

Section News for December 2002

Atlantic Division

Delaware

This is another edition of the Delaware Section monthly summary. For all of you who are interested in DX and contesting, AA1K asked me to pass on that the Frankford Radio Club operates several DX PacketCluster Nodes that are accessible to Delaware hams. For more information about this resource and the FRC go to WWW.GOFRC.ORG. The Delaware QSO PARTY will again be held on the weekend of Feb 1 and 2, 2003. This event is co-sponsored by the Delaware Section and the First State Amateur Radio Club. GO the FSARC web site for details. The URL is WWW.FSARC.ORG This time of year is when many clubs change officers. I would like to extend my thanks to all of those who contributed their time and efforts to provide leadership in the various clubs around the state over the past year. Good luck to all the new officers as they undertake their new assignments. The clubs through out the state are a valuable resource and your efforts are necessary in helping amateur radio remain active and viable. The Delaware Traffic Net meets M-F on 3905 KHz at 18:30 local time. The Delaware Emergency Phone Net meets Sat on 3905 KHz at 18:00 local time. If you would like your local mentioned here, please feel free to email me the information and I will post it. Traffic(DEC) DTN QNI 138 QTC 22 in 22 sessions; DEPN QNI 30 in 4 sessions; K3JL 45. 73 until next month Randall Carlson, WB0JJX, SM Delaware Section

Southern New Jersey

A new year and in just a few months we will be thinking about antenna work, fox hunts and hamfests. But right now we are thinking about indoor activities and the first thing that comes to mind is a trip to the Battleship New Jersey if you have not been there yet or if you have been there. Things are always changing or being added. There has been a lot of work done on the BNJARS shack and it looks real fine. All man hours and most of the cost has been donated by a large group of volunteers. Some are not even hams but want to be a part of the action. The shack is truly ready to receive visitors. You can visit as an individual or a group. If you want to come as a club or a group of individuals, please make arrangements ahead so someone can be there. Assuming you want to operate from the station, be sure you have your license or a copy of your license with you. To set up a trip, contact the chief engineer at wa2tvs@arrl.net or at 609-698-2872. The Battleship is a very large operation and there is a great need for docents (tour guides) This is a great opportunity for the retired ham (or non-ham friend or neighbor) looking for something different to do. As a docent you will be trained and receive uniforms and other items needed to be a docent. Call the Battleship's main number and they will advise you as to details. If you have not gotten your tags that say ham radio on them, the telephone number

is 609-292-6500. Ask for form ISM/SPU-43 Amateur Radio Plate Application. The fee is \$15.00 and you will need to send a copy of your NJ Vehicle Registration, FCC License (both sides) and if the vehicle is leased a copy of the agreement. On Dec 12, 2002 Amateur Radio went to Trenton, NJ. A resolution was read honoring the role of amateur radio operators, following the attack of 9/11 on the World Trade Center. Assembly Speaker Sires stated, "I would like to take this opportunity to commend you for your hard work and efforts. During times of disaster, your group has displayed superior service and dedication to the safety of our citizens. I applaud the efforts of the independent radio operators and thank you for your selfless actions on September 11, 2001. This is a great moment not just for New Jersey hams but for all hams. The greater benefit to New Jersey hams will come when bill A3065 is signed which will (if signed) codify PRB -1, the bill to protect municipalities from unreasonable tower restrictions. There is also a similar bill in New York. As clubs and individuals, it is up to us to promote amateur radio. The best way to insure that our hobby continues is to bring new hams into the hobby. The best way to reach a lot of people is by having classes. DVRC (Delaware Valley Ragchew Club) will be holding their spring class starting sometime in February. For information send an email to DVRC@ragchew.org and someone will get back to you. The class is held at Triton High School in Runnemede, Camden County. DVRC has had much success with their students getting licensed. The ARRL has provided Section Managers with a website for each section. If you as a club or individual has an activity that pictures have been taken, N2HQL, the webmaster for SNJ's web page would be happy to put these pictures on the website. They need to be good, clear pictures with some activity going on in the picture such as presenting an award or displaying a ham shack or setting up for field day. It needs to be clear what is going on in the picture. He also needs the first name and call of the people in the picture left to right or shirt color or the action they are doing. These pictures can be sent to my email address which is in QST. (KA2YKN@arrl.org) Traffic report from December: QNI reports: NJM 45 WA2OPY NJPN 196 W2CC NJSN 155 K2PB NJN(E) 205 AG2R NJN(L) 143 AG2R (the above nets are dual section nets of both SNSJ and NNJ. Liaisons with 2RN) Local net reports JSARS 450 WJ2F SJTN 58 KB2RTZ SJVN 277 WB2UVB SAR reports - WA2YL 258 WA2CUW 232 AA2SV 119 KB2RTZ 92 WJ2F 73 K2UL 70 K2UL-4 33 WB2UVB 29 KC2IYC 15 N2WFN 9 N2VQA 7 W2AZ 6 N2ZMI 3 N2AYK 2 KB2VYZ 2 Public Service Honor Roll (PSHR) - N2HQL 130 K2UL 110 WA2YL 110 WJ2F 110 WB2UVB 99 AA2SV 90 WA2CUW 90 KA2YKN 70 KC2IYC 50 N2WFN 49 KB2YJD 46 N2VQA 44 Traffic news: The annual CONFAB of New Jersey Traffic Handlers was held on December 7 at TCNJ. Congratulations to Jim Flaherty WJ2F on receiving the W2UEZ Memorial Award for "the most promising newcomer" to the NJ traffic net community. If you hold an appointment, please check your expiration date and renew your league membership well in advance of your actual expiration date. This will assure that you get full and proper credit for reports submitted without question. Even if you don't hold an appointment, it is a good idea to not let your membership expire.

Western Pennsylvania

The New Year is finally upon us and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the countless number of individuals that volunteered in various aspects during the previous year. The countless hours of time that each of you have given to serving others is greatly appreciated. With the New Year also comes the beginning of the hamfest season. The first hamfest will be on February 23 in the Pittsburgh area. This event is sponsored by the Wireless Association of South Hills. Additional information for this event can be found at <http://www.hky.com/~sanfordb/WASHfest2002.htm> . Either one of the assistant section managers or myself will be present at all ARRL sanctioned hamfest in W. Pa again this year. Stop at the league table to say hi or if we can help you with anything. I am preparing my calendar of activities for the year and would like to hear from any groups that would like me to schedule a talk at their club or event. Please contact me to arrange for a date that will fit into your group's schedule. I would like to introduce the section staff and explain the services they can perform to help you. Several members of the section staff are also available to make presentations on different subjects. ASM Jeff Leach, N3YEA, is available to talk about the EmComm courses that are being offered online and in the classroom. Jeff would be happy to make arrangements with any group that would like to sponsor a class. Jeff will be my primary backup at hamfests or meetings that I can not attend. Bruce Watson, AA3LX, is our ASM for education and youth. Bruce has been developing numerous PowerPoint programs to introduce different areas of amateur radio. He is also available to help with forming school clubs and other youth programs. Tony Petrucelli, KE3ED, has had his position as ASM expanded to include not only packet but also all the digital and data modes. Rich Beaver, N3SRJ, is the section emergency coordinator of W. Pa. Rich can explain the ARES operation in our section. He is also looking for individuals to fill leadership positions in several counties. There is a need for emergency coordinators in several different areas and anyone interested should contact Rich. Rich will manage the entire operation of the ARES platform. Bob Livrone, N3WAV, is the section traffic manager. Bob can help with presentations on proper traffic handling techniques. These individuals and other staff members may be contacted by email by using "callsign"@arrl.net Other members of the section staff that are available for help in special areas include Sally Cripe, N3MYZ, who as an ASM will be working with me on administrative functions and also available to help clubs with any problems. A new member to the staff is Dave Kleber, KB3FXI, who became the bulletin manager for W. Pa. Dave will be implementing some list serves as well as alert systems using email, pagers, cellular devices as well as other methods. More information will be provided on this as the services become available. Individuals needing technical assistance should contact Jim Salter, WR4W. If you need assistance with public relations or getting press releases put together contact Tony Zona, WB3KGT. Tony is our new public information coordinator and has an extensive background in news publications. Anyone experiencing interference or other areas of possible rule violations can contact Ralph Ofchinick Jr, W3ZPI for assistance. Ralph coordinates the official observer team here in W. Pa. He will be glad to assist with questions or issues. There are many different ARES groups in the various counties. If you would like to become involved and do not know who the leader is in your area contact me and I will provide you with the contact information. Also please visit the section website at <http://www.bfdin.com/wpasec> for more information. Upcoming event about which we will provide more information next month are: Washfest

February 23, Foothills ARC Hamfest March 2, Butler Co. ARC Tech fest March 15, Two Rivers ARC Hamfest March 23. 73 John Rodgers, N3MSE, W. Pa. Section Manager

Central Division

Illinois

January Section News SM-Sharon Harlan, N9SH, ASM KB9NW, SEC KC6VVT, STM K9CNP, PIC N9EWA, OOC KB9FBI, DEC Central N9NP, DEC/SW KB9AIL. This month in addition to their on-going Technician license class, Piatt Co ARES members participated in two public service events. On December 7th from 10 A.M. until 2 P.M. ARES members worked in cooperation with the Monticello Chamber of Commerce and the Monticello Police Department to provide communications for the annual Monticello Christmas Parade. This event was so successful they have been invited to increase their participation for the event next year to cover more coordination functions. Participating in the event were KA9SZW, (NCS) W9FWS, N0PRN, KB9WCG, K9CFH, N9ESA, KC9AZZ, KB9VSI, N9SKX. N9SKX is a Monticello police officer and provided liason with the police during the event. On December 13 from 8 A.M. until 3:15 P.M. Piatt Co ARES members provided primary communications for the Piatt County Search and Rescue Exercise. Hams attended the full training session and are now certified with Piatt CO SAR. ARES members participating in the event: W9HDM (NCS). W9FWS, KA9VHQ, KB9VSI, K9CFH, and two students in the Tech license class. These ARES members have been asked to attend the next class that has been planned for the Spring of 2003 and to provide communications for any SAR events. They have also been asked to provide emergency communications assistance for Kirby Ambulance and Kirby Hospital. The hospital is offering to provide a permanent operating at the hospital near the ER. The annual FRRL elections were held at the December meeting, with the following results President, W9AX, Vice President, W9CZA, Secretary, WD9DAU, Treasurer, N9YFC, Directors, K9JE, AH6EZ, W9CEO. A popular and highly respected member of the FRRL passed away on December 10, 2002. Bill Erickson, WA9TPQ, became a silent Key after suffering a stroke. Bill will be missed very much by his friends and family. In 2003 Hamfester's Radio Club comes to a milestone, because this year marks the club's 70th anniversary. This is something to be very proud of, not only because the club is still in existence, but that it is still growing. Congratulations to all of the club members who have worked so hard to make this club so successful. Congratulations to Lee Tolksdorf WB9UFS, who was awarded the club's highest award at the annual Christmas Dinner and awards banquet. Lee was named Hamfester of the Year-2002. On January 10th members of the Rockford Amateur Radio Association gathered at Thunder Bay Grille for their annual awards banquet. Two members were recognized for their work for the club and amateur radio. K9AMJ, Herb Eckstein was awarded an Exemplary Service Award for working on the club's repeaters for the last 25 plus years. Herb is a former Ham of the Year. AB9AY, Mike Oberg, was awarded the Ham of the Year-2002. Congratulations to both of these hard workers.

Indiana

Indiana Section News for December 2002. Condolances to the Family and Friends of Raymond Rhoden, WA9FHL, of West Terre Haute, who became a Silent Key December 13, 2002. He will be missed. Annual Reports from all Emergency Coordinators, District Emergency Coordinators, and Net managers are due by January 31, 2003. Don't forget this important administrative detail! This is part of your appointment description. A few Emergency Coordinators are still using the "old" FSD-212 report forms. The "new" FSD-212 (11-98), follows the same basic format, but has spaces for reporting the "man-hours" of training events, public service events, and emergency operations. Reporting of ARES man-hours has been important for several years now. ECs: Reporting your group's man-hours helps the League justify our usage of the amateur radio bands that we now have. Please don't overlook this detail! I am looking for the "right" individuals to fill out the Indiana Section Staff. Last month Dennis Gilbey K9JZZ, State government Liaison resigned due to a change in his job, and job location. Also, David Crockett WA9ZCE has resigned as Section Public Information Coordinator. If you are interested in one of these "state level" jobs, please get in touch with me. We especially need someone with political connection in the Indiana Legislature, and diplomatic capabilities to serve as SGL. The ARRL Volunteer Resources Committee has recommended that Section Managers develop their Field volunteers at all levels. Increased skills, professionalism, discipline, and reliability are needed to as to meet the needs of served agencies. This means that all ECs and OES appointees need to be enrolling in and completing the Introduction to Emergency Communications Course(EC-001) shortly. DEC's and NM's need to earn at least Level 1(EC-001), and Level 2(EC-002) certifications as soon as possible. SEC's and STM's need to earn Level 1, 2, and 3 certifications as soon as possible. For further information on the League's Continuing Education Courses, go to: www.arrl.org/cce. Full information and registration requirements have been posted there for some time. A number of Indiana hams who have completed these EmComm courses are now serving as mentors to students who are studying these Emergency Communications courses via the Internet. Seriously active ARES/RACES members universally have a "72-hour" jump-kit handy to provide for their needs during a communications emergency. Even if you're not an ARES or RACES member, it is a very good idea to have the means at hand to survive an emergency, whether it is just a simple loss of commercial power, or a complete loss of your living facilities. Your local American Radio Cross chapter has three brochures that can serve as excellent guides to your personal preparedness in the event of a loss of commercial power, or a full-blown disaster/evacuation. These brochures are called "Your Family Disaster Supplies Kit, Emergency Preparedness Checklist", and "Food and Water in an Emergency". By having a "72-hour" kit, you can be one less victim that disaster services will have to contend with. If you are a newcomer to ARES/RACES, there are numerous 72-hour Emergency Communicator jump-kit lists available on the Internet. The ARRL has an excellent one in the chapter on Emergency Communications in "The ARRL Operating Manual". If you already have a "72-hour" kit, January is a good month to dig it out, and review/update it's contents. I will be attending various hamfests this year. If you would like to talk to me, stop by the ARRL table at the hamfest. NET FREQ DAILY TIMES (UTC) QNI QTC QTR SESS ITN 3910KHz 1330/2130/2300 3324 215 1942

93 QIN 3656KHz 1430/0000 359 136 1287 61 ICN 3705KHz 2315 68 27 416 21 ARES
3910KHz 4th Sun/Mo@1300 5 0 0 1 HOOSIER VHF NETS (8 REPORTING) 455 10 845 37
December ORS Traffic Reports: K9PUI 210, KO9D 139, N9KNJ 115, WA9JWL 114, K9GBR
75, WB9OFG 42, KA9QWC 25, KB9TUI 22, KC9BZL 15, K9DIY 14, W9EHY, N9PF 9,
AB9AA 8, K9CUN 7, KB9LUX 3, WB9NCE 3, W9XD 3.

Wisconsin

WISCONSIN: SM: Don Michalski, W9IXG. BWN 3985 0500-0715 W9RCW. BEN 3985 1200
KE9VU. WSBN 3985 1715-1800 K9FHI. WNN 3723 1800 KB9ROB. WSSN 3645 1830
WA9ZTY. WIN-E 3662 1900 WB9ICH. WIN-L 3662 2200 W9UW. CTN 3994 Mondays @
2000 KC9IS (All times are Central). With regret, I inform you of the passing of N9QGJ,
W9MQ, W9JBF. All three were members of the RMRA. Jones Jordan, N9CRO, passed away
on Christmas Eve. He was a member of ECARC. The ECARC presented Distinguished Service
Award plaques to N9NMA, W9NW, KG0KM, KB9AZZ, KA9OMY and wife Linda for their
activities in the club in 2002. Congratulations to Dave Parker, WB9WHG. He was named Ham
of the Year by RRRRC! December 9RN report indicates Wisconsin represented in all scheduled
nets! The HVARC had a SET Communications drill that was done with the Southwest Health
Center in Platteville. A special thank you to Hap Daus KC9BGA for making the drill
arrangements with SWHC for HVARC. They received a lot of good publicity for this event.
The WARAC Midwinter Swapfest was a success! It was nice to see many of you for an eyeball
QSO. If you would like me to represent the ARRL at your club hamfest, please let me know,
ASAP. A reminder to affiliated clubs to notify ARRL well in advance of your event so you get
it listed and to receive free door prizes, also! Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR, has donated one of his
computers to St. Joseph's College Colombo, Sri Lanka. He received a letter of appreciation
from 4S7VK. The computer is a great asset to the school Radio Communications Club and the
students also use it for Satellite Communication work. Thanks, Stan! Many of you know that I
travel the State to assist amateurs in need of assistance with their station or antennas. I work for
a good cup of coffee and conversation! But, don't forget that local assistance may be just
around the corner at your club. Also, consider contacting the Technical Specialists listed at the
Section site <http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=WI>. Their areas of expertise are posted and
some may even be able to make house calls to help you. Please feel free to contact them!! 73,
Don, W9IXG STM Report – Junk traffic. If you've ever attempted delivery of a message only
to discover the recipient had passed away a year ago, you know how embarrassing it can be.
What's a traffic OP to do? (1) apologize and then advise the originating station to help avoid
future problems, (2) fill the NTS with meaningful traffic – accurately addressed and properly
formatted. If we put enough "good" messages into the system, the need for the generic will fade
like 80 meters under the aurora. How did we do in 2002? Section nets had a total of 39,473
check-ins and handled 21,753 pieces of traffic in 2,561 net sessions lasting 73,219 minutes.
Good work! Monthly Net Activity Summary: NET QNI QTC QTR SSNS NM ---- BWN 1347
1593 2725 31 W9RCW - BEN 507 83 921 31 KE9VU - WSBN 676 77 975 31 K9FHI - WNN
241 19 376 29 KB9ROB - WSSN 221 18 332 29 WA9ZTY - WIN/E 236 90 315 30 WB9ICH -

WIN/L 247 50 373 31 W9UW - WRACES 124 1 211 5 N6NKO Totals 3599 1931 6228 217
BPL: W9CBE, K9JPS, W9RCW, K9GU*, N9VE*-K9LGU/STM

Dakota Division

Minnesota

SECTION NEWS FOR MONTH OF: DECEMBER 2002 MINNESOTA SECTION
MANAGER:RANDY WENDEL-KM0D. MNVOAD meeting was held Sat Jan 11 at the Red Cross in St. Paul. Roger Laurence WR0G, Hennepin Co Comm Mgr gave a presentation on the new Metro-Wide 800Mhz trunking system. Erik Westgard-NY9D gave a presentation on the statewide packet radio system which is growing in numbers. Blue Earth Co ARES EC Steve Czsmadia WA2OFZ recently reported the county sheriff department has purchased the necessary packet radio equipment for support to the packet network in that area. Jerry Klemm KB0OHI has resigned as NM for MSPN evening session. We express our thanks to Jerry for a job very well done. 73 de Randy Wendel KM0D. NET FREQ TIME QNI/QTC/SESS MGR
~~~~ ~~~~~ ~~~~~ ~~~~~ ~~~~~ MSPN/E 3860 5:30 P 1234/85/31 KB0OHI MSPN/N  
3860 12 P 577/61/31 WA0TFC MSSN 3710 6 P N/A VACANT MSN/1 3605 6:30 P  
258/126/29 K0WPK MSN/2 3605 9:50 P 124/14/26 VACANT PAW 3925 9A-5P 3272/111/95  
KA0IZA MONTHLY STATION ACTIVITY REPORTS (SAR) STATION ORIG. REC'D.  
SENT DLVD. TOTAL BPL NO.OPS. ~~~~~ ~~~~~ ~~~~~ ~~~~~ ~~~~~ ~~~~~ ~~~~~  
~~~~~ W0GRW 0 155 154 4 313 N 1 W0LAW 0 106 120 2 228 N 1 K0WPK 0 117 77 11  
205 N 1 N0UC 10 116 43 32 201 N 1 WA0TFC 0 112 62 1 175 N 1 W3FAF 0 39 45 1 85 N 1
W0HPD 2 27 33 7 69 N 1 KC0HAW 1 17 17 15 51 N 1 KB0OHI 0 33 7 2 42 N 1 K0PSH 0 0
33 0 33 N 1 KB0AII 0 0 26 0 26 N 1 WD0GUF 0 7 5 1 13 N 1 KB0AIJ 0 0 11 0 11 N 1 N0JP 0
1 6 1 8 N 1 W0KYG 0 2 0 2 4 N 1 PUBLIC SERVICE HONOR ROLL (PSHR) STATION 1 2
3 4 5 6 TOTAL ~~~~~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~~~~~ W0LAW 40 40 20 10 0 0 110 N0UC 40 40 10 0 0
10 100 WA0TFC 40 40 20 0 0 0 100 WD0GUF 40 13 20 10 0 0 83 RESPECTFULLY
SUBMITTED: RANDY WENDEL, KM0D, MINNESOTA SECTION MANAGER

South Dakota

SM Rich Beebe, N0PV, ASM Jim Stalzer, WJ0S -- Several clubs held elections in Dec/Jan the results we have so far are: PARC: President: Rich, KC0CHJ VPresident: Jim, KD0S Secretary: Don, KD0MO Treasurer: Greg, N0NPO SEARC: President: Will, KE0Z VPresident: Ray, WB0HHM Secretary: Rose, N0LPO Treasurer: Jim, WJ0S As of January 1st, 2003 the cost of the Amateur Radio Exam is now \$12.00 for all levels. This effects all VEC Organizations. Hot Springs ARC has become reaffiliated with the ARRL. Their meetings are 7pm at their club office. Tim, K0OR is the sitting president. Several stations in SD operated from their local NWS on Skywarn Recognition Day. It was a blast for all those that showed up to help out. SEARC is holding Technician Classes thru January and February. First class is January 18th at 9:30am to 11:00am at the Emergency Managment Building. We will be using "Now You're

Talking" as the text which will be available at the session. ARECC Course material will be made available to clubs for self study. As the office of homeland security becomes more solidified these will become more and more important. I am urging all OES to obtain Level I; EC, DEC and NM to obtain Level II; and the SEC and STM obtain Level III by the end of the year. This will put us far ahead of the curve in respects to standarized training as well as the ability to work with served agencies that are beginning to require these to serve their missions. We have a test team available to give the exams through Level III.

Delta Division

Arkansas

Bob Ideker, WB5VUH SM – www.all-arkansas-hams.org - Well, my fellow Arkansas hams, the “countdown” has begun. March 31st will be here before you know it & I will be going back into the "moth-ball of SM's" status once again - HI. I can tell you one thing for sure! I'll miss the day-to-day activities that I've been accustomed to doing over the last 2 years as I did when serving you from '90-'94 in this position. I'll still be seeing/talking to you at many ham functions in my "retirement" years. One of the things I truly enjoy doing the most is traveling to club meetings & seeing first-hand what your club sets as yearly goals & the mapping out & coordination of your planned activities for the year, & then watching as those planned activities come-to-life as you fulfill the plans you've made & to watch as you “check, do, and adjust” as challenges change & thus, your plans do too. We have SO MUCH ham talent in our section. Its fun, satisfying & exciting to watch a club start a project that involves their membership & to see the extraordinary efforts that are made to make something work. It's incredible to watch a small seed of a simple idea then blossom into a full & expanded project that can involve so many. Keep up the good work & keep dreaming of things that you've always wished but never seems to get done but this time, be strong & “just do-it!” as suggested by Nike. Yes indeed, for the last few months of my term, I'm going to speak at club meetings/hamfests about ideas of club members that seem to never get done. Its now time for some of your ideas to be incorporated within the other planned activities of your club. I know, or at least I think I do (hi) believe that many of you have at one time or another, had a idea of something you think could be done to make your club work better or something you think you could have done better. Well, NOW is the time for you to step up to the plate & “just, do it!” Who better than you? The answer is simple....NO ONE. Come-on, try it & see what happens. Please accept my challenge & try to improve one thing within your club that you've thought about when attending meetings. Maybe accept the challenge of taking over an activity that no one else wants to do or come up with a new concept that you'll lead. For instance, I'm really surprised that clubs, & its members, don't actively have a “recruiting weekend” during the year where permissions can be secured to set up a booth somewhere in your community that non-hams go to every weekend & where you can set up a working display. OK you say, how about Field Day. That is a great place to attract attention, but so is a special weekend setup somewhere without the other activities associated with FD. It will also give you more time to demonstrate both HF & VHF capabilities. It doesn't

take much to set up a table, have some handouts, perhaps a couple of rigs/antenna's to suit your demonstration & then secure others to help you support the booth by rotating & assisting in the demonstrations & discussion. Who knows, you might get some new hams & you might even find someone that is a ham but hasn't been active lately. Wouldn't that be great to know that you got a ham to become active again? YOU can do it & all it takes is the desire to do something that can demonstrate your abilities & strengths that only you know about.

Remember, I have confidence in you & truly expect to hear of great things you're doing. Traffic for December includes: W5RIP 53, WA5KQU 46, K5BOC 32, WB5HIL 18, W5RXU 16, N5MBO 15, K7ZQR 9, N5QYC 9, KA5MGL 6, AB5AU 5, AD5AM 5, & N5OWB 2.

Louisiana

LOUISIANA SECTION NEWS – DECEMBER 2002 LOUISIANA: SM, Mickey Cox, K5MC – ASM: W5PY, K5DPG. ACC: KM5YL. OOC: WB5CXJ. PIC: K5IQ. SEC: WA5LQZ. SGL: KD5KNZ. STM/LCW NM: W4DLZ. LTN NM: K5IQZ. A special recognition is owed Grant KD5BPW, St. Bernard Parish EC, for assisting the Coast Guard in locating a stranded boater in early December. Grant answered the distress call from Dave KB9MML, a ham from Wisconsin, on a local repeater after Dave's boat developed engine trouble with darkness approaching. With Grant's knowledge of local waters, he was able to determine the approximate location of Dave and pass that information along to the Coast Guard rescue team. Fortunately, the rescue boat was able to locate Dave within a few hours and tow him back to safety thanks in large measure to Grant's assistance. Great going, Grant! New appointments include Gerard W5TZX (Local Government Liaison), Matt KD5KNZ (Official Emergency Station), Tom N5KWB (Official Relay Station), Ron KC5FGO (Calcasieu Parish EC), and Charles AA5GP (Tangipahoa Parish EC). We are also very fortunate to have Frank W4DLZ and Dan K5IQZ as our new Section Traffic Manager and Louisiana Traffic Net Manager, respectively. Both Frank and Dan have many years of NTS experience at the section level and above. I want to thank Carolyn KM5YL, Jim N5JU, and Joe W8YFS, for their time and effort in serving as STM, LTN Manager, and Southeast LA District EC, respectively. Anyone interested in the SE LA DEC position should immediately contact Alan WA5LQZ. Congratulations to Ad W5NON for 50 years of ARRL membership and to Bob KB0TYJ for his selection as Ham of the Year by the Southwest LA ARC. The LA Section recently presented special plaques to Kevin KB5ZVK, Bill KB5PKW, and MARA (Minden ARA) for their hard work and dedicated support of the repeater linking project in north LA. I regret to report that Mr. Wil NM5C is now a Silent Key. Al K5DPG has just added the list of station appointees to the section website at www.cox-internet.com/k5dpg. If you are interested in applying for a station appointment, you can contact the appropriate section leader directly (WA5LQZ for OES, W4DLZ for ORS, etc.) or you can contact me and I will help you determine the section leader to approach. Tfc: K5IQZ 200, K5MC 147, NF5B 109, W4DLZ 98, W5NK 66, N5KWB 66, KM5YL 30, K5DPG 26, W5PY 14. PSHR: K5ER 133, KM5YL 118, K5DPG 111, AC5VN 111, K5MC 110, K5IQZ 100, N5KWB 100, W4DLZ 90, W5NK 90, W5PY 84, KD5ITA 82, K5CZD 72. Net Reports: sessions/QNI/QTC. LTN: 31/430/91. LCW: 30/125/52.

Mississippi

SM: Malcolm Keown, W5XX. Section Web Site: www.arrlmiss.org. Web Master: K5IBM at billscott@storereport.net. DEC: KD5CKP, AB5WF, N5ZNT. EC: NN5AF, W0CIR, KD5CKP, W5DJW, KB5DZJ, KD5EWB, KD5FUO, KD5GWM, KA5ICO, WD5IMP, AD5IS, N5JGK, KD5JXL, KD5KXJ, AC5MR, N5NQ, KA5PMK, AC5SU, WA5TMC, KC5TYL, KM5WX, AC5Y, KB5ZEA, N5ZNT. Only three more weeks until the big one! The 2003 Capital City Hamfest will commence at 5 PM on Friday January 31 and conclude at 4 PM on Saturday. In addition to the fleamarket, forums, and many prizes, we will be privileged to have Dan Miller, K3UFG, from ARRL Headquarters. Dan is the Certification and Continuing Education Manager and will offer a course on Amateur Radio Emergency Communications on Friday from 1 until 5. This will not be the Level 1 ECC course but will be geared to certification mentors, certification instructors, certification examiners, and anyone who wants to know about these volunteer positions. For more information on the Hamfest check the Jackson ARC Website at www.jxnarc.org or contact AB5WF at ab5wf@arrl.net. Ham Radio received some very positive comments in the Columbus Commercial Dispatch as a result of an interview with Lowndes County EC KD5FUO regarding ham response to the November Lowndes County tornadoes. And if we haven't had enough emergency preparedness opportunities, a late fall front moved through Mississippi on December 12. SKYWARN was active all day. Late in the day an F2 tornado moved through Newton resulting in multiple injuries and damage to many homes and businesses. Under the direction of DEC AB5WF, EC's AC5SU and KD5GWM activated the Metro Jackson and Lauderdale County ARES Groups, respectively. Major communications assistance was provided to the Red Cross and the Baptists Mens Mobile Kitchen. Those hams supporting this effort were: AB5WF, AC5SU, KD5GWM, N5JCG, N5VWS, KD5JPB, KB5VAF, W5RB, KD5KXJ, W5AUB, KD5HDZ, and W5XX. And was that the end of it? Negative. Yet another strong front moved through Central Mississippi during the early hours of Christmas Eve. SKYWARN was activated by AB5WF, KB5KHI, KD5UBE, AC5SU, and KD5JPB. Fortunately there was no damage this time. Congratulations to Team Mississippi, who placed 19th out of 45 entries in the 2002 North American QSO Party. Team Members were WQ5L, W5UE, KB5IXI, N5PA, and W5XX. Also congratulations to the following new club officers: Tupelo- President KD5NSP; VP KC5TVI; VP KE4LWT; S/T KC5IX; Eq. Officer W5OYK. Vicksburg- President KJ5RC; S/T KC5QZW; EC N5JGK; Activities K5NRK; Property Officer KE5K; Rptr Coord W5XX. Meridian- President W5RB; VP KD5TOI; Sec KB5ASR; Trea KD5JYJ. Regret to report the passing of Les, WJ5L, of Vicksburg, and Perry, KB5EOU, of Amory. PIO Rpt: W5KWB; SGL: AB5WF; DEC/EC Rpt: NN5AF, KD5CKP, KD5GWM, N5NQ, AC5SU, WA5TMC, AB5WF, N5ZNT Net Reports: sessions/QNI/QTC. MSPN 31/3771/51, MTN 31/89/20, MSN 31/1406/11, PBRA 31/746/6, Jackson Co ARES/RACES 31/379/5, West Coast MS ARES 12/84/0, MAEN 7/124/0, MBHN 5/38/0, LARC and Jones Co ARES EN 5/91/0, MCARA 5/66/0, SW MS ARES 5/79/0, Attala Co ARES 4/38/0, Metro Jackson ARES 4/38/0, JARC EN 3/39/0, Central MS Skywarn Net 1/96/0. PSHR: N5JCG 380, AB5WF 218, W5XX 124, AC5SU 98, KJ5YY 87 Traffic: N5JCG 44, KJ5YY 22, W5LEW 21, W5KWB 8, W5XX 4 Compilation of traffic statistics provided by

Great Lakes Division

Michigan

HAPPY NEW YEAR to all. The year 2003 has already started to be one of anticipation and expectation for Amateur Radio. The ARRL applies for new bands; Involvement in Homeland Security; Training; The Big Picture; Michigan Emergency Management looking to the Amateur Radio Service for assistance and advice; Growth nationwide in Amateur Radio Operators in 2002. The question we must ask ourselves is "Where do I fit into all of this?". Take a look at what you have done in the past with or for your Clubs and the Emergency Services programs such as ARES or RACES. Have you been involved in Field Day, the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, a Fund Raiser. Most of us can look at these and say that we have been involved in one way or another and that we are doing all that we can. We live in a very busy world today; it seems that there is always someplace that we need to be or to go or something to get done that there just is not time, energy or the ability to get done. When was the last Club meeting you attended? The last time you checked in on a Net? When was the last time you passed a piece of traffic? How about being Net Control for your local repeater Net? If you are not sure HOW to do any of these things, find out WHO to contact to learn about these things. Am I addressing just you who is reading these things? NOPE, I am also talking to myself and the other Michigan Section Leadership. When we get involved to the level that we have, the perspective and view changes of "Local Issues". The tendency is to look at the whole picture and lose the fact that without that small pot of flowers in the middle, it would just be another picture of a kitchen table. Support your local Clubs and Emergency Services Programs by paying your dues, attending meetings, find out how you can get involved on even a small scale. When we talk about supporting our clubs, the following people have stepped up and taken over the reins for the Genesee County Radio Club for the year 2003. President;Terry Pender, KB8ZB: Secretary;John Kroll, K8LJG: Treasurer;Verle Winningham, K8VW. Our thanks to these folks and best wishes for success in the following year. During 2002 we received several notices of Silent Keys (SK). Our sincerest respect and condolences go out to all of the families and organizations that these people were a part of and who we know feel deeply the loss. Once again, HAPPY NEW YEAR and welcome to the Michigan Section, 2003. John T. Freeman, N8ZE Assistant Section Manager, Special Projects

Hudson Division

Northern New Jersey

SM Bill Hudzik-W2UDT, ASM-K2WJ, ASM-N2WZB, STM-WB2FTX, ACC-N3RB, SEC-K2SO, OOC-K2ZD, PIO-WB2CRD, SGL-K1VX, TC-NR2H;

webpage: www.hudson.arrl.org/nnj Happy New Year to all! I hope that 2003 will be a healthy and prosperous one for you. Several clubs announced new officers for 2003. The North Jersey DX Association announced its new officers at the annual Brunch held in December. President is KF2TI, VP- K2WR, Secretary - KA2ENF and Treasurer - N2BIM. The NJDXA operates the W2 QSL Bureau and has just begun on-line subscriptions using pay-pal. Visit the site at www.njdx.org to get more details. Two longtime NJDXA members became Silent Keys; Bill Rawson- K2AX and Howard Wolfe - W2AGW. Howie had the distinction of being at the top of the DXCC Honor Roll for many years. The Raritan Valley Radio Club returned its slate of officers. President is WA2C, VP- KB2VRM, Secretary - W2OU, and Treasurer- N2GNT. It also sponsored a visit to the Battleship New Jersey and even got a "behind the scenes tour" as well as a chance to operate from the ship's radio room. The County Line ARA also returned its officers for another year. They are: President - K2AF, VP- N2KGW, Secretary- KC2INX, Treasurer- KB2YWZ, and Trustee- KF2EW. CLARA holds monthly VE sessions at the Hoptcong High School with the next session date being January 13th. The very active 10-70 Repeater Association held its Holiday Potluck Party on December 4th and presented Paul Beshlian - KC2CJW with its Andrew Birmingham "Ham of the Year" award. Tri County ARA member KY2MMM was presented the K2SE Award for outstanding service to NJ VHF nets. Also, TCARA member KE2KX received its Lifetime Achievement Award for his work with Union County RACES and ARES. Many NNJ clubs turned in outstanding Field Day scores both with number of contacts and bonus points espically with Public Service announcements. 10-70 Repeater Club placed 1st in 12A and probably first in participation with 86 either visiting or helping out! The Cherryville ARA operating under W2GD placed 1st again nationwide as 4A. In the very competitive 3A class the Sussex ARA operating W2LV placed 1st in the country as well. Not far behind was the County Line ARA operating W2C. The New Providence ARA placed 6th operating low power in the 2A Battery class. Splitrock ARA operating K2AF placed first in the 3A commerical category. Over 40 NNJ clubs and groups participated this year. What a great showing! The other highlight for the year was a formal presentation of the New Jersey Legislature's World Trade Center Proclamation honoring the volunteer efforts of NJ hams in the weeks following the disaster. The proclamtion was read into the Assembly records at its Joint Session on December 12th. Sponsors Assemblymen Scott Garrett, Guy Gregg and Matt Ahearn (KB2PNN) made very postive remarks about ham radio's contributions in times of need. SM Bill Hudzik then had the opportunity to address the Assembly and thank the state for its recognition of all the volunteer work done by amateur radio operators. The event was covered on New Jersey Channel 12 as well as NJ PBS Channel 58. This recognition will certainly help our efforts to pass A3065 the Antenna Support Structure Bill. Our committee is setting up meetings with other Legislators in hopes of gaining more sponsors. Please visit the Section web page for more news.

73, Bill Hudzik, W2UDT. Traffic (December 2002): W2MTO 117, N2GJ 88, KB2VRO 77, K2PB 38, N2OPJ 32, N3RB 28, WB2KNS 22, W2CC 16, K2DBK 12, K1VDH 5. NET MGR SESS QNI QTC QSP QTR STATIONS NJ MORNING (NJM) WA2OPY 13 45 26 25 105 92 NJ PHONE(NJPN) W2CC 36 194 44 44 207 22 NJ SLOW(NJSN) K2PB 31 155 16 16 445 15 NJ NET (NJN/E) AG2R 31 205 163 125 467 20 NJ NET (NJN/L) AG2R 31 143 68 54 288 13 CEN.JER (CJTN) KB2VRO 31 176 62 42 233 19 NJ VHF (NJVN/E) N2RPI 31 328 72 60 311 47 NJ VHF (NJVN/L) N2OPJ 31 411 40 36 273 59

Midwest Division

Kansas

Kansas Section News SM, Ron Cowan, KB0DTI—ASM/ACC/OCC:Robert Summers,K0BXF
ASM:Orlan Cook,W0OYH SEC:Joseph Plankinton,WD0DMV PIC:Scott Slocum,KC0DYA
SGL:Steve Hamilton,KB0JYL Happy New Year ! By now you must have heard or seen here
that Orlan W0OYH has decided to ease up a bit with his Amateur Radio Activities by turning
things over to me. This is an honor and I am happy to step up and complete his term of office as
Section Manager for Kansas. Orlan has been involved at the Section level going back to the
QKS-SS Slow Net in the early '70s and later became Bob Summers' first Traffic Manager.
Happily, Orlan will be sticking around as ASM for all of us, Net Control for QKS and
continuing the KAR e-newsletter.Continue sending me your Station Activity and PSHR reports.
If you have been sending reports to Orlan you may now send them to me. On matters that you
may have started with Orlan please copy him so he'll be in the loop. Let's thank Orlan-W0OYH
for his continuing dedication to the Kansas Hams and the Amateur Radio Service. Ron-
KB0DTI Jim Corder W0FT ex-K0MRI of Quinter/Selden became a Silent Key. Jim served as
manager of QKS Kansas CW Net and was Kansas Amateur of the Year 1972. Ken Olson-
AF3RM-ex K0TLQ was one of several hams to receive an award at the Douglas Co. ARC
Christmas dinner. A ham for 40 years, Ken has been a big part of the DCARC from it's
inception and been active in Air Force MARS for many years. Also receiving awards were Jim
Canaday N6YR and JD Linn KC0BD. Santa Fe Trail ARC started their entry level class this
month. Simulated Emergency Test reports into the STM were light this time around, thank you
to those that participated. K0BJ, AC0J,K0FJ,KC0HBR and N0QE were ops for the Goodland
NWS Skywarn Day working 49 states. If you're an affiliated club be sure to fill out your
Annual Report as soon as you hold your election. It's all on the web now click on Clubs at the
top of the opening page and go to your club. Your contact person can do this or you can assign
a member to make the update. Don't forget to send me photos of your events and awards for the
Photo Section. November Nets/Sessions/QNI/QTC/Mgr: KSBN/31/1177/61/N0KFS
KPN/22/284/15/N0KFS KMWN/30/562/455/WB0YWZ KWN/30/896/614/WB0YWZ
CSTN/27/2332/68/AB5PA QKS/58/241/120/K0PY QKS-SS/10/28/3/KB0DTI. SEC: 35
sessions QNI 366 QTC messages 13 Ks participants KB0AMY N0BTH KC0CIG WD0DDG
WD0DMV KC0GDV N0LKK WA0SRR K0UO Joseph WD0DMV SEC. TEN: 60 sessions,
QTC 421, Ks 93% with K0PY W0WWR NB0Z WB0ZNY Dave W0SS/Mgr. Traffic:
W0WWR 577 NB0Z 58 KB0DTI 47 W0OYH 24 N0RZ 23 N0ENO 17 K0RY 15 W0FCL 11
N0ZIZ 9

Missouri

JANUARY 2003 SECTION NEWS ARES UPDATE On December 17 & 18, 2002 devastating storms hit several counties in Missouri with several producing Tornado activity. The Don Moore, KMØR reported on the response of five dozen MO ARES members to this dangerous weather through out the state on the ARRL Website on December 24, 2002. Reports were filed with the NWS St. Louis office concerning heavy rain, and damaging high winds and a tornado that moved from Laclede County into Pulaski County. In the early morning hours tornado activity was reported in the Springfield area according to Mr. Moore. In a separate report Jasper county EC Andy Gabbert, KAØTUD, and nearly a dozen other Amateurs responded to David Hill, KBØWEY and Jack Johannes, NØZSQ, provided closed circuit quality slow scan images of the damage caused by the storm to the Red Cross disaster team. When disasters of any kind occur, we can be justly proud of the outstanding efforts of those dedicated Amateur Radio operators that volunteer their efforts to serve their communities. SECTION CLUB NEWS Larry Ford, NØRIC, was presented the Bootheel ARC Amateur Radio Operator of the Year by Club President Larry Anthony, WBØVAM, at their annual Christmas Dinner. Larry Ford, NØRIC, in addition to being one of the spark plugs of the BARC also serves as the EC for Dunklin County. Congratulations to new Suburban Radio Club Steve Schmitz, NØJGU. The SRC held a Skywarn Recognition Day on December 6, 2002. The purpose of this yearly event is to highlight the contribution provided by Amateur Radio Operators as they function as part of the SkyWarn network providing real-time WX spotting. This year the set-up included the club tower-trailer, triband beam, a G5RV multi-band dipole and a vertical that operated on SSB, Digital, CW and 6 meter FM. The Hannibal ARC is combining with the Quincy Radio Club to host a beginning Ham Radio Course that will begin on January 9th and complete April 3rd. Jim Funk, N9JF will be in charge of the project. The Hannibal ARC will also be leading the opening ceremonies of the Midwest Division Convention in Lebanon, MO in May. They will execute the Wulf Hong Ceremonie and drive away all all bad operating habits on May 2nd. This will be the first time in several years the secret rites of the Wulf Hong will be conducted in MO, it should be an interesting event. Macon County ARC weather guru John Tate e-mailed the Club members a summary of all the important WX data for 2002. These events included the devistating ice storm that put many cities in north Missouri into the dark for as many as 7 days, Tornado warnings, explosive Downbursts and the average temps and precipitation for the year. Very interesting reading. The St. Louis Repeater Club presents Winterfest 2003 on Saturday Jan. 25, 2003 from 8:00 am until 1:00 pm in the Gateway Convention Center Collinsville, IL. Exit #11 off I-55/I-70 This is always one of the largest hamfests in the St. Louis Area. SECTION NET REPORTS Net Sessions QNI QTC Manager RRARS(Rolla) 31 515 9 NAØV AARC(Mexico) 4 36 2 WBØSEN Sullivan ARC 5 57 Ø KBØROX MESN 5 208 1 NØXG MO Phone 31 608 64 KØDAT WAARCI 5 119 Ø NØ0VJ MESDN 5 38 Ø KBØEMB Jackson Co ARES 4 66 Ø KØUAA

Nebraska

It is with deep regret to inform you that KØPXY of Cozad, WØGJS of Omaha and N5DZZ of Ashland are Silent Keys. Thanks to all section appointees for their hard work and dedication

this past year. Without your support, things would not get done! I am pleased to announce the following EC appointments: KØYRL, Clay County; WØUJI, Antelope County; KGØKK, Fillmore and York Counties; WDØCJK, Saline County and KE5RX Seward County. Thanks for accepting these appointments! Did you see the article in the January 2003 issue of QST, showing the transmitter built by Mike Smith, NØXY of Lincoln? It was featured in the "QRP Power" section on page 84. Real clean looking rig, Mike! The Sarpy county EC, NØPOM is home and on the mend. We wish Ron a speedy recovery. After 36 years with the National Weather Service, Dave Theophilus, WØNRW retired on January 3rd, 2003. A "Toast and Roast" was held in Fremont on January 4th. An estimated 120 people attended the event. Daves' last 12 years were at the Omaha office, now located in Valley. Many people roasted Dave at the event and the crowd discovered that Dave could dish it back! We want to wish Dave and his wife Karol the best in Daves' retirement years. It has been a pleasure knowing Dave over the years and I am sure we will continue seeing him. 73 Dave! Net Reports Nebraska Storm Net QNI 1104 QTC 32 31 sessions 3982 KHz 0030z Daily* Nebraska Cornhusker Net QNI 224 QTC 6 27 sessions* 3980 KHz 1830z Daily Mid Nebraska 2 Meter ARES Net (Grand Island) QNI 385 QTC 6 31 sessions 146.94 0100z Daily Midlands ARES Net Omaha QNI 205 QTC 2 5 sessions 146.94 0200z Sunday Nebraska Morning Phone Net QNI 1615 QTC 33 30 sessions 3982 KHz 1330z Daily Western Nebraska Net QNI 1216 QTC 73 27 sessions 3950 KHz 1300z Mon-Sat North Platte Progressive ARC Net QNI 23 QTC 2 3 sessions* Nebraska 40 Meter Net QNI 553 QTC 13 31 sessions 7282 KHz 1900z Daily WØIRZ Memorial Net QNI 83 QTC 3 5 sessions Saunders County ARES QNI 102 QTC 8 4 sessions 145.31 0100z Wednesday* Traffic Totals: KØPTK 86* KEØXQ 42* WAØZCN 2* WAØZCM 4* KCØDVG 4 WYØF 5* WØUJI 2 KAØDOC 2* KØYRL 2 KAØCPO 2 WØUJI 2* WØDED 2* KAØO 2* KAØDBK 2* WØEXK 2* WØUS 4* KØSCG 2* AGØL 2* WØWHY 2* KØTD 2* KAØCPO 2 ABØVK 2* Public Service Honor Roll: KCØHOX 57 KAØDBK 124* KBØYTM 89* KEØXQ 68* * Indicates report received for December 2002

New England Division

Connecticut

SECTION NEWS December--Betsey Doane, K1EIC SM Assistant SMs: K1STM, KZ1Z, NK1J, KY1F, W1FAI; Bulletin Mgr: KD1YV; OO Coord: W1GC; Public Info coord: W1FXQ; State Government Liaison: W1UTQ; Section Emergency Coord: W1AGP; Section Traffic Mgr: K1HEJ; Technical Coord: N1KHB. New Cabinet Members Appointed.--With the New Year comes some changes within the Section cabinet. These changes are being made so that everyone is comfortable with their level of involvement. Anne, K1STM was assisting ourSTM Larry, k1HEJ with HF traffic matters. She will remain as ASM but will be helping out with traffic to new hams and will be doing some Braille for visually impaired ops who do not have email capability. Dan, KY1F will be joining the cabinet as ASM as the assistant Section Traffic Manager for HF traffic. Joe, W1FAI will step down as TC and become an ASM to assist me with representation of the Section in Eastern Connecticut when I cannot be present. Many years

ago, former SM Dick, KB1H used to help me out as ASM in that area. Joe, N1KHB will join the cabinet as Technical Coordinator. He has been an active technical specialist for years! Many thanks to Anne K1STM and Joe W1FAI for serving the Section for many years and for their willingness to serve in their new capacities. And welcome aboard and Congratulations to Dan, KY1F and Joe, N1KHB! All of us look forward to working with you. I know you will continue to give the Section cabinet your full support. CT SUCCESSFUL IN UTC GRANT.--I am pleased to report that because of the help of many people, mentors and students alike, CT was successful in meeting the goals of the UTC grant. Over 250 volunteers were trained in the Level I Ecomm Course. The following mentors were trained and some taught several classes: Tom WB1CZX, Ken, KE1LR, Betsey, K1EIC, Dan, KY1F, Howie, W1HO, Jay, KD1LY, Dave, K1DAV, Allen, W1AGP, Bill, W1WJB, David, N1YVV, Tom N1SXU, Phil, KA1YIQ now WX1CT, Larry, K1HEJ, Bill, W1WJB, Mike, N1CHP, Scott, AA1WT, Mike, N1FOA, and William KB1HMH. A huge thank you to each and every one of you involved in any way. The bottom line is that Connecticut is more prepared than ever before to meet emergencies that may arise. You answered the call and together we met the challenge! I am indeed thankful and proud! Congrats, too, to many of you who completed the Level II course under the UTC Grant. There was a very limited opportunity for 50 Level I graduates to take the Level II course. It is exciting for me to hear from so many of you who completed the Level II course. Super job! In other news, TC Joe, N1KHB is announcing a VE session on Wednesday, March 5 7:00 p.m. at The Guilford PD. For more information call 203-457-9770 or visit the CT Section Web Page at the ARRL's Web Site. The Boston Athletic Association is looking for volunteers to help with the Boston Marathon on April 21. Please consider helping out because this is an excellent chance to use your ARES skills. For more information, please check the CT Section Web Page (above) or contact W1OHM. More clubs than ever before were represented at Director Frenaye's Division Cabinet Meeting in Springfield, MA. Clubs represented were: Southern Berkshire ASSN., Wireless Operators of Winsted, Middlesex ARS, Greater Norwalk ARC, Insurance City Repeater Club, Newington Amateur Radio League, BEARS of Manchester and the recently reactivated CQ Radio Club. Many thanks to STM K1HEJ for delivering the Section's written report in my absence.

Eastern Massachusetts

The Marconi Centennial Celebration/KM1CC Special Events station created a lot of excitement this week and garnered national attention for the Cape and the Islands. The Marconi Radio Club, W1AA, and the Marconi Cape Cod Memorial Radio Club, KM1CC, working in partnership with the National Park Service at Cape Cod National Seashore, operated a Special Event station from January 11-19 at the former Coast Guard station at Coast Guard Beach in Eastham, Massachusetts, from near the site of the original Marconi 1903 Station. The event was open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day, for the general public to tour the station and listen to voice and Morse code transmissions. The Marconi Radio Club folks have done a tremendous job with their public display, introducing visitors—both young and old—to the life and times of the famous radio pioneer. I saw youngsters having a great time tapping away on telegraph keys

of a spark-gap replica. I also saw club members demonstrating state of the art radios, including modes like ILRP, and an EchoLink computer setup. Icom generously loaned five IC-756-PRO-II radios for the operation. As of Saturday, January 18 the group reports having conducted over 10,000 QSOs. During the course of the week-long event, several Cape newspapers carried stories of the event. And a WBZ news crew visited on Wednesday. Their report will air later in the week. For more information about the operation, visit http://www.qsl.net/w1aa/w1aa_1001.htm . More photos can be seen at <http://ema.arrrl.org/article.php?sid=51> . Other news: A new EMA ARES web site at <http://ares.ema.arrrl.org> has been set up for official coordination of the ARES staff by Section Emergency Coordinator Mike Neilsen, W1MPN. N1BDA writes: An ad hoc Concord group will be running a technician class February 3, 6, and 10 at the Concord Municipal Light Plant, 1175 Elm Street, on Route 2A just west of the rotary. Classes will be held from 7-10 pm. The exam is planned for Monday, February 10 about 9 pm. Anyone interested is encouraged to contact Steve Bates, WB1EYJ, stevebateshp@att.net or Phil Gaudet, K1IRK, k1irk@arrrl.net. Students are requested to purchase and read the "Now You're Talking" ARRL text. Boston Amateur Radio Club's general meeting featured an excellent presentation by Dr. Yehuda Cern, K8HGZ, Chief Engineer at Ambient Corp. His talk was entitled, "How RF Shows Up In the Strangest Places." Section Managers and ARRL affiliated club presents attended a recent New England Division Cabinet Meeting January 11, 2003 in Springfield, MA. The day-long meeting gives active ARRL members an opportunity to discuss relevant topics with New England Division Director Tom Frenaye, K1KI, one week prior to the ARRL Board of Directors meeting in Newington, CT. Details at <http://ema.arrrl.org/article.php?sid=50> . Courage Center Handi-hams reports that it has six opening for students at its California Radio camp, March 2-9, 2003. If you know of a potential new ham in EMA who would qualify for Handi-Ham services and be interested in getting a first license at camp, please alert them to this opportunity. Handi-ham teaches all levels of licensure at camp, including operating skills and computing for those already licensed at any level, but the beginners are eligible for a campership to pay a significant part of the camp tuition if they cannot afford it. Please e-mail radiocamp@courage.org or call toll-free 1-866-426-3442.

Rhode Island

Greetings Fellow Rhode Islanders: Happy New Year wishes to all. This is the second month of Internet only posting of Section News. How do you like it in this format? Any significant problems? Most clubs have had elections in the last few months. Congratulations to all new officials. Please, all club members, help these folks with your support. They need and will appreciate it. Please be sure that our section webmaster, walri@arrrl.net receives updated information of your new officers as well as for my club president's e mail list. Thanks to the strong hearts and commitment of N1OMS and W1MJR especially, the Monday evening ARES net has been kept alive and operational. Thank you gentlemen for showing the way. In taking charge as you have, you have demonstrated in the finest way, what we as emergency communicators have been trained to do, step up in time of need and perform to your best

ability. BRAVO! and a thanks from your SM. Debate continues nationally about the old and venerable National Traffic System. Old as it is, it still appears to emerge as the means of choice in transferring detailed welfare and strategic information between distant stations. In the future, I expect the message format to see cosmetic changes at most. WARC 2003 is scheduled for late summer in Geneva. Agenda items are likely to include discussion of realignment of 40 meters, earth sensing satellite in 435 MHz and removal of the code testing requirement for below 30 MHz operating privileges. THERE IS NO GUARANTEE due to the nature of the conference and its membership structure, but these items appear likely to be on the action agenda. Most hams don't realize how important these WARC conferences are to our future as hams. With all the money flying around for spectrum, the commercial users look upon the free space we have with envious eyes. Our ARRL delegation led by K1ZZ is working day and night to preserve and expand our privileges. The favorable work done by amateurs on and since 9/11 have significantly enhanced our respect in the USA but remember, the US has only one vote. The heroic work of amateurs here at home won't impress the starving governments or delegations of East Timor or war torn Croatia, each of which also have just one vote. All I will say is those of you inclined might include our US delegation in your prayers. Tfc: N1YKH 49, EMRIPN 173.

Vermont

GREETINGS: As I travel around the state visiting Ham Radio clubs, I am constantly impressed with the great attitude and knowledge that I run into. I am so happy to see that some of the old timers are still attending meetings and inspiring the newbies in the hobby. At one meeting, I met a Ham that was getting out of the hobby but donated his Ten-Tec equipment to the club for them to use as needed. Before he "retired" he treated the members to some great stories of how he monitored and de-coded the German radio signals during WW II. So, as I have said before, try to attend a local club meeting, as they are the backbone of our great hobby. ARES: The ARES Organization in Vermont continues to grow. Carl and I have been visiting local clubs around the state and we are slowly rebuilding this important part of the ARRL Field Organization. Carl plans to publish a list of all of the upcoming events that we can participate in to help improve our skills, as well as help the local community. If you plan to help out in a parade or other public event, you should really be a ARES member too. To apply, give Carl a phone call at 878-8232 or download the form and mail it to him. It is available at: <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/forms/fsd98.pdf>. We look forward to having you on our team. SILENT KEYS: It is with deep regret that I report to you the passing of Henry "Hap" Preston, JR W1VSA who passed away on January 6, 2002 at his home in Charlotte. Hap was an early pioneer in FM repeaters and installed the first repeater in New England on Mt Mansfield. He was also Vermont's Section Communication Manager (SCM) from 1959 to 1960. Another SK that has come to my attention is Leo Norman Cartier N1GQB of Burlington who died unexpectedly on January 3. Norman tinkered with computers and made some available to Hams in the community. VERMONT QSO PARTY: Once again, coming up on January 31 to February 2, is the ever-popular Vermont QSO Party. This is your chance to get the rare state of Vermont on the air. I encourage all of you to get on the air and call CQ. This is mostly a phone

contest, but you can try CW too, if you wish. The complete rules are available on www.ranv.org/vtqso.html. It is a 48-hour contest, and as I said, people LOVE to get Vermont in their log. ARRL VERMONT WINTER HAMFEST: The Milton Hamfest will take place on Saturday, February 22, 2003 from 8 AM to 1 PM at the Milton High School on RTE 7 in Milton, VT. As usual admission is only \$3 and children under 18 are free! There will be the great flea market, VE sessions, door prizes several forums and QSL Card checking. DECEMBER TRAFFIC REPORT: NAME/SESSIONS/QNI/QTC/MINUTES/MGR VT YL NET 3/31/0/93 KA1LDS VPEN 4/23/0/151 KC1WY GMN 26/718/18/2466 N1HC VTNH 31/127/75/395 WA1JVV VTPTN 31/421/27/1238 CVTN 24/92/6/248 AA1PR 73 Bert W1DFU

Northwestern Division

Alaska

Alaska Section News January 2003 Benny Benevento NL7XH is looking for operators to help in the Junior Yukon Quest February 1 and also in the Yukon Quest starting February 9 2003. Kent Petty, KL5T, at 694 5658 is looking for operators to help ACWN (Alaska CW net) handle traffic in Alaska. Junior Iditarod is looking for hams and you can contact Richard Plack KL7DY at 745 5222. Richard Block, KL7RLB, helping the Iditarod Dog Sled Race. Volunteers can contact Richard at 277 7260. Gail Iannone of ARRL convention has informed me that Greg Milnes W7OZ, Northwest Director has approved Anchorage Amateur Radio Clubs state convention on September 14, 2003. Rich Kaplan KL7AK told me that he has not picked an rare Alaska Island group for an IOTA expedition this year. Contact him and give him support because this is always a fun event. Fairbanks ARES net 2000 Sunday KL7KC repeater. Anchorage ARES 147.30 Thursday 2000, Snipers Net 3920 at 1800, Bush net 7093 at 2000, Motley Group 3933 at 2100 and Alaska Pacific Net M-F 14.292 at 0830 SAR AL7N Dec R/52 D/31 O/16 S/37 total 136 Includes 27 Santagrams from the lower 48 delivered to North Pole. PSHR AL7N Dec 1/31 2/136 3/20 total 187 PSHR KL5T Dec1/40 2/23 3/20 6/10 total 93 SAR KL5T Dec R/18 D/18 O/5 S/8 Total 49 SAR AD4BL Dec R/16 S/13 Total 29 PSHR AD4BL Dec 1/5 2/29 3/30 total Alaska Morse Wire Dec sessions 1 checkins 2 traffic 1 AL7N Alaska CW Net Dec sessions 30 checkins 48 traffic 50 AL7N Snipers Net Dec sessions 31 checkins 1452 traffic 64 KL7GG Anchorage ARES Net Dec sessions 3 checkins-voice 118 checkins-packet 22 KL0QW Interior ARES Net Dec sessions 5 checkins 53 traffic 10 NL7HW 64 18 David Stevens Alaska Section Manager KL7EB

Montana

Greetings Montana Section Members, The main event in the Montana Section for December was the participation in the National Weather Service Special Event Program. Congratulations to all the clubs and members who did a very fine job representing amateur radio and assisting their local weather service stations in this event. You will soon be receiving the ballot for election of your new Section Manager. I urge you to make your choice and submit the ballots

back in on time. Participation in our section nets continues to be very good. In December the Montana Traffic Net managed by Jack KD7HWV had 2455 checkins and handled 62 pieces of traffic. The Montana Section Net managed by Doug K7YD had 144 checkins.

Western Washington

WWA December 2002 Section News Summary District 4 Ken Dahl, K7TAG Email: K7TAG@ARRL.NET District 4 had an EC Meeting at the Thurston County EOC on December 14, which was attended by all 4 EC's. GRAYS HARBOR CO., Doyle Wenzel, N7UJK Email: wenzel@olynet.com New 440 repeater installed specifically for emergency communications. THURSTON CO., Dan Crane, KB7DFL Email: kb7dfl@aol.com Thurston County is upgrading the Radio room at the EOC to use West Mountain Rig Runners as a power distribution system and converting to Anderson Power Pole Connectors. They have upgraded the 2 Meter and 440 base radios. District 5 Cowlitz Co., DEC/EC Randy Greeley NU7D Email: nu7d@pacifier.com December 7th - A number of area Hams assisted with communications for the Walk-N-Knock Food Drive. This year the event brought in approximately 120,000 lbs. of food compared to the 81,000 lbs. last year. At the LCARA annual Christmas Buffet Dinner the Ham of the Year was announced as Randy NU7D. Congratulations Randy! Clark Co., EC Bob Goodale, K7YFJ Email: rwgoodale@attbi.com Many ARES/RACES members assisted in the local Walk-N-Knock on Saturday and Sunday, December 7th and 8th. On Sunday many of our members did the pickups for those missed from Saturday. On December 10th, we had a surprise call out and 56 members checked in on 2-meters; 29 of those checked in on 440; 15 checked in on HF and 13 left packet messages. Thirty members had portable power and 38 said they were available if needed that evening. An excellent turn out! SEC Comments Ed Bruette N7NVP Email: n7nvp@arrl.net State Senator Pam Roach attended the December King Co. ARES meeting. The following evening she and Senate staffer Diane Smith met with Pierce Co. EC/RO Mark Yordy, W7BBO and WWA SEC/State RO Ed Bruette, N7NVP for 4.5 hours. The discussion centered on Ham Radio support to the community and how it could be improved with legislation. Specific topics were tower heights, Emergency Worker registration and ID and recognition of the volunteer work Hams do by establishing an Amateur Radio week that will be observed each year. We discussed several problems. Among them were; standardized ID card and decal, standardized background check, recruiting, joint exercises, training standards and a PRB-1 type tower bill. We will work toward writing a bill that provides for an ID card/decal, background check and tower legislation. We have started a long process that we hope to bring to fruition by the end of the next legislative session. Support for this effort will be in the form of committee appearances, media releases and possibly piggy backing on a legislative reception. The reception may include a Comm. Van and/or other static display (HF?). We will be looking for grass roots support within the Ham community!! STM REPORT Pati Urie W7ZIW Email: w7ziw@arrl.net QNIs: NOONTIME 10077, WARTS 3665, CCAIN 139, WSN 818, WCN 146, NWSSB 700, and PSTS 29. Individual traffic totals: N7AJ 126, K7BDU 1138, W7LG 114, W7DPW 26, W7QM 587, WQ70 5, W7TVA 706, N7YSS 167, W7ZIW 67. WSN has a new member, Dennis, WQ7O. ARRL sent out a questionnaire regarding how to upgrade the NTS and

integrate it with ARES. It becomes apparent something needs to be done. Traffic is scarce, but still a source for practice in handling messages. OFFICIAL OBSERVER REPORT John Burk W7BO Email: w7bo@adelphia.net HOURS MONITORED: W7BO 99, -N7QHC 15, -KK7JZ 1, -W7CSX 7.25, -KG7U 10, -KK7JA 2, -W7DO 33, -W7POE 15. One advisory card sent to a ham using his callsign on a military frequency. OO Monitoring time = 190.25hr. OOs monitored 28.085 kHz & 20 meters per request ARRL.

Pacific Division

Nevada

FROM OUTGOING SECTION MANAGER JANET WELSH NK7N Hello to Nevada hams and I wish you all the very best of things in your lives. I'm resigning as the Nevada Section Manager as of tomorrow, the first of January 2003. I sure hated to have to do it, it's probably the best thing I have participated in as an amateur radio operator. I have problems that prevent me from being a full time SM and Nevada deserves someone that can do the job full time. I want to thank you all for your support and just for being who you are. You can pat yourselves on the back for the hours and days of public service work you give to the public on a continuing basis without even thinking of the monetary value of your service. Nevada has a small population, miles and miles of area without a person nearer than 100 miles away, and our means of communication is much more important than in some of the more populated states. We have amateurs that give almost all of their leisure time to maintaining the repeater systems in the areas where we have that "people shortage" in order to be prepared to serve the public, and I sure don't want to forget their contribution to our hobby. Quite often, while these amateurs aren't active members of ARES, RACES or other more visible groups, these are the people that make our participation in the groups most useful, so don't forget to acknowledge them in your newsletters. They are a real asset. I've been able to meet many of the amateurs in Nevada, which is not so easy as in the more populated states. I found you to be fair, and even when we had different viewpoints, we've been able to support one another's projects and talk companionably, and most important, we're able to ask for help and get it when there's a need. There aren't many that can say that. You are a group to be proud of. Amateur radio has been kind to me. I have a hobby that I will be continuing to participate in, and it's a continuing learning experience even for those of us that have been around for a while. There aren't many hobbies where you can be having fun and providing a valuable service like this one. You'll have a new Section Manager tomorrow, Dick Flanagan-W6OLD. Dick has been the Assistant Section Manager for quite some time. He's been my right hand man, and believe me, the last few months he's done a lot of the work that I couldn't follow through with. He will be excellent as SM. Please tell him hello at w6old@arrl.org after today and wish him well. Some of you have supported me almost from the day I signed on as SM and Paul Cavnar-NN7B, probably the first appointment I made, to SEC, was incidentally an excellent choice. He resigned recently, but is still a VERY active DEC, OBS. OES and BM. Thanks Paul! Dick Creley-KJ7UK is now SEC and doing a great job, too. Down here in my neck of the woods I have Glen Hale-KB7REO, DEC, to thank for a lot of

hard work. One person I do want to say hello to is Bobby Eason-AB7WZ. We love you, Bobby! There are a whole lot more I could thank, but just know that I've enjoyed serving you all, you're a great bunch! 73 for now, Jan Welsh, NV SM E-Mail: nk7n@arrl.org

Pacific

I am pleased to announce the recent appointment of Kevin Bogan as Oahu DEC. Kevin is president of the Emergency ARC. As a review, these are the DEC appointments as recorded at ARRL HQ. Bogan, Kevin C, AH6QO (DEC/PAC) Honolulu, HI - Oahu Darling, Alfred F, WH6KS (DEC/PAC) Kealia, HI - Kauai Fukunaga, Melvin , KH6H (DEC/PAC) Wailuku, HI - Maui Hayes, Timothy F, NH0H (DEC/PAC) Saipan, MP - Saipan Motomura, Harvey , AH6JA (DEC/PAC) Hilo, HI - East Hawaii Proietti, Dewey D, NH6M (DEC/PAC) Kailua Kona, HI - West Hawaii Ward, Richard O, WH6FC (DEC/PAC) Kailua Kona, HI - South Hawaii This was written in late December. Dennis Carvalho, KH7H, SEC announced ARES in coordination with the Big Island Amateur Radio Club (BIARC) will conduct a Hawaii Island Hospital Simulated Emergency Test. It will be Saturday January 18, 2003 from 9AM to 11AM. Primary operations will be on 7088Khz. A disaster scenario will originate from the Hawaii County Civil Defense, Emergency Operations Center (EOC), Hilo. THE SCENARIO WILL BE UNPRECEDENTED AND STRIKINGLY DISTINCTIVE FROM PREVIOUS SET SCENARIOS. The simulated disaster will cover all areas of the Big Island. Hospitals on the neighbor Islands are welcome to participate in the exercise. NET CONTROL STATION (NCS): will be Harvey Motomura, AH6JA, DEC-East HI and will be located at Hawaii County Civil Defense or Hawaii Community College in Hilo. Contact AH6JA or KH7H for details or if you can help. We plan to have four SET's this coming year on the third Saturday of each Quarter. This month of December has been quiet with holiday activities underway. Most clubs have picked their new officers for the coming year 2003, please send me either the list or a web address of where I can get it. I will try and list all new officers in my next article. 73 & Aloha, Bob, AH6J Pacific SM

Sacramento Valley

I want to wish everyone a Happy New Year and that all goes well for you and your family. This will be an important year for amateur radio as the World Radio Conferences will be held later this year and there are several items on the agenda, pertaining to ham radio. QST and the League's web site will keep you up to date. VE EXAMS: Rob, WW6G, informs me that the Sierra Foothills ARC VE Team will be giving exams at the Folsom Lake College Center, 100 Clarksville Rd. Folsom at 8 AM on the first Saturday of the month, during the school year. First this year will be February 1st. River City ARCS gives exams on the 3rd Saturday of the month in Carmichael. CLUB MEETINGS: Both the River City ARCS and the North Hills RC have moved their meetings back to the old SMUD building in North Highlands. Same time and nights as before. MORSE CODE: If you want to improve your CW, then check into the section Know Your Code Net. This is 5 wpm and up net, held each day at 1 PM on 7111 KHz and 8 PM on 3711 KHz. This will give you practive talking to others by CW. No high speed allowed!

SECTION NET: The Sacramento Valley Section Net is held at 7:30 PM on the 2nd Wednesday of the month on 3987 KHz. There will be time for your questions, comments and announcements, so please check-in. There will also be a section net on VHF on 146.085+, PL 127.3 - Yuba Sutter club repeater. Time and day will be announced soon. **VOLUNTEERS:** Have you volunteered to help your club out and put something back into ham radio? I am sure your club could use your help as an officer or work on a club committee. It seems there are only a few people in each club that are willing to take on any responsibility. **CLUBS:** Yuba Sutter ARC is reorganizing and hopes to get back to holding monthly meetings. I notice, in my travels to clubs, that membership numbers have dropped and meeting attendance is down. Is the Internet keeping hams at home? I wish I had an answer that I could give to the clubs that ask What Can We Do? Clubs are a very important part of amateur radio. It is a place for friendship and socializing, a place that you can learn more about radio or help someone who needs help or participate in Public Service. Join a club if you don't belong to one. **ARES:** A group in Eastern Nevada and Placer counties are planning an ARES group and hope to become active soon. This area of the Sierras can become completely isolated when we get heavy snow. In late December the highways were closed for several hours, and that is just a beginning of winter. For more information on section ARES groups contact Dave K6SOJ at k6soj@arrl.net. **CONTESTS:** Coming up at the end of February is the ARRL CW DX Test and early March is the Phone DX Test. Give it a try and you will be surprised how many countries you can work in a short time even on low power. The sunspot cycle is declining, so next year conditions will not be as good. **WEB PAGES:** Sierra Foothills has a new fancy web site. Give it a try at www.sf-arc.org. Many of the section clubs have home pages and it is a good way to keep informed on what the club is doing. Several clubs publish their bulletins on the web or send them to members by email. This helps the club out because printing and postage is the biggest expense of the club. **INFORMATION:** I need information of your and your clubs activities. I would like to put more personal information in my reports. So send me your club bulletin and personal information - Trips, New radio or antenna, New QTH, Etc. Send the information to me at w6rff@arrl.org. ARES groups send me info on your drills or emergencies. I am allowed 60 lines and I would like to use them each month. When winter is over I am sure there will be more activity. Also, as I have said before, I can attend your club meeting or gatherings as a speaker or just a visitor, and usually upon a short notice. **ARRL EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS COURSE:** There will be a new class with registration beginning January 6 and the class beginning a few days later. Everyone that has taken the course says it is worth while. 73, Jettie W6RFF.

San Joaquin Valley

Report for the Month of December 2002 **SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY:** SM Charles McConnell, W6DPD- ASM K6YK, ACC W6DPD, SEC K6IN, OOC N1VM, STM K6RAU, PIC W7WN, TC W6TE. I hope everyone got what they wanted as gifts this holiday season and had a happy new year. The Fresno Hamfest will be April 26, 2003, at Riverland Resort, Highway 99 at the Kings River. Tickets will be available for an IC706MKIIG. Admission is \$1 and sellers are \$5. Food and prizes will be there. Contact w6to@arrl.net for information. The International DX

Convention will be May 2-4 at the Holiday Inn at Visalia. It is my sad duty to report the following became Silent Keys W6GIW, W6WUL, WA6HMB, KD6QA, WB6EHH, WB6QWT, KF6FIL, and KD6OJK. They will be missed. Bakersfield ARA officers for 2003 are pres KB6JFL, vp KD5MT, sec KG6HHE, and treas KG6JME. The club meets the 2nd Tuesday in Bakersfield. TCARES 2003 officers are pres KG6FEY, vp WB6WFF, sec KE6RGP, and treas WA7MOB. For links to club web pages check <http://www.pdarrrl.org/sjvsec/index.html>. WS6X operated in the CQWW cw contest from KP4. W6XK, KA6REN, and N6EE operated the ARRL RTTY Roundup from VP5. The Fresno ARC named K6HAU its ham of the year for 2002. Congratulations Jim. W6DCP won the grand prize at the AMSAT-NA Convention. Congratulations to K6YK on making the DXCC Honor Roll, and to W6FAH on making the Top of the DXCC Honor Roll. Traffic WA6MSU 64 and KB6QIB 20. PSHR WA6MSU 103, K6RAU 40.

Roanoke Division

North Carolina

NORTH CAROLINA: SM, John Covington, W4CC - SEC: KE4JHJ. STM: N0SU. TC: K4ITL. BM: KD4YTU. PIC: KN4AQ. OOC: W4ZRA. SGL: AB4W. ACC: N4JCK. Reading the November 2002 issue of the SERA Repeater Journal, I was pleased to see a reprint of an article by Herb, W3HL about the 1977 attempt to send a radiogram from Murphy to Manteo using 2 meters instead of HF. I remember the event very well. I was active on the JFK and Tar Heel Nets at that time, and I know that some were skeptical that we had an adequate VHF infrastructure to accomplish the job. Others did not see the point of doing such a thing when we could easily do it on HF. It was an interesting test of using VHF to pass traffic, and I think its success proved the viability of using VHF as a part of our NTS strategy. Today, we have three NTS nets on VHF (Central NC Traffic Net, 146.82, 9:30 PM; Piedmont Coastal Traffic Net, 146.88, 9:00 PM; Eastern NC Traffic Net, 146.685, 8:30 PM), and we are fortunate to have many other independent nets that handle traffic as well. With smaller equipment and trained operators, VHF has also opened up additional opportunities to serve our community during times of disaster. I'm a believer in using the best tool for the job, even if it is just a little outside of my comfort zone. We must always be willing to try new techniques, if for no other reason than being familiar with them will give us an alternative to use if the traditional methods become unavailable. They may eventually become a part of the bigger picture, as VHF has done. One area of our hobby which I have enjoyed for almost 16 years has been digital communications. I see great potential for digital communications as a tool we can use to solve certain problems during disasters (on both HF and VHF). Outbound Health and Welfare traffic is something which could involve a high volume of book traffic that might not fit well on our voice nets. Some agencies we serve need to be able to communicate certain types of information which they are prohibited from sending on a frequency that can be easily intercepted by the public (i.e. picked up by scanners). Skywarn operators have also shown how digital modes can be used for data collection. There are problems with digital communications

to be sure – each mode has its own pluses and minuses, and what may work well for handling book traffic might not work well for sending shorter messages from point-to-point. I've spent a good deal of time researching some of these issues, as have many of you. I'd like to start putting some of this knowledge to the test this year. I am going to announce two dates and two scenarios for an exercise in sending digital traffic. Since Field Day and the SET are in the 2nd and 4th quarters of each year, I'm going to pick a date and time during the 1st and 3rd quarters, and announce it with sufficient notice to allow people to participate. I think all of us can learn something from this, even if we have been using digital modes for years. More coming on this topic next month. NC QSO Party sponsored by the Forsyth ARC will be taking place on Sunday, February 23rd starting at noon and running for ten hours. More details including rules and last year's results can be found on their web site, <http://www.w4nc.com>. The Elkin Hamfest is also on Sunday February 23rd. December Traffic: W4EAT 951 (BPL), W4UEF 402, K4IWW 360, AA4YW 230, K4RLD 209, KE4JHJ 198, KB5WY 133, WB4TOP 125, WA4OBR 116, N4FHM 102, KF4OCU 100, W4FMN 88, W4IRE 75, W4FAL 62, KG4OQA 60, AD4XF 48, KE4AHC 48, W4CC 32, N0SU 28, WA4SRD 27, NT4K 18, N4TAB 16, W3HL 14, N4NTO 10, KR4OE 10, KB8VCZ 10. December Public Service Honor Roll: N4TAB 351, KB5WY 175, K4RLD 160, W4CC 136, KE4JHJ 130, N0SU 128, KG4OQA 125, W4EAT 120, K4IWW 120, W4FAL 115, AA4YW 80, KF4OCU 80.

Southeastern Division

Georgia

SM: Susan Swiderski, AF4FO; ASM/South GA: Marshall Thigpen, W4IS; ASM/Legal: Jim Altman, W4UCK; ASM/Webmaster and SEC: Mike Boatright, KO4WX; STM: Jim Hanna, AF4NS; SGL: Charles Griffin, WB4UVW; BM: Eddy Kosobucki, K4JNL; ACC: Mary Ahls, W4NZJ; OOC: Mike Swiderski, K4HBI; TC: Fred Runkle, K4KAZ; PIC: Kevin Martin, W4SJR. **If you pencilled the February first date on your calendar for the statewide ARES meeting, like we told you to, you can erase it now. We will NOT be able to hold the meeting then, but as soon as the date is locked in, we'll let you know. Repeater owners and/or trustees, it's time to send any updated information to SERA ASAP for the next ARRL Repeater Directory. Deadline: February 7th. Congratulations to the Alford Memorial ARC Ham of the Year, REATHHEL HALLETT, KG4JMT, a terrific lady who always pitches in to lend a helping hand with club activities, and what's more, she always does it with a smile. And hey! This makes two years in a row for a YL winner from the club... cool, huh? The Winter Olympic games are coming up January 24-26 in Cobb county, and hams will provide the only communications between the venues, management and the nerve center (net control). Your help would very much be appreciated. If you can help, please get in touch with TODD BOWDEN, AF4CZ, at af4cz@runbox.com. Hats off to members of the Long County Amateur Radio Group, who've initiated an "Adopt a Soldier" program, where they'll be sending care packages to more than 200 soldiers serving in Kuwait. More on this fine project in the next newsletter. Thanks, and a tip of the hat to CHRIS HOFFMAN, K1KC, who graciously volunteered his

tower-climbing skills to get the equipment up on a tower in Dublin for the finishing touches on our section's ambitious digipeater project. It's been a lot of work for all of the fine folks involved, but it won't be long now before the dream of having a digipeater path from Macon to the Coast is finally realized. Thanks to all of you guys involved for making it happen. Two silent keys to report: MIKE KOCJAN, N4YYC, and JUNE MILLER, KF4DSC. Heartfelt condolences go out to the families and friends of both of these fine folks. Are you ready? The Dalton hamfest is right around the corner... February 22nd. (and you can put that date on your calendar in INK!) Hope to see y'all there... and don't forget your earmuffs! Until next time, this is AF4FO, signing clear. Take care of yourselves. And each other. 73, Susan** December QTC: WB4GGS-176; W4WXA-174; AF4NS-163; K4FUM-123; K4BEH-98; K4WKT-89; K4BG-81; WB4BIK-71; KG4FXG-45; W4AET-30; K4BB-21**

Southern Florida

Assistant Section Managers –WA4AW, KD4GR, KA4FZI, W4WYR, N4LEM, K9SHT;
Section Traffic Manager – WA2YL; Affiliated Club Coordinator and Technical Coordinator – WA4AW; Bulletin Manager – KC4ZHF; Section Emergency Coordinator –KD4GR; Official Observer Coordinator – N4QPM The first hamfest of the year was held 1/11 in Ft Myers (short report below for Lee county news). On Feb 1 and 2 the Dade Radio Club will hold the 43rd Annual Tropical Hamboree (info at www.hamboree.com). Most of the cabinet members and I will be in attendance. Stop at the Welcome booth at the main entrance or at the ARRL booth and say hello to us. We will have an ARRL forum with Division and section reports on Sunday from 10AM till noon. I will have a meeting for appointees, club officers, VEs, instructors and anyone interested in volunteering time to assist with activities in the section on Sunday from 1 to 3 PM and there will be a door prize. Exams for Levels 1 and 2 ARECC will be held Saturday at 4PM. Please send me an e-mail or sign up at the Welcome booth if you plan to take an exam. Congratulations to KD4GR Jim Goldsberry and AF4NR Donald Thomas – they completed all 3 ARECC courses. Please continue to send club newsletters or links to newsletters to me and the ACC Jeff, WA4AW. Send minutes, news from ARES activities, public service activities, etc. I would like to have news from every county to feature each month, so “keep those cards and letters coming” to me. Visit the section page at arrl.org for listing of licensing classes and ideas for clubs. News from around the Section: Indian River -- Vero Beach ARC participated in Kid's Day. The club also had their annual dinner on 1/9. Guests from the county Emergency Management office were present. Palm Beach - The Yesterday Village RC will operate an amateur radio message center at the South Florida Fair in W. Palm Beach from Jan 17 through Feb 2, 2003. Jupiter Farms CERT group will be giving evening licensing exams in the north county area. For more information on these exams please contact: Albert Moreschi at 746-7421 or e-mail at AG4BV@arrl.net Martin -- - SKYWARN: Two activations due to severe weather in December. Lee – Fort Myers Hamfest was held on 1/11. Five forums were offered including NTS & PSK31. The WCF STM, Chet, spoke at the NTS forum. KA4FZI, Phyllisan and WA4AW, Jeff were at the ARRL booth answering questions and signing up new ARRL members. Brevard – Congratulations to K4MVO, Stephanie Phillips – the Titusville ARC Ham

of the Year. Stephanie is a PIO in Brevard county. PCARS has a newsletter online at <http://pcars.org>. This month's Tech Notes feature an interesting article on how to calibrate your SWR meter. Broward – The Palmetto ARC in Dania has "An Interview with Riley" from the January 2003 Issue of WORLDRADIO at <http://www.qsl.net/palmetto/news.html> that's worth a read. Work is underway on the Palmetto ARC 2 meter repeater, and a trailer and tower project. An ATV repeater and amplifier may be available by the first of the year. Multi county efforts – The St Lucie Repeater Association held an informal dinner meeting on 1/7. Twelve members were in attendance. It pays to add food to a meeting. Treasure Coast Weather Net will have a representative from Melbourne NWS on the nets each Sunday (7PM 146.775 -) beginning 1/12 through Hazardous Weather Week in February. There will be discussions of El Nino and the effect it has on weather in the east central Florida area. SAR TOTALS FOR DECEMBER, 2002 WA9VND 526 (BPL), KA4FZI 398, K4FQU 277, KC4ZHF 173, KD4GR 135, KG4EQY 113, KE4UOF 111, WA2YL 81, KG4CHW 56, WA4EIC 52, KG4QIP 46, KG4MLD 41, KG4MLC 39, WB4PAM 38, K4VMC 37, KT4XK 37, W6VIF 36, KG4ILJ 28, AA4BN 24, KN4JN 19, KF4OMB 12, AF4NR 8, KN4JN 7, K4OVC 7, W4PPG 7, K4ENA 6, K0TIW 5, W3JI 3 PSHR TOTALS FOR DECEMBER, 2002 KG4CHW 130, KA4FZI 120, KD4GR 110, WA2YL 110, KC4ZHF 110, WA4EIC 110, WA9VND 100, K4FQU 96, WB4PAM 88, KG4MLD 80, KE4UOF 80, KG4MLC 79, KG4QIP 75.

West Central Florida

WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA: SM-Dave Armbrust, AE4MR, ASM W4DG, ASM-Legal K4LAW, SEC AE4GB, TC KT4WX, BM KE4WU, STM AB4XK, SGL W1XO, ACC N3BUL, PIC WX1JAD. Please welcome John Townsley, AE4GB, as the new Section Emergency Coordinator for West Central Florida. John replaces Paul Toth, NA4AR, as SEC. John has been active in public service, participating with Pinellas, Pasco and Hillsborough ARES over the last 8 years. Prior to his appointment as SEC John was serving as EC for Pasco County. Paul Toth, NA4AR, has resigned as both ASM and SEC due to personal and work commitments. It was Paul's efforts that were largely responsible for the creation of the ARRL West Central Florida Section. Paul has been a tremendous aid to me since the creation of the West Central Florida Section. I have not met another that has worked so hard for amateur radio as Paul has done for the last four years. He will be greatly missed by all in the Section that have come to know Paul. He does plan to remain active with Skywarn and MARS. Please also welcome Norm Daerda, K4NRM, as the new EC for Pasco County. Norm is replacing John Townsley, AE4GB, as EC of Pasco County. The third annual club leadership conference that was scheduled for Jan. 18th has been postponed. The date was apparently a conflict for many. Another date will be scheduled after the Hamfest season ends. The next Hamfest in WCF will be the DeSoto Hamfest on January 25th. The Miami Hamfest is the following weekend Feb. 1 and 2. Miami is the ARRL State Convention this year. The Orlando Hamfest is Feb. 6, 7 and 8th. Back in WCF the Highlands Hamfest is Feb. 15th and the Zephyrhills Hamfest is Feb. 22nd. I will be at all of these Hamfest and look forward to meeting you at these Hamfest if you can attend. Sarasota ARES/RACES participated in a Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD)

drill on December 18th in Sarasota. Both SEC Paul Toth, NA4AR, and myself participated in the event as well. The amateurs were involved with sending live Amateur TV signals from the disaster scene to the County Emergency Operations Center. This was the first time ATV was used in a drill to send live video back to the EOC. Several key individuals including the county Emergency Manager were also “shadowed” by amateurs to handle critical traffic. The amateurs also provided communication from the Red Cross chapter house to all Red Cross vehicles used in the event. In the simulated chemical attack all hostages were lost due to actions taken by the terrorist. I am happy to report that in spite of being near the all the action all ARES/RACES members did survive the simulation! It was a wonderful demonstration of how amateur radio can play a very vital role in such man made disasters. 16 amateurs contributed 239 man-hours to this event. An ARRL Section appointment that I would like to talk a little about this month is the Public Information Officer or PIO. The PIO is an individual that works with the amateurs in an area to help get media coverage for an amateur radio event such a field day. While this is so crucial to the growth of our hobby this is a function that is often overlooked in many areas. If you are already doing this for your club or if you are interested in becoming involved in the Public Information program in the Section please contact our Public Information Coordinator, Jack Doyle, WX1JAD. Jack can be reached at 941-485-0700 or wx1jad@arrl.net. A basic Skywarn class is scheduled in St. Pete on Jan. 22nd and an advanced class on Feb. 19th. All classes will be held at the downtown St. Petersburg Times building, 490 First Avenue South. Classes will begin promptly at 7PM and wrap up around 9PM. All of these programs are available to you regardless of your license class. Silent Keys this month include Sam Edwards, K1QV of Arcadia and Harvey Wittner, KA4EEF of Lutz. Both have contributed significantly to the hobby and they will be missed. AB4XK STM reports for Dec: PHSR AE4MR 247, WB2LEZ 188, W4AUN 175, AB4XK 120, K4SCL 100, KF4OPT 100. SAR K4SCL 357, AB4XK 246, KF4OPT 89, W4AUN 15, WB2LEZ 8, KG4FCD 8, AE4MR 7. 73 - Dave AE4MR (941)685-2081 or ae4mr@arrl.org

Southwestern Division

Arizona

SM Article for January 2003 The year 2002 was a great year for amateur radio here in Arizona. We had 4 major fires that used our emergency response resources to the max. Even though the fire in Show Low received the most publicity, the fires in Prescott, Sierra Vista, and Tucson, also caused major damage to our fragile forest and required our support. Hats off to the emergency organizations that tool the time to help their communities during these periods, Yavapai, Pima, Cochise, and Apache county ARES/RACES teams. We don't want this to happen again here in Arizona. Take a moment to review the year 2002 from your eyes and then ask yourself a simple question, “Did I help amateur radio this last year in any way”?. If the answer is “NO”, then get involved with the local emergency people and be prepared to work with your community. Most amateur radio operators are very active with local community support, but more is needed. Remember, in the event of an emergency, local telephones will be

the first to go down with cel phones next. Most local governments would be lost without their cel phones. Have you completed the Communications Level 1 Class? This class is very good and it teaches the basic art of emergency communications. If you are not presently taking this class and want to do so, call ARRL Headquarters (Dan Miller, K3UFG) and get all your questions answered. Course cost is \$45.00. During an emergency condition we want to be prepared and have the necessary training skills to help. Training must take place prior to emergencies, not during the emergency. Many RACES organizations across the country are requiring its members to take this course as part of their membership requirements. Check with the ARRL for the next course starting date. Santa was good to me this Christmas and I now have a digital camera. I will read the instructions and start taking pictures of major events and including them in this article. . This article will no longer appear in the QST magazine but it can be found on the ARRL Web site www.arrl.org/sections/index/html and on the state web site www.qsl.net/arrlaz, and www.hamsrus.com If you want me to e-mail you a copy then just drop me a note and I can add you to my e-mail list. There was a change in our state Section Emergency Coordinator position: Tom Fagan, WB7NXH, has replaced Ted Willis, AA7HX. All DEC's will please send their month reports to Tom starting 01 January 2003. Don't forget the Glendale Hamfest on 11 January 2003 at the Glendale Community college. Clifford Hauser, KD6XH; E-mail is kd6xh@arrl.org.

West Gulf Division

West Texas

WEST TEXAS MONTHLY SECTION NEWS Hello to the ARRL members in the West Texas Section. Our Section has only been in existence for about 10 years but some of you have been members of the ARRL for a lot longer. The ARRL honors those who have been continuous League members for 25, 40, 50, 60 or 70 years. If you think you qualify or if you know of a member, who might qualify, contact me. Lew Maxwell, KB5HPT, our El Paso County EC presented three questions to El Paso hams in the W5ES Bulletin that I would like to offer to each of you. 1. Can you work in a controlled environment? 2. Will you volunteer your qualifications and communications equipment for use in public service when disaster strikes? 3. Do you have a sincere desire to serve your community as an emergency communications volunteer? If you answered "yes" to these three questions, then the Amateur Radio Emergency Service needs you. Contact the ARES EC in your county for information and volunteer to serve your community. If there is not an EC in your county, contact me or the Section Emergency Coordinator, N5LRH. We will work with you in developing a local organization that fits your community's needs. I was contacted by Murray, K5MDM, concerning the Homeland Security Group that is being organized in the Odessa area. Contact K5MDM for more information. A major advantage of ARES is that it has a flexibility that allows the team to adapt to local needs. Emergency Coordinators and other interested volunteers should consider enrolling in the online Emergency Communications Course (EC-001). Registration for the next available Level I class opens Monday, February 3. ARRL members who successfully complete the course will have

their tuition refunded thanks to the ARRL's federal homeland security grant. More information at <http://www.arrl.org/cce/> I am saddened to report the news of several SK's. Trevor, W5KBP, of El Paso became a SK last month. Trevor was a "Traffic Man" of the first order and had been honored as member of the A-1 Operator Club. Friends on the 7290 Net, the Eye Bank Net, and throughout the section will miss Trevor. He was living proof that disabilities exist only in people's mind. Lubbock amateurs lost one of their "rocks" in November with the passing of Gordon, KF5TH. Every club has a ham who labors in the background, seeing that things get done, and never seeking recognition. We sometimes don't realize how much they do, until they are no longer with us. The Panhandle area is mourning the loss of Red, KZ5O. Red was a member of the PARC and a regular net control on the Panhandle Traffic and Emergency net. December also saw the passing of Carl, K5SO, of San Angelo. Carl was one of the founders of the SAARC. The final SK to report is Steve, KB5SJU, of the Big Bend area. Steve was a very active ham and member of the BBARC. He was a teacher at Big Bend High School. They will all be missed. Carla, K5RLA, and I enjoyed visiting with Lubbock area hams at the Lubbock Amateur Contest Club's January meeting. Pat Marcie of Icom made an excellent presentation showing Icom's newest additions to its line. The pair of 6-foot submarine sandwiches also drew a lot of favorable comments. Good food and good radios...a winning combination to increase meeting attendance. Section Manager's schedule for February and March. Feb 6 BBARC's annual banquet in Alpine. Feb. 22. El Paso Hamfest. I will host an ARRL Forum. More information at <http://www.qsl.net/w5es> March 1. Big Country Skywarn Training Abilene. March 15-16. ARRL State Convention/St. Patrick's Day Hamfest in Midland. ARRL Forum with West Gulf Director Coy Day, N5OK and myself. <http://www.w5qgg.org> 73, John Dyer, AE5B, WTX Section Manager