six miles down the mountain and

came to the Efrim Diner there at the four-way stop-sign in Berpsville, and asked them to call the police. They said something about the police already being busy with a missing persons case. I tried to tell them that the missing person was Ampel and that the Hoompaw had ate him, but they acted like they didn't believe me. I tell ya, I'm never going back in the woods again, no sir. I hitch-hiked a ride back home, and I've been here ever since. If the police don't believe me, well, that's their problem. I tell you, the Hoompaw ate Ampel. Poor Ampel...I wonder if they'll ever find his body..."

Digby was shaking and sobbing again, so we decided to leave him at that point. It was obvious that he was telling the gospel truth this time.

"Let's go over and pay our respects to Maudie," someone suggested. "Then we can go up and have a look around the Knob and see if we can find what's left of Ampel."

We went to Ampel's house to see Maudie, and to our amazement, Ampel himself answered the door. He was dressed in pajamas, even though it was late afternoon. "Hey, wassup guys?" he said. "Sorry about the PJ's, but I've been under the weather recently. I didn't even make it to Field Day this year. I lost my voice at the 10-10 contest last month, and haven't fully recovered yet."

Hack Moore was the first one to find his voice. "Ampel? Why aren't you dead? Digby told us about the Hoompaw gettin' ya'll up on Squelch Knob."

"Say what? Digby Trowell? The Hoompaw? What's that old liar up to now?" Ampel seemed clueless.

"Digby said the Hoompaw ate you at the 10-10 contest, and just about ate him too," I explained. "When was the last time you talked to Digby?"

"That stupid jerk. I don't know that I'll ever talk to him again. Why, he's caused me more trouble than those three blondes and that butane lighter did for P-J-W last year."

"Can you tell us what happened?" Verman asked.

"Well, Digby wanted to go with me up to the top of the Knob to work the contest. We set up the camper, but the band was dead, and I was coming down with this

darned sore throat. Saturday morning, Digby says he's going for a short walk, probably to use the bathroom, but he doesn't come back. I fix us some lunch, black beans and rice, stewed onions and garlic, and creamed spinach,

and after a half hour I go ahead and eat, but still no Digby. After another hour, I go out looking for him, but can't find any trace of him. I was getting worried, so I walked down the mountain to the Efrim Diner, and called the Sheriff. The sheriff sent out a search team. We range all over the mountains. I worked up a real sweat. I was in such a hurry to find Digby, I didn't take time to put on a shirt. Without my shirt, going through the woods my beer belly got all tore up from the briars, and I get a bad case of poison ivy on my chest. Luckily I've got a lot of hair on my chest and tummy. Man, it was hot for June, and I was sweatin' up a storm. Well finally, just before dark, I go back to the camper, and there he is, snoring like a log! I roll him over and ask if he's all right.

"He doesn't respond. I think maybe he's had a heart attack or something, so I get my stethoscope from the first aid kit, and get real close to him to see if he's breathing. I'm putting the stethoscope on his chest, with my face maybe four inches from his, when Digby opens his eyes, looks at me, and shouts some obscenity I've not heard since I got out of the Navy. Then, get this, he grabs my Weller soldering iron and shoves it up my nose! I yell and he grabs the leftover creamed spinach and throws it in my face. Then he jumps right through the window of my camper! But he's got my stethoscope caught in his belt, and the other end's wrapped around my neck. He drags me right through the window by it, and starts running down the road! I try to get his attention, but he's dragging me down the road by the stethoscope and I'm so hoarse I guess he can't hear me. He musta drug me a mile or more. Finally the stethoscope breaks loose and he runs off. I decided to give up on the contest and bring the camper home. I'm so mad I don't want to talk to him. If you see him, tell him he owes me a window, a stethoscope, and a soldering iron. And I'm never inviting him on another camping trip again."

The next day at the Burger King, we all agreed: Digby Trowell has won the contest again this year.

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>

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>

BARC Father's Day Hamfest

Sunday, July 21, 2015

Location: Arcadia Volunteer Fire Company Grounds

16020 Carnival Avenue

Upperco, MD 21155

Website: <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>

RadioActivity 2015

July 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>

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>

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.>

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>

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>

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

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

Calendar of Local Events

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 [K4MIC]
- 7 VARA Club Meeting
- 10 Friday Luncheon
- 12 Page County ARES Net [146.625/131.8]
- 13 Rockingham County ARES Net [KN4FM]
- 17 Friday Luncheon
- 19 Page County ARES Net [146.625/131.8]
- 20 Rockingham County ARES Net [K4RBZ]
- 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 [KG4KUR]
- 31 Friday Luncheon

August

- 1 Mtn Mama Bike Ride
- 2 Berryville Hamfest
- 2 Page County ARES Net [146.550 Simplex]
- 3 Old Dominion Emergency Net [3,947 kHz]
- 3 Rockingham County ARES Net [K4NRA]
- 4 VARA Club Meeting
- 6 MARA Club Meeting
- 7 Friday Luncheon
- 8 PVARC Club Meeting
- 9 Page County ARES Net [146.625/131.8]
- 10 Rockingham County ARES Net [K4LXG]
- 14 Friday Luncheon
- 16 Page County ARES Net [146.625/131.8]
- 17 Rockingham County ARES Net [KA4EEN]
- 17 Old Dominion Emergency Net [3,947 kHz]
- 20 Deadline for September Newsletter submissions*
- 21 Friday Luncheon
- 23 Page County ARES Net [146.625/131.8]
- 24 Rockingham County ARES Net [K4RMY]
- 28 Friday Luncheon
- 30 Page County ARES Net [146.625/131.8]
- 31 Rockingham County ARES Net [WF40]



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
418 Oriole St.
Staunton, VA 24401-1661

PAGE VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

President: Tim Ramey, AK4CJ
Vice President: Morgan Phenix, K4RHD
Secretary: John Spillman, KT4CB
Treasurer: Paul O'Sullivan, KK4IRS
Board Member: Zory Glaser, KB3VQC
Board Member: Gary Fisher, K6OZ

<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

The Monitor is published monthly by MARA, Inc. for members of the three amateur radio clubs in the Central Shenandoah Valley.

Distribution is in Adobe PDF format via email attachment to all club members in good standing.

Clubs differ in their policies regarding paper copies. Contact the president of your respective club for information on paper copies.

Back issues are freely available on the MARA website starting a few months after publication.

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