**NET ACTIVITY:** 

KEN: MONDAY 3.972.5 0030Z KDN: TUESDAY 3.587 0130Z KYN CW: DAILY 3.537 0200Z

STATEWIDE DMR: "KY

STATEWIDE 0100Z - Thursday

Evening "

SM: w4nho@arrl.net SEC: sec@kyham.net STM: kc4bqk@arrl.net ACC: n4ver.ky@gmail.com

TS: n9ky@arrl.net
OOC: k4lrx@arrl.net
PIO: w0qi@icloud.com
KYHAM: admin@kyham.net

## **KENTUCKY NEWS**

KENTUCKY SECTION MANAGER
STEVE MORGAN W4NHO
OWENSBORO KY 42301
HAPPENING OF THE MONTH
October 2017



#### SECTION MANAGER ATTENDS WORKSHOP IN NEWINGTON

It was a privilege to attend a workshop in Newington in October along with 8 additional SMs from across the country. The purpose of the workshop was to see how ARRL functions and view its operation from the inside out. As I a Life Member of the League I am proud to say that our money has been spent wisely over the past 100 years.

Since I moved into the slot as your Section Manager, I have been proud to get a chance to visit many of the state's hamfests and look forward to visit more of the clubs. Our affiliated clubs "ACC", is where the rubber meets the road. We have close to



Figure 1 AZ, IL, WV, GA, AR, WTX, KY, WMA, ENY SMs + WV1X

35 clubs across the state that are affiliated and some have gone further to achieve Special Service status (SSC). I'll go more into that in future.

Many people are asking why should I be a member of the ARRL. At present, just a few more are letting their membership lapse than are actually joining and/or renewing their annual membership in Kentucky. ARRL actually does all of their own design of their publications including QST. The cover is designed in house along with all of the articles and photographs. **QST** has been published outside of Newington for many years. However, in house publication and design saves big money.

Ok, I get a magazine and that is great, lots of good articles, plenty of advertisements etc. Did you know that most amateurs review ham equipment prior to purchasing a piece of gear which is reviewed in the 'product review section' of QST. The product review section and the Silent Key page are the most read columns in QST on a monthly basis. Product reviews provide unbiased, unfiltered information for the member.

So I have that nice magazine, what else do I receive for my annual dues? Are you a DXer? If so

you receive a great benefit for all of the outgoing QSLs through the QSL bureau. Have you looked at what it takes to send a QSL internationally and have return postage? Lots of \$\$. Also, LOTW has been a fantastic addition to many amateurs, including yours truly. Tracking awards has truly helped with LOTW.

Have a problem with a neighbor with interference or need some advise on an antenna in your building? What better place to receive an answer by calling the Technical Information Service. Research information from the great annual ARRL Handbook and numerous other publications.



Figure 2 HF Go Kit sent to Puerto Rico

Have you looked at your band privileges that many take for granted? The League continually watches and works with the FCC to show why we as amateurs deserve to have the spectrum space we occupy today. Why do you send your monthly reports each month as an EC, or NM. It is to show we are providing a service to the public for the use of the frequencies. All of this done behind the scenes with the Regulatory Information Branch.

Furthermore, the League this past month

spearheaded a great response to Puerto Rico in their need for assistance during the aftermath of

Hurricane Irma. The League coordinated manpower and equipment with go kits to Puerto Rico and states affected by the hurricanes to supplement their communications needs in a matter of days. With the help of many of the radio manufactures and suppliers the League provided great go kits that were immediately placed on the air to provide emergency communications to government agencies, power companies, law enforcement, Red Cross and provided numerous health and welfare messages. Other services the League provides include newsletter subscriptions, email forwarding, and group benefit programs with Ham Radio Equipment insurance, Visa Card and insurance for your home and auto.

You cannot leave Newington without talking about W1AW, the voice of ARRL. Many a ham spent hours on end copying the code practice sent several times a week at different speeds trying to

increase their code speed for that next carrot, I mean license out there. The daily bulletins also are sent out for current information for hams plus the propagation forecasts. Yes, this is sent out to all radio amateurs but getting this information out is not cheap. Much engineering, maintenance and design have gone on through the years to keep W1AW on the air. To be able to work W1AW in a contest or getting a chance to ragchew an operator at W1AW, you thought you were working "god".

To review, the request for Kentucky amateurs to continue their support as League members please know that



Figure 3 Original Hiram Percy Maxim, W1AW operational spark gap xmtr.

you are getting more than a monthly magazine. Each Section of the ARRL is supported by the member's membership. The League needs to be out in the public eye to continue to build the amateur program whether it be working with Scouting, FCC, Hamfests and Clubs, disaster assistance, license renewal

assistance, training publications and beyond. Without you, the League member, there is no ARRL as we know it and maybe no amateur radio. Please purview this link for more information on League benefits: <a href="http://www.arrl.org/membership">http://www.arrl.org/membership</a>



Figure 4 Jack Johnson, age 12 won grand prize. Non Ham, his callsign maybe coming soon.

# PAINTSVILLE HAMFEST FALL EVENT

Paintsville ARC had its first annual Hamfest and according to Fred Jones, WA4SWF, the event was successful enough that there is already talk and planning for next year's event.

# PAINTSVILLE AND LOUISA CONDUCT JOINT LICENSE CLASS



Figure 5 Instructors Ross Leedy KJ4GRJ, Curtis Meade KY4CM, Ken Robinson K4KBR



Figure 6 Members of their class Wittensville, KY

Members of the Louisa ARC are conducting a new license class for perspective licenses for members of the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Wittensville, KY who are seeking the license to assist the church's disaster relief team. For recruitment purposes, has your local club been in contact with the Red Cross to inquire maybe other churches or groups in your area that may be in need of disaster communications training. What better way to introduce amateur radio. The class meets weekly and is using the ARRL Technician Study guide.

#### REACHING YOUTH THROUGH SCOUTING

By Mark Volstad AI4BJ KY Section Youth Coordinator

Reaching the youth of today can at times be a struggle reaching through all the activities in their schedule. However, Scouting today may present the exact opportunity for that open door. Every year Scouts provide an opportunity to approach your local troop by their camporees held several times a year and the nationwide Jamboree held in the summer or fall. Mark has an excellent avenue for this as he has found a Scoutmaster, Mike Wood KY4PM and his son for show and tell especially JOTA.

QST Write-up

The April issue of QST included my short write up, and a couple of photos, of my talk to a KY Governor's Scholars Program class last summer.

KY4DH Dixie Heights HS Amateur Radio Club April 2017 QST

I have acted as technical advisor to the club for the past 2 years, but this summer I advised the faculty sponsor, Sherri Edmondson KJ4MOB, that I would be unable to continue in this capacity for the 2017/2018 school year. The demands of my day job have increased to the point where I can no longer afford to be absent for two afternoons each month.

I'm not sure what the future holds for the club. Sherri seems committed to its ongoing survival, but she has not advanced to General class herself and does not seem too motivated to do so. She therefore has to recruit a General or Extra-class volunteer from outside the school when the students want to operate

the HF radio – and this seems to be their main interest in the club. Several NKARC members have offered to help out occasionally, so perhaps it will be "advisor by committee". Additional challenges facing the club are:



- A broken (though still functioning on 20m) HF vertical antenna on the roof. The school would not allow me to go onto the roof to attempt a repair.
- The school has offered no dedicated space for a club station. The equipment must be removed from a locked cabinet, unboxed and assembled into a temporary station every time they want to use it, then disassembled and re-boxed!
- Sherri has been assigned to a different classroom this year, so she has to coordinate access with the teacher who is now assigned to the classroom where the antenna and equipment are located.
- Only one student has actually obtained his Technician license (out of a sense of guilt, I suspect). The others are happy to attend meetings and talk on the radio, but show little inclination towards becoming licensed themselves.
- The previous principal, Kim Banta, was a big supporter of the club, but her replacement seems to have very little interest in it.

I <u>was</u> able to get away from work for an hour last Monday to help one of the students participate in ARRL School Roundup. Other NKARC members helped out later in the week, including Dave Core K8WDA. The students completed a total of 46 QSOs, including some nice DX (Hungary, Spain, Italy, Canada). I will be submitting their log later this week, with results to be published in a future issue of QST.



St. Henry District High School

For more info regarding youth please contact Mark, AI4BJ mvolstad@twc.com

There is an excellent pamphlet that the League publishes that is available to clubs in reference to Scouting, called "Scouting and Amateur Radio". Also, check out this link in regards to Scouting;

**Scouting** 

#### **CLUB OF THE MONTH: ANDERSON CO ARC**

The Anderson Radio Club, KY4LAW, is located in Lawrenceburg, Kentucky. We meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Anderson County Public Health Building on Glensboro Road behind Wal-Mart. Beginning in January, quarterly, the club hosts a free testing session sponsored by the Laurel Amateur Radio Club, Inc. These sessions begin at 6:00 PM, with the club meeting immediately after.

The primary purpose of our club is to provide emergency services with amateur radio communication in times of disaster or emergency.

Additionally, the club encourages the exchange of information and cooperation between members. The club seeks ways to promote radio knowledge and operating efficiency, and manages programs and activities to advance the interest of Amateur radio.



Figure 7 Local club testing

The club is affiliated with Anderson County Emergency Management, as part of their Command structure. Composed of 40 members, we provide support to, and are also supported by the Anderson County Department of Public Safety. The club members participate assisting police officers with traffic control for various events, including assisting State Troopers with communications for the annual Trooper Chrisman 5K race. Additionally, a mobile command center is set up and operated by the club during our annual Burgoo festival.

For more information, you can go to the Anderson Radio Club web site at <a href="www.KY4LAW.com">www.KY4LAW.com</a>, email to <a href="ki4tlw@ky4law.com">ki4tlw@ky4law.com</a>, check in to the net at 8:30 PM, Thursdays on the 2 meter repeater at 146.835 with a PL of 107.2, or call us on that repeater any time.

#### HAPPENINGS FROM KY TC: CHUCK MILAM N9KY

Jim, KC4BQK reports: "It has been a busy October here. I helped install the KD4JPO-7 digipeater in the Henderson Hospital. It is working fine and is high enough to reach a large area. I have started the "Shack in a Box" project. The hard part is underway. I have been gutting the interior to make way for some insulation. I have been working on the best way for heat and air, which is difficult to deiced. I will have three positions in the trailer, HF, Digital, other?. What would you put in it for equipment?"

I've been pondering that question posed by Jim. I would say the third position should be a VHF/UHF station for local area coordination. If you follow some of the reports coming out of Puerto Rico and other affected areas in the Caribbean, there was just as much need for VHF/UHF local comms as there was for HF long-haul back to the states.

As for me, in October, I've been slowly working on my Loop On Ground receive antenna and other station upgrades. I had a an electrician out to the house, he ran separate 240V and 120V circuits up to my radio shack to help take the load off the regular household circuit and prepare for my eventual amplifier upgrade While looking at my electrical load center (breaker panel) in the house, it got me thinking about some future work. I've been reading <u>Grounding and Bonding for the Radio Amateur</u> and thinking about my own station grounds.

This was timely, because early Monday morning, we took lightning damage at the house. The XYL was up with the baby and said the whole house lit up sometime after midnight. So far, it appears I've lost a TV, laser printer, the shack PC, all the outdoor security cameras, and my internet service (now restored, AT&T had to replace all three components of their system to restore service.)

As for radio gear, my Astron VS-35M power supply was showing low voltage output, a power recycle seemingly corrected it, but more testing will be needed. The Elecraft K3 was actually powered off and disconnected from the antennas, but it was throwing errors when I powered it up. I assume that was from the connection to the computer. I did a soft reset and it seems to have recovered, but I need to do more thorough testing. I have a bad feeling the entered through my Ethernet connection on the computer, through the serial control cable on the K3, and then out the K3 power cable. I'd actually have been in better shape had I left the radio connected to the antenna. I'll be shipping it back to Elecraft for a complete inspection. The KX3 was only connected to power and was powered off, and it seems to be OK so far.

The other ham radios seem to be OK, except for an old 1990s-era Radio Shack scanner that likely can't be replaced. I may crack that one open and see if there's something obvious that can be repaired. I may put my old Icom IC-706MKIIG back in on my desk to work a bit of the KY QSO Party (even though it conflicts with the deer season opener) and perhaps even work a bit of the ARRL Sweepstakes SSB. The loss of the shack PC really hurts especially for contest work. Fortunately, I had full, current backups.

I do have insurance on the household electronics, and the ARRL Insurance on the amateur radio equipment. I've just started the claims process, so I'm about to find out how well they'll do for me.

#### **PUBLIC SERVICE AND NET ACTIVITIES: OCTOBER 2017**

PSHR REPORT BY KC4BQK, JIM RAYBURN KY STM Net Reports are sent directly to League

CALLSIGN	SESSIONS	MESSAGES	APPTS	DIGITAL	TOTAL
KC4BQK	18	20	30	40	108
KO4OL	40	40	30		110
W4NHO	21	35	30		86

SAR	KO4OL	67
SAR	W4NHO	21

### ARES REPORTING SUMMARY: OCTOBER 2017

BY KENNY GARRETT, N4KLG KY SEC

#### Summary

With this month's report, I've broken it down into a more readable format.

First, I want to say thank you to all who've submitted your reports this month. It's encouraging to see all of the activity going on throughout Kentucky. You're doing communications support for all types of local activities, standard and severe weather nets, digital and traffic nets all over KY. You're attending meetings with several served agencies including the National Weather Service, Kentucky Emergency Management and local Hospital Preparedness groups, all of which value your support and expertise. Reporting all of this activity at the end of each month in your narrative is paramount because it helps us validate our presence to served agencies and other public service agencies. So, please try and get your reports turned in on time each month and share with us what you're doing. There are numerous excellent examples in the report above. Roman sends out reminders each month prior to due dates. As with most volunteer agencies, availability of volunteers changes from year to year. We have a large number of vacant coordinator spots at all levels. Now that summer is past, and people are coming back inside, now might be a good time to step up recruiting efforts to find prospective hams interested in working in EMCOMM. Check with CERT team members, weather spotter groups or local clubs for potential members looking to serve in EMCOMM. Google and download FCCLookup. There you'll find a list of hams for your particular county.

I've spent the last six weeks working on several things like building a new website for us to use. www.kyares.net is up and running but still under development.

We are in dire need of additional Net Control Operators for the Kentucky Emergency Net and Kentucky Digital Net. Net scripts are available for download at kyares.net

There are several people working on a new standardized traffic management plan for KY which will detail everything you need to know to get a digital station up and ready to pass emergency message traffic. So, if you've ever wanted to get into handling message traffic via Winlink or other options, this guide should have the answers to your questions when it's ready early in 2018.

I'm re-writing the old "Training Policy" from 2010 to include different levels of KY-ARES Accreditation so local groups can be accredited by Kentucky Section ARES with a certificate and Letter to present to your local served agency. Levels of training will be determined by the served agency.

Working on an update to the Kentucky Section Emergency Communications Plan.

For further information and comments please look at: www.kyares.net Kind Regards,

Ken Garrett, N4KLG ARRL Kentucky Section, Section Emergency Coordinator sec@kyham.net (270) 860-0520



N4DUE

Paul Mitchell, N4DUE estate is offering his complete station to any aspiring young amateur that has his General or studying for General License "station should be placed on the air", and doesn't have the means to purchase a station. If you think you qualify please contact: Mr. Mark Keinath 859-608-6548 email toolmw@aol.com Equipment cannot be sold - pass it on.

At the time this news letter went to press, no specific detail of this offering was known except as published. Equipment is located in Lexington KY

This Section News column is what you the ACC and or member or aspiring member wants to make of this monthly column. It is your chance to share information, toot your information about your local club and let others know what is going on in Kentucky. We have many things to brag about. Let's not hold them under a bowl. How about maybe having a contest between clubs to see how many new ARRL members your club enrolls in the next 90 days? The League is here for you today, whether it is here for the next generation, depends on what we do now.