

Section News for January 2003

Atlantic Division

Eastern Pennsylvania

How many times has each of us said or heard “I don’t agree with what the ARRL is doing” in regards to one subject or another? Speaking for myself, I have heard this many times and I am sure that those words probably come from my lips upon occasion. However, in the field of Emergency Communications” nothing could be further from the truth. The ARRL Volunteer Resource Committee (VRC) came up with some recommendations that should help advance Amateur Radio Emergency Communications to a new level of national recognition. At the January 2003 ARRL Board meeting the VRC made several recommendations. “5.4.1 Amateur Radio should exhibit a higher level of readiness than is presently the case. This may be accomplished, at least in part, by encouraging SM’s in collaboration with their SEC’s and STM’s, to study on a continuing basis, the training needs of their Sections and the effectiveness of training programs in place.” “5.4.2 Amateur Radio should exhibit a higher level of professionalism than is presently the case. This may be satisfied, at least in part, by adhering to the following program. Please note that these are not requirements, but recommendations. SEC’s and STM’s earn Level 1, 2, and 3 certification as soon as possible. DEC’s and NM’s earn at least Level 1 and 2 certification as soon as possible. EC’s and OES appointees earn at least Level 1 certification as soon as possible. SEC’s and STM’s strongly encourage all ARES and NTS members to earn Level 1 certification in order to prepare them for possible future disasters and in order to prepare them to become future leadership officials. Finally, the training provided by FEMA, the Red Cross and other served agencies should be considered for inclusion in ARES/NTS training programs. These courses aren’t designed for exclusive Amateur Radio audiences, but present an opportunity for ARES/NTS volunteers to expand their emergency preparedness horizons.” “5.4.3 SEC’s should make more effective use of OES appointees – the guideline document for this field appointment is deliberately broad, so as to give SEC’s flexibility required to solve a variety of Sectional organizational problems. “5.4.4 SM’s, SEC’s and STM’s should work cooperatively to develop workable plans for joint drills and training. It would take quite a bit of space for me to list all of my experiences etc. to tell you why I agree with everything listed above, but as someone who has spent the past twenty odd years dealing in emergency communications both professionally and as part of my Amateur Radio hobby, you can be quite assured that I do agree whole heartedly with the recommendations. My only point of disagreement would be in regard to the SEC, DEC and EC appointments and the LEVEL 1, 2 and 3 of the ECC. My preference would be to have them required rather than recommended. The Eastern Pennsylvania Section can look forward to my commitment on having the Section meet or exceed the VRC recommendations. There are already a number of persons holding E. Pa. appointments who are doing more than the recommendations ask for. For those persons who have not started as yet, now is the time to work towards meeting the criteria of the recommendations. 73 Eric D. Olena, WB3FPL S.M. E. Pa.

Southern New Jersey

SNJ mourns the lost of Kalpana Chawla, KD5ESI, David Brown, KC5ZTC and Laurel Clark, KC5ZSU. The Space Shuttle Colombia was the first ham radio station in space. Many hams have looked forward to their chance to make that coveted contact with the shuttles. In addition, I am sure that many ARES members can identify with the ARES members who are a vital part of the search for the debris in the various counties in the path of the shuttle. They are a part of a valuable service in finding the cause of this terrible tragedy. The Atlantic Division Cabinet meeting will be coming up soon and at the beginning of each meeting the names of silent keys are entered at the beginning of the meeting. Will all clubs and individuals please send me the names and call signs of these amateurs. No other information is needed. Just send this information by email (ka2ykn@arrl.org) or a quick note or by telephone. (just leave it on the answering machine if I am not home). With a somewhat declining interest in building equipment, less people are attending hamfests. This is a major source of income for a club. When this source declines, new

sources must be found. One way is to hold a White Elephant Sale (if using a real elephant, hold it in the spring or fall outside). In planning a sale, ask members to clean out their shacks, basements, attics and car trunks and donate these items for benefit of the club. This has been proven to put a happy face on the YL. It is important to find a person with a fast gift for gab. This can be accomplished by listening to your club repeater during prime travel hours. But especially remember to invite plenty of new people and even other clubs for a wonderful get-together. This insures that many items will go out of the circle of the club members and not show up year after year. (hihi)

Traffic report for Jan. 2003 STM, K2UL Dan QNI report NJM 48 N2GJ NJPN 222 W2CC NJSN 162 K2PB NJN(E) 201 AG2R NJN(L)146 AG2R (above dual with NNJ) JSARS 477 WJ2F SJTN 81 KB2RTZ SJVN 256 WB2UVB SAR report AA2SV 88 WA2CUW 64 K2UL 62 WB2UVB 50 KB2RTZ 43 WJ2F 35 N2VQA 20 KC2IYC 15 W2QOB 12 N2WFN 8 WA2NDA 6 W2AZ 4 N2ZMI KB2VSR KB2YBM KC2ETU each 1. PSHR reports KB2RTZ (Dec) 330 Jan 270 WB2UVB 130 N2HQL 125 K2UL 110 WJ2F 95 AA2SV 90 WA2CUW 90 N2VQA 68 KA2YKN 60 KC2IYC 55 N2WFN 42 W2QOB 40

The best way to get young people, retired people and just new people into the hobby is by holding classes. DVRA has just started the spring class for technician and General Class with code. SJRA also holds classes and generally teaches at the entry level. The system works. If your club doesn't have a class at this time why not think about getting a few people together and give it a try. This is a great way to get new members into the club and a good way to keep the interest of the current members. Clubs need to be active in as many areas of radio as possible to keep moving forward. If you are looking for a VE exam, mark March 15 and May 17 on your calendar in the Mercer County area. Test is held at the Township Branch of the Mercer County Library in Pennington. Be there before 12:15 to do the paperwork and doors will close promptly at 12:30. Bring two forms of ID. Notify Don Wright/AA2F at 609-737-1723 or donaa2f@nerc.com to reserve a place. Also testing is still going strong at Belmawr in Camden County off Blackhorse Pike on Browning Rd in the Belmawr Community Senior Citizens Center (in the basement). Contact Diane Nafis, N2LCO at 856-227-6281 and leave a message and Diane will call you back.

Western Pennsylvania

Washfest 2003 is this coming Sunday, February 23. This will start the hamfest season in Western Pennsylvania. I hope to see many of you at the hamfest and the other upcoming events. Either myself or one of the assistant section managers will be present at every sanctioned hamfest in our section. Information on the Washfest may be obtained at <http://www.washarc.org/> Following this event is the Foothills ARC hamfest on March 2. Additional information on this event can be found at <http://www.geocities.com/foothills007/> , Then on March 15 the Butler County ARC will hold it's second annual techfest. This event is a free event to promote interest in the many facets of amateur radio. Additional information on the techfest is available at http://www.qsl.net/w3udx/BCARA_Techfest.pdf and finally the Two Rivers ARC will sponsor it's hamfest on March 23. The Breezeshooters ARC is once again sponsoring it's popular 10 meter ground wave contest. This year's event is scheduled for February 22 for the CW contest and March 22 for the SSB portion. Information and rules for the contest is available at <http://www.breezeshooters.net/contest/contest.htm> join in the fun and I hope to work you all on 10 meters. Many individuals in the section have taken the opportunity to participate in the various emergency communications courses. A federal grant made it possible for individuals completing the level one online course to be reimbursed for the fee. Now another grant recently made available the opportunity for reimbursement of the fees associated with level two and three courses. These courses are a tremendous opportunity to learn more about the operation that may become necessary should another terrorist attack or war with Iraq come to pass. At the recent Board of Directors meeting the volunteer resources committee made a recommendation that leaders be required to complete different levels of the courses depending on the position they hold in the ARES and NTS teams. I support these recommendations and with a total reimbursement now available I encourage everyone to take advantage of the opportunity. If you need additional information on any of the courses contact myself at n3mse@arrl.org or Jeff Leach n3yea@arrl.net.

Jan 2003 PSHR MESSAGE # CALL SIGN 1 2 3 4 5 6 TOTAL N3WAV 40 37 30 10 0 0 117 N3KB 40 29 10 0 0 0 79 KA3CQM 31 0 0 0 0 0 31 TOTALS 111 66 40 10 0 0 227 Jan 2003 SAR CALL SIGN REC. SENT DELIV. ORIGIN. TOTAL WB3ING 3 1 2 0 6 KA3CQM 0 5 0 0 5 AA3TH 3 4 2 2 11 N3KB 26 0 4 0 30 N3WAV 28 8 1 0 37 N3IBT 4 1 3 1 9 N3YTD 4 6 4 0 14 KC3NY 4 5 0 0 9 AA3ML 1 5 1 0 7 WA3QNT 30 10 1 0 41 W3QOS 1 2 0 1 4 WB8KPE 26 20 6 1 53 W3GJ 11 21 0 1 33 WA3FFS 11 10 1 0 22

TOTALS 152 98 25 5 281 Join the WPA Phone and traffic net nightly at 6 PM on 3983 khz. 73 John Rodgers
N3MSE W. Pa Section Manager n3mse@arrrl.org

Central Division

Illinois

At the annual Winterfest Banquet of the Metro DX Club on January 17, which was held at the Old Barn Restaurant in Burbank, IL, two of the members were presented with co-DXers of the year plaques. The hams were K9AJ, Mike McGirr, and N9TK, Jim Mormar. Mike and Jim were members of the recent Ducie Island DXpedition, an all time new DXCC country. The presentation was made by K9MDO, Bob Adamitis, president of the Metro DX Club. The Fulton County Amateur Radio Club held their annual Christmas party on December 12th, 2002. During the abbreviated meeting, the election of officers took place. The new officers for 2003 are: President, Colin Adams, KS9A; Vice-President, Jimmie Smith, KB9NKT; Secretary, Jack Tomilanovich, AA9YA; and Treasurer Gary Adams, N9GA. On Tuesday December 3 the MCWA had their election of officers. Those elected were President, Terry Garret, KB9JZY; Vice-President, KC9AVP; Secretary, Dan Bero, KC9BTW; and Treasurer, KC9CAR. The KOTA elected officers in November. President Stephanie Thomas, KC9BKV; Vice-President, Dan Gonshorek, KC9AIE; Secretary, Aerial Rademacher, KC9BKU; Treasurer, Keith Gonshorek, KC9CPE. On January 24th Joe Tokarz, KB9EZZ, made an emergency Communications presentation to the 20 people present at the LaSalle County Local Emergency Planning Committee. The presentation summarized the activities of LaSalle County ARES at the last 3 bi-annual federal exercises at the LaSalle County Nuclear Station and the use of ARESPACK and UI-View. I am pleased to report that the Peoria Area Amateur Radio Club has been officially renewed as a Special Service Club. This club is recognized for its efforts on behalf of amateur radio and services to its community. The Cenois Amateur Radio Club also has been officially renewed as a Special Service Club. They are also recognized for their continued efforts on behalf of amateur radio. From the SEC: All ARRL affiliated clubs and Special Service Clubs in the Illinois Section should already have Emergency Communications Planning committees for their club service area to assist Emergency Coordinators and EmComm efforts in their area. Your local appointed EC may already be an advisory or regular member of your club ECP Committee, and these ECs should ensure all such club ECP committee members are registered in ARES. If this is not the case, notify Pat Ryan, SEC at kc6vvt@arrrl.net and he will help and advise your club EmComm efforts, and accept ARES registrations from your club ECP committee members if accompanied by your club letter from the committee chair or club officer. In the January 2003 monthly SEC report to the ARRL, KC6VVT reports there were 764 ARES members, and 35 active ARES Nets with 11 net liaison with NTS, and a total of 36 ARES operations and 230 man hours. 16 DEC/ECs reported: N9PN, WD9EBQ, K9DRW, W9QA, WA9RUM, N9GRM, WB9PPK, N9NL, WA9TZL, KA9SZ. The following ECs submitted their 2002 EC Annual Report to the ARRL with a copy to their SEC or DEC: N9XDC, KA9ILL, AI9F, W9OES, K9CNP, W9ICU, WB9PPK, W9QA, KF9NZ, K9DRW, WB9RLX. ASM Ron Morgan, KB9NW, attended the Collinsville Hamfest on January 25th. This was Ron's first venture out to represent the ARRL and he did a great job. I understand that the hamfest was very well attended. I was at the WCRA Hamfest on the 26th and this hamfest was also very well attended. January Traffic: WB9TVD, ISN Report, QNI-295, QTC 123, Sessions 31; WB9TVD-36, NC9T-24, N9DT-33, W9FIF-14, WA9SLT-29, WA9RUM 7, the W9VEY MEMORIAL NET-177 checkins, W9HLX-73, K9CNP-123, WD9F-42, PSHR 100. Ninth region net report, sessions 62, check-ins 560, average per session 9.03, total net traffic 208, average per session 3.35. Illinois represented at 91.94% of net sessions.

Indiana

Indiana Section News for January 2003. Condolances to the Family and Friends of the following Indiana Amateurs who became a Silent Key during January: Clarence "Bill" Hessler, 1/05, Columbia City; John Rinehart WB9SSN, 1/09, Fort Wayne, Walter Ring Sr. W9NPA, former E.C. Blackford County, Hartford City; Carl R. Ryan KB9CAA, 1/25, Terre Haute. They will be missed. United Technologies Corp(UTC) has just announced a

\$150,000 three year national grant for all three levels of the League's ARECC training courses. This will be a fee reimbursement for all three levels of the EmComm courses. With this, and other news that is being reported, our Central Division Director, Dick Isley W9GIG, senses a growing public perception of the value of amateur radio emergency communications. I see this same growing awareness, also. It just could be that there is a coming renaissance in Amateur Radio. Lee Kissell K9GPS, Lawrenceburg, reports a renewed interest in Packet communications. This is a good "secure" form of communications where written records may be needed during an emergency. Kudos to the Indianapolis Repeater Association from Mike Palmer N9FEB, Marion County EC for putting ARES membership documents in with their annual repeater renewal notices. Mike just completed the ARECC EC-002 Intermediate EmComm Course. Mike also reports than many Marion Co. hams are practicing Slow-Scan on the 146.97 repeater on Thursday evenings. Are you an ARES member? If so, have you given your Emergency Coordinator an updated ARES Registration Form(FSD-98) in the last two years? This is especially necessary if you have upgraded your license, added, or removed equipment from your station, and changed your operating capabilities. If you haven't heard, FIELD DAY 2003 will be getting a new entry class. "Class F" stations will operate at emergency operations centers(EOCs). This change renews the emphasis on the purpose of Field Day. "Class F" has been established to encourage groups to test and further their working relationships with established emergency operations centers. Further information can be found at the League's website: I have been making "heavy" use of E-mail to keep everyone informed of the proposed legislation about Amateur Radio Antennas, SB109, introduced by State Senator Antich. This bill is in committee, and will be discussed February 12th. As information becomes available, I will keep everyone informed. Meanwhile, PLEASE, contact your State Senator, and let him know that you are in favor of the proposed legislation affecting all Indiana amateurs. This bill follows PRB-1 with the exception of a 75' height limitation before local municipalities can regulate amateur radio antennas. Passage of this legislation will "codify" amateur radio antenna regulations throughout Indiana. Indiana Bulletin Manager, Don KA9QWC, has resigned due to severe computer problems and changing interests. If you are an energetic person who is interested in this position, please contact me. NET FREQ DAILY TIMES(UTC) QNI QTC QTR SESSIONS ITN 3910KHz 1330/2130/1300 3094 152 1568 84 QIN 3656KHz 1430/0000 309 116 1287 59 ICN 3705KHz 2315 82 21 394 22 ARES 3910KHz 4th SUN/MO@1300 7 0 13 1 HOOSIER VHF NETS 6 REPORTING 338 1 573 25 January ORS Traffic Reports: K9PUI 301, WA9JWL 123, KC9BZL 94, KO9D 77, K9GBR 42, WB9OFG 36, N9KNJ 34, KB9TUI 26, K9DIY 16, W9EHY 14, AB9AA 10, N9HZ 9, W9XD 9, WB9NCE 6, N9PF 5, KA9QWC 5, K9CUN 2. 73, Jim Sellers K9ZBM

Wisconsin

WISCONSIN: SM: Don Michalski, W9IXG, SEC: WB9RQR, STM: K9LGU, ACC: Open, SGL: AD9X, OOC: N9VE, PIC: W9UQ. TC: K9GDF, BM: WB9NRK, ASM: K9UTQ, W9RCW, W9CBE, N9VE. Fred Stolte, W9UFW, 75, passed away. Fred was a founding member of the Ozaukee Radio Club and a member of the Quarter Century Club and lived in New Hampshire. Arthur Fowler, 76, KA9EFT, and Thomas Gettelman, W9IZO, 62 are Silent Keys. Sherm Swanson, KB9Q, brings up an excellent point that by using the hobby to teach basic electronic principles, computer applications, geography, weather, physics etc., a seed will be planted that later in life may develop and bloom into a sincere, meaningful interest -- and a license. Keep this thought with you when introducing someone into amateur radio! Patrick, W9UQ, has some good thoughts worth passing along: "Seek out a new ham and become an Elmer. Offer to present a program on your favorite activity. Educate us, we are sponges waiting for more knowledge. Share what you know. Demonstrate a skill. Volunteer your time and skill. Help educate your local community about the contributions of Amateur Radio". Ed, KG8CX, and the M&M ARC were, again, successful in their membership program. This time, in helping new amateur, KC9CTK, age 14. Full story is on the QRZ site for KC9CTK. The Tri-County ARC are donating copies of Now You're Talking and the Technician Q & A Manual to five area libraries. Excellent idea!! On 21 January, We Energies presented SEC Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR, with a check to fund ham hardware items in counties where the company has 5,000 or more customers. The 17 counties are Calumet, Dodge, Fond du Lac, Jefferson, Kenosha, Milwaukee, Outagamie, Ozaukee, Racine, Shawano, Sheboygan, Vilas, Walworth, Washington, Waukesha, Waupaca and Winnebago. Milwaukee will receive \$9,000, Waukesha \$6,000, Racine \$3,000 and the remainder will receive \$1,500 each. ECs in these counties will be mailed information and instructions from Stan and We Energies shortly. Both We

Energies and your SEC are hopeful that this will spur similar actions from energy companies that serve other parts of Wisconsin. The We grant will be funneled to EC Resources Ltd, a 501(c)3 group established 10 years ago by East Central Wisconsin District Emergency Coordinator Bill Niemuth, KB9ENO, to fund Outagamie County ARES. Thank you, Bill Niemuth, for making it possible to acquire these funds!! Congratulations to Paul Bittner, W0AIH, for making it to the cover of CQ magazine! January 9RN report shows Wisconsin represented at all 62 net sessions! Our thanks to everyone who handles traffic on our nets! I am looking for someone to fill the Affiliated Club Coordinator position. The appointment description is given at this site:

<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/org/acc.html>. If interested, please contact me at 608-274-1886 or

w9ixg@arrl.org. Thanks!! 73, Don, W9IXG And, here is our monthly report from Denny, K9LGU, STM: FAQ #3 – Where can I find out more about good traffic handling? Ask around. Listen carefully to the regulars on voice and CW nets. Ask lots of questions. Re-read the famous pink card, Operating Aid FSD-218, or check out some of the fine sources on the Internet such as those linked from <http://www.arrl.org>. If your club or ARES unit would like a no-cost program on traffic handling, let your Section Traffic Manager know. Have overhead; will travel. I'd be pleased to appear at your meeting and discuss the NTS, traffic handling, and questions on Wisconsin nets. I've had lots of fun talking traffic at places such as Port Washington, Baraboo, Stevens Point, Sheboygan, Grafton, Madison, Juneau and other points about the state. Give me a call, email me, or – better yet – send me a radiogram, and I'll check my calendar. 73 - K9LGU/STM

Delta Division

Arkansas

Bob Ideker, WB5VUH SM – www.all-arkansas-hams.org - 2003 Section Theme: Just Do It, TODAY! - Well, looks like “some” of us made it without much snow or ice, although many others might not have been so lucky. Here's hoping you didn't have too much trouble, & more importantly, I hope you didn't lose any antennas because of it. If you did, please be extremely careful putting them back up & watch out for power lines & other dangers waiting to happen. If possible, ask someone in your area to come over & help. Four eyes (or more), extra h&s, & support are better than putting yourself in stress or strains that can be better done by others helping. OK, you may have to buy them a McDonalds but compare that to a stay in a hospital or laid- up in bed with casts & such. Everyone, please, just be careful. Our Arkansas Section Hamfests are about to gear up & hope you are planning on attending all of them...or at least as many as you possibly can. A lot of work is done by clubs to make them available for us to attend, so that's the least we can do to support their efforts. It sometimes can be an under-appreciated effort & easy for any of us to walk away without lifting a finger. Volunteer your help even for one hour; they'll appreciate it & you'll feel better too. I'll look forward to seeing you there & hoping that you'll attend the forums to hear what's going on at the section & national level. Go to the Arkansas Section Website, listed at the top for more exact details on dates & locations. Lets make this a good year for our section by getting involved & helping others that may need some help in better understanding our amateur radio theory, or something they can't figure out. Everyone should be challenged & motivated to upgrade this year, or if you're an Extra Class already, then enroll in some of the ARRL classes being offered. You'll only get out of this hobby, what you're willing to put into it. Your knowledge & leadership is needed & wanted. Just try to do something. If everyone offered 10% of his or her help, & then it combined with everyone else's support, we would produce a very nice reward of accomplishment. You can do it, better suggested: Just Do It, Today! We will soon have a new Section Manager. It is my hope that you will try very hard to support their ideas & suggestions. If you want something changed, suggest it. Don't sit back & wait to see if someone else will do it, or worse, complain if something is done that you don't like. GET INVOLVED & let your section leadership what you think could be done better & support it with your logical ideas & you leading the change you think should be done. This is YOUR section & you have as much right to want to see things done as anyone else. However, keep in mind that your idea has to be fair, balanced & workable. It's easy to make suggestions but then you have to also put your muscle behind it too. How strongly do you want to see things changed, & put your ideas to work for your club, your section & beyond? I'm expecting to assemble one more article for mass distribution within our section. That will come next month in my final article. I

hope you that I have tried to do my very best for our section, & the hams in it. I am very proud to have served in the capacity that you've entrusted to me & regardless of what happens in years to come, that you will think back to the good old days (meaning now of course...hi) & realize that you had & continue to have, a say in what your Section Manager does & what you can do too if you'll just try. Traffic reports for January indicate a healthy dose of traffic. Individual numbers include: W5RIP 243 (outstanding), K5BOC 40, W5RXU 28, WB5HIL, WA5KQU 16, KB5ILY 10, N5NDO 8, AD5AM & KA5MGL 5, N4OWB 4 & N5QYC 4, & KA6VAN 2. Tnx to all of you for your effort.

Louisiana

LOUISIANA SECTION NEWS – JANUARY 2003 LOUISIANA: SM, Mickey Cox, K5MC – ASM: W5PY, K5DPG, AC5VN. ACC: KM5YL. OOC: WB5CXJ. PIC: K5IQ. SEC: WA5LQZ. SGL: KD5KNZ. STM/LCW NM: W4DLZ. LTN NM: K5IQZ. For those of you not familiar with the ARRL Field Organization (FO), a good overview appears in March QST. As this article makes clear, practically every active League member should be able to find an interesting role to play within the FO. I'm happy to report that AC5VN has accepted the position of Assistant Section Manager (ASM). Ron's focus as ASM will be to assist WA5LQZ on ARES matters on a section-wide basis. Ron will also continue to serve as the NE LA District EC. Larry KA5NXT is the new EC for Allen Parish after many years of dedicated service by Wallace K5BPA. Steve KC5SAS has been appointed as both an Official Emergency Station (OES) and a Local Government Liaison and Marilyn KD5BKU is a new OES. The following amateurs received Emergency Communications Commendation certificates at the Hammond Hamfest for their service last fall during Tropical Storm Isidore and Hurricane Lili: N5OUN, KB5SKW, KD5JWW, N5QOX, AA5GP, KD5FTD, N5BFC, KC5PAL, AG5AT, K5EEB, KD5MDO, WB5FBS, K5CAV, KC5IHR, KD5SSQ, KD5SSR, KD5BPW, KD5BKU, W5PY, WB5CXJ, WD5DWP, WD5DWO, KD5PCM, KD5PCK, NF5B, KC0HZU, N5RLT, KD5PCJ, KD5NTP, KB5AVY, and WB5HVV. Without question, the attendance at the ARRL Forum at the Hammond Hamfest was the largest since I became SM almost three years ago! ARRL HQ has just received a new grant that will provide reimbursement funds for those League members who pass Levels II and III of the on-line emergency communications course. Together with existing grant money, any ARRL member can now be reimbursed after successfully completing any or all levels of the on-line emcomm course. Traffic totals: K5IQZ 149, K5MC 80, NF5B 57, W4DLZ 52, W5NK 39, N5KWB 29, KM5YL 24, K5DPG 17, W5PY 12. Public Service Honor Roll: K5MC 110, K5IQZ 100, K5DPG 97, W4DLZ 91, W5PY 82, WA5LQZ 80, W5NK 79, N5KWB 73, K5ER 71, AC5VN 42. Section net reports: sessions/QNI/QTC. LTN: 31/404/76. LCW: 31/165/61. 73, Mickey Cox K5MC LA Section Manager Email: k5mc@arrl.org LA Section Website: www.cox-internet.com/k5dpg

Great Lakes Division

Michigan

I recently came into possession of some old Section Manager files from years ago. It was fun reading through the old files and looking back at onion skin paper, and everything being typed on a typewriter with carbon paper. Every paper had to be taken to the post office and mailed. I can't even imagine what it was like to try to fill the position of a Section Manager back in the days of no Internet and no email. Reflecting back upon my first HT purchase of a Kenwood TH-214 back in 1985 (which I still own that brick and it still works!) I was reading through the ads for new radios and noticing how technology has changed over the years. We have radios today that are the size of credit cards and not much thicker, radios that have 4 bands in them that cost just a little more than an HT did years ago. To me it is still amazing how our technology has changed. Just recently my husband brought home a new gizmo from the local Radio Shack store. A tire pressure gauge that talks, and tells you the tire pressure. Now I am for technology and change but I have to wonder, if you need a talking tire gauge because you can't see the readout, what on earth are you doing driving a car? Speaking of technology and change here is a group that has truly launched a "revolution in amateur radio". Consider looking into High Speed Multimedia (HSMM)

Network, did you know most of the testing for this is being done right here in our section? Visit this new technology at <http://www.arrrl.net/hsmm> and learn more about it. For further information you can contact John Champa - K8OCL, ARRL Chairman, High Speed & Multimedia Working Group, john.champa@unisys.com. And speaking of change have you updated your club listing at the ARRL site? I received notification that off that site email is now kicking back due to address changes. Please be sure to take some time and update your club listing at the ARRL site <http://www.arrrl.org/FandES/field/club/clubsearch.phtml> and click on Michigan Clubs and check your listing. If the contact person or their email address needs to be changed please send an email to clubs@arrrl.org and advise them as to what needs to be changed. Don't forget to mark on your calendars October 31, November 1, 2003 for the Michigan State Convention being held in Holland Michigan. A Friday night banquet is to be held with some special awards to be handed out at the dinner. After the dinner stick around for the Wouff Hong! From what information I can gather we have not had a Wouff Hong in over 10 year! This is your opportunity to become a member of the Wouff Hong! Saturday offers a great swap with many forums such as the ARRL forum, ARES/RACES forum, NTS Forum, Clubs Forum, and much, much more! Details will be given as more things are finalized. And last but not least don't forget the 5th annual Michigan Outing to be held in Lupton Michigan. There is camping available, a lodge is available if you want to stay the weekend and aren't into camping. If you do nothing more come up on Saturday for the forums, campfire with entertainment, volleyball, many games are also planned for this year and many more activities. Make sure to bring the kids. Free Cowboy hat for the first 15 kids to arrive at the site. Speaking of cowboy hats this year the theme is the wild, Wild West. Prizes for best dressed, best campsite, etc. July 10,11,12,13. Don't forget the Sunday morning all you can eat pancake breakfast, served by your section staff! More to come on this next month for reservations. 73 Debbie Kirkbride
KA8YKK ARRL Michigan Section Manager

Hudson Division

Northern New Jersey

SM Bill Hudzik-W2UDT, ASM-K2WJ, ASM-N2WZB, STM-WB2FTX, ACC-N3RB, SEC-K2SO, OOC-K2ZD, PIO-WB2CRD, TC-NR2H webpage:www.hudson.arrrl.org/nnj This is the second month of the section news appearing on the ARRL web page. I hope that some of the "bugs" on updating have been removed by now. First off, I would like to announce the resignation of Ray Makul, K1XV as our State Government Liaison. After many months of building a new house and antenna farm Ray has finally moved to Vermont. Ray's service as SGL will be missed. Although I have only known him for the past two years his insight and expertise in State government was instrumental in getting our NJ License Plate Bill passed. Good Luck in the new QTH, Ray! I hope to have the position filled soon. New Officers for the Garden State ARA are: President-WA2FVL, V.P.-W2HH, Secretary-W2OD and Treasurer-W2XYZ. The club meets the first Wednesday of each month at the Bicentennial Hall in Fair Haven. The Metroplex Repeater has reorganized as the Metroplex Amateur Radio Club. Its officers for 2003 are: President-N2IMG and Directors-W2NAB, N2ROI, AB2BW, KB2VVO, KB2WEE, KB2VVP and WA2MWT. The club meets every Saturday at 1PM at the Red Oak Diner in Ft. Lee. It's 2 Meter repeater is 145.450mhz. - 600khz with a PL of 100.0 hz. Continuing with club updates, the Tri-County RA's officers for 2003 are: President-N2ZW, V.P.-N2PSU, Secretary-KY2MMM and Treasurer N2VEV. The TCRA runs a Sunday night Swap and Shop Net at 9:30PM on its W2LI repeater (147.255, +600hz, tone 141.3hz). Meetings are twice a month. The first Monday is at the Westfield YMCA in Westfield and the third Monday is at the Willow Grove Presbyterian Church in Scotch Plains. 2003 officers for the 10-70 Repeater Association are; President-KC2CJW, V.P.-KA2ANF, Secretary-WA2PFS and Treasurer-W2NLX. The New Providence ARC newsletter had an interesting article on using the International Space Station 2 meter setup as a digipeater KC2RLM and K2GLS explained how simple the link is to setup. Barry, K2JV had a nice front page photo in the weekly New Providence Independent Press of a Cub Scout Den he hosted at his station. This is a good example of positive PR for ham radio. We need to go the the local press with photos and short articles rather than wait for the media to come to us. Your Section Manager spoke to the Long Hill Township GOP Club about emergency communications and how NJ hams have supported their towns in times of disaster. The above are just two examples of how positive PR can educate the general public

about what amateur radio is and what we contribute to our communities. Our attempt to get A3065 passed into law will be made easier if we let non-hams know that ham radio is a beneficial service. Please use our section web page listed at the top to get links to the clubs highlighted this month as well as news on our quest to get A3065 passed into law. I am sad to announce another Silent Key from the NJDXA, Bob Greenquist-K2GHV. Bob was a friend who will be missed by many. 73, Bill Hudzik W2UDT

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 We're well into the new year and have hamfests, contests, picnics, info booths and public service events to look forward to. In the case of the PS events you can earn points toward Public Service Honor Roll. These are the stations that you see listed in the Public Service section of QST. Your report also appears here. There are several categories that you may receive points for. Look at the League website: www.arrl.org/FandES/field/pshr/ and go to the bottom of the page. You may also ask me for a copy. If you're participating in ARES or other PS nets and working walks and rides you may qualify. Give it a shot and let me know how you do. Bill Bidwell-W0ECD of Eldorado is now a Silent Key. Kansas has 2 new net control stations. Manager Mike-K0PY recently appointed WA0LYK-Jim and AB0WR-Tim as NCSs to QKS our CW traffic nets. Both live in Topeka and may be found on KS SSB Net also. Douglas County ARC has Technician classes beginning this month. I have appointed Steve Carriger-WA0VRS as EC for Shawnee & Wabaunsee Counties (A1). Please offer him your support. Johnson County ARES (A4) held their annual awards meeting in January. Many awards and certificates were handed out that night. This year the group gave the EC an award for all that she's done over the years. This left June-KB0WEQ speechless ! Not an easy feat. At a November banquet the Mid-America Multiple Sclerosis Chapter presented an award to the Kansas City area hams, through the KCMSS ARC. The plaque for Kansas City Branch Fundraising Volunteer of the Year was accepted by representatives Dick and Kay Carter, WB0IZY & WA5DYC respectively. Congratulations to all of the hams on both sides of the line that participated with the events. A new service now allows those who may be interested in taking an ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course to be advised via e-mail in advance of registration opportunities. Send an e-mail to prereg@arrl.org, and include the course name or number (eg, EC-00#) on the subject line as well as your name, call sign, email address, and the month you want to start the course in the body. December Nets/Sessions/QNI/QTC/Mgr: KSBN/31/1234/74/N0KFS KPN/22/303/33/N0KFS KMWN/31/646/517/WB0YWZ KWN/31/867/664/WB0YWZ CSTN/26/2442/98/AB5PA QKS/62/354/109/K0PY QKS-SS/10/37/15 KB0DTI. SEC: 55 sessions QNI 642 QTC messages 8, Ks participants KB0AMY N0BTH KC0CFL KC0CIG WD0DDG WD0DMV KC0GDV AA0IQ N0LKK WA0SRR K0UO. Joseph WD0DMV SEC. TEN: 62 sessions, QTC 350, Ks 90% with K0PY W0WWR NB0Z WB0ZNY KB0DTI Dave W0SS/Mgr. Traffic:W0WWR 931 K0PY 130 NB0Z 77 KB0DTI 47 W0OYH 15 N0RZ 15 AB0WR 7 WA0LYK 6 To receive Kansas Amateur Radio News E-mail News Letter contact Orlan-W0OYH See KSN on ARRL Website for detailed PSHR and more Kansas news.

Missouri

FEBRUARY SECTION NEWS SECTION APPOINTMENTS NEWS Patrick Boyle, KØJPB, will be taking on the responsibilities of Assistant Section Manager. Patrick lives in Springfield, MO. Patrick will be an excellent ARRL resource in the Southwest part of the Missouri Section. The MO Section is fortunate to have Patrick back in a Section Leadership position. Fred Langeneckert, the DEC for District C, has a new call sign. No longer will folks hearing the familiar WAØUS, but the new more streamlined WØUX. AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE PLATES Those Amateurs that would like to see Amateur Radio on the MO License plates in place of SHOW-ME-STATE, need to ask their legislators to support the bill sponsored by State Senator Kennedy. The website to read a summary of this bill is.... <http://www.house.state.mo.us/bills03/bills/sb089.htm> HAMFEST The Nevada Amateur

Radio Club Hamfest will be held Saturday March 1, 2003 in the Vernon County Community Center in Nevada, MO Tables are \$10.00 and can be reserved by sending a check to Danny Slater Rt 2 Box 319A Nevada, MO 64772 and tickets are 3/\$5.00 Contact Carl Pokorny 417-667-9554 mornings or e-mail k0cb@ipa.net or Dennis Kimrey at dkimrey@ipa.net CONVENTIONS It is not too early to be planning to attend the ARRL Midwest Division Convention in Lebanon, MO on May 2 & 3 ,2003. Their goal is to be "The Little Dayton-Just West of the Mississippi" and they have really made progress toward that goal. With Guest speakers like Riley Hollingsworth, of the FCC, Jim Haynie, W5JBP, ARRL President,& a host of other highly regarded leaders in various interest areas of Amateur Radio. Contact Bill Wheeler, K0DEW, 417-532-4642 or Mike Edwards, WB9M 417-532-9111 and check out their website <http://www.member.socket.net/~wb9m/Publish> ARES UPDATE Brian Nehl (K0EMT) of Moniteau County, has established a Missouri ARES webgroup/e-mail reflector. He invites all hams with an interest in emergency communications to sign up and participate. Check out this new way to communicate at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MO-ARES/> AFFILIATED CLUB NEWS The National Weather Service Radio Club in St. Louis has a new Club Call. If you were going to guess the best possible call for the club you probably would have chosen the one they did. WX0STL. The Boeing Employees Amateur Radio Society have re-elected Gary Meissner, W0GOM as their Pres. for 2003. Glen Gercken, N0PNQ, received the important United Nations Day Contest Award. The BEARS have a neat recruiting tool. They give a "Mug" with the club logo for anyone that has "Mugged" a new member. SECTION NET REPORTS MON - CW Sessions: 42 QNI: 85 QTC: 55 NM: K9ZTV MO Phone Sessions: 31 QNI: 631 QTC: 68 NM: K0DAT MESN Phone Sessions: 5 QNI: 219 QTC: 10 NM: N0XG MESN Digital Sessions: 5 QNI: 43 QTC: 2 NM: KB0EMB Audrain AARC: Sessions: 5 QNI: 51 QTC: 2 NM: WB0SEN Boone Co EN Sessions: 1 QNI: 9 QTC: 1 NM: K0YBN Hickory Co Sessions: 7 QNI: 63 QTC: 2 NM: KC0FDF Jackson Co Sessions: 5 QNI: 9 QTC: 0 NM: K0UAA Rolla RRARS Sessions: 31 QNI: 512 QTC: 7 NM: NA0V Sedalia-Pettis Co: Sessions: 4 QNI: 49 QTC: 0 NM: N0XG Sullivan ARC Sessions: 4 QNI: 39 QTC: 1 NM: KB0ROX Vernon Co ARES Sessions: 2 QNI: 12 QTC: 0 NM: W0HL WAARCI Sessions: 4 QNI: 115 QTC: 0 NM: N0VCD 10th Reg. Sessions 62 QNI: MO 45% QTC: 307 NM: W0SS Notes: With W2RRX, K9ZTV, W0FE

New England Division

Connecticut

SM K1EIC: Assistants: K1STM, NK1J, KZ1Z, W1FAI, KY1F; BM KD1YV; OOC W1GC; PIC W1FXQ; SEC W1AGP; SGL W1UTQ; STM K1HEJ; TC N1KHB. The big news at this writing is the new \$150,000 UTC grant awarded to ARRL which will allow operators in the U.S. to take the Level I, II or III ecomm course! This achievement is a direct result of the work of many of us in Connecticut with the previous UTC grant for Level I training. We met the challenge! We are all grateful to UTC for this wonderful opportunity. The District Emergency Coordinators met with Allen Pitts, our SEC recently. The full text of the minutes of that meeting are on the CT Page of the ARRL Web site and at <http://www.ctares.org>. Here are some highlights. Mobile teams of operators willing to go to other areas of the Section in a disaster are being organized by DEC's. These teams will work and train together and will be ready to assist when called upon. There is a real need to know what resources we have available in ARES. Therefore, every operator who is interested in being a member will need to update their information annually. This form can be submitted any time during the year to your DEC and is available at <http://www.ctares.org>, or in hardcopy on request. Active members will need to list some training activity, ARES drill, public service event or regular NTS involvement and have the form signed either by the EC, DEC, STM or assistant STM. Please see the Minutes for full details or write me for a hardcopy or email copy--k1eic@arrl.org. The attendees asked the SEC to award certificates of commendation to the following people who have done exemplary work for CT Ares in the past year. K1XS, KZ1Z, K1PAI, KB1AEV, K1DAV, N1QHQ, K3UFG, WB1COB, KC2HUV, K2CSS, N2ZKX, and K2YS. There will be an ARES membership meeting at the Southington Ham Fest, Southington High School on Sunday, April 6. By then, perhaps we will hear about the party being planned by "the three Dave's": N1YVV, K1DAV and WB1COB! In other news, there is a proposal on the table for a CT Council of Clubs which might serve to facilitate exchanging information among clubs and as a

forum for discussing issues that relate to all clubs such as membership recruitment. More details will follow to your club president by email so please watch for it and give us your feedback. Don't forget to update your club annual report on the ARRL Web Page. Many club email addresses are out-of-date so please check your club record--thanks. The Eastern CT ARA will hold its ham fest on March 15 at Public School at Routes 101 and 169 in Pomfret. Come on out and support their effort. For further information, contact Paul KE1LI. The Newington Amateur Radio League is again working on an exhibit for the CPTV Science Fair to be held early in April. Contact president Steve, W1UTQ w1utq@arrl.net if you are interested in helping out. Our new Technical Coordinator Joe, N1KHB has appointed four new technical specialists: Dave, N1OFJ, Dana, KB1AEV, Eugene, KA1RJQ and Mike, W1JQ. Congrats to you all and welcome aboard!

Eastern Massachusetts

As I prepare this text, Eastern Massachusetts and much of New England is reeling from the "Blizzard of '03." The storm dumped 27.5 inches of snow at Boston's Logan Airport. Numerous towns and cities cancelled classes, and government workers were told to stay at home. The state's Emergency Operations Center, known as the "Bunker" was activated and staffed by various agencies, including representatives from RACES and ARES. Many ARES teams were on stand-by, monitoring their local repeaters and bracing for action. SKYWARN spotters continuously radioed in snowfall amounts to the National Weather Service station, WX1BOX in Taunton. Kudos to the dedicated men and women who volunteered their time to assist with what was nearly a state-declared emergency. Speaking of ARES, there have been several staffing changes. Steven Telsey, N1BDA has been appointed as the District Emergency Coordinator (DEC) of the Middlesex District. He replaces Ed Burg, N1VSJ, who has been reassigned as DEC for Emergency Operations. Bill Ricker, N1VUX, stepped down as DEC of Metro Boston District after many years of dedicated service. The Metro DEC position has been picked up by Mark Duff, KB1EKN. And there have been several new Emergency Coordinator appointments in recent weeks. Read all this and more on the new EMA ARES web site at: <http://ares.ema.arrl.org>. Before we leave the subject of ARES and emergency communications, I commend Mike Neilsen, W1MPN and his dedicated staff for planning and executing an additional Simulated Emergency Test on February 8. Approximately twelve different "teams" across the section set up for the event. Players from Western MA and Rhode Island were also heard from. I noted high praise from one team leader, who commented, "If we could just have another [exercise] like this one--no changes. I want to try it again and see if we can do some things better." Practice does, indeed, make perfect. On the club speaking circuit: Mike Goldberg, K1LJN, the EMA Official Observer Coordinator, has been making the rounds of several ARRL affiliated clubs presenting on the Official Observer/Amateur Auxiliary program. If your club has ever thought about forming an Interference Committee, then this talk is for you! Contact Mike at: k1ljn@arrl.net. And speaking of club speakers, I am also available to visit your club and speak about the ARRL ("It's More Than a Magazine!") and also about Handihams. The Council of Eastern MA Amateur Radio Clubs under the leadership of Affiliated Club Coordinator Frank Murphy, N1DHW sponsored a table/exhibit at the recent Algonquin Amateur Radio Club flea market in Marlborough. The Algonquin folks put on another great flea, as always. And CEMARC displayed its snazzy new banner! N1DHW asks: "What happened to all those club members that said a Youth Net would be a great thing for the Section? Has everyone gone to sleep with the cold weather? [...] If each club were to go after just two young people, times 40 clubs in the section, it would be a great net." The Southeast MA Amateur Radio Association (SEMARA) of South Dartmouth has stepped forward and offered to host a Chicken BBQ for the Youth Net's young members and their families on Saturday, June 21 at their club site. See <http://ema.arrl.org> for upcoming details. On behalf of my staff, I wish to express sincere thanks to Ed Hennessy, N1PBA, who is stepping down as Public Information Coordinator at the end of the month. Ed and I go back many years to the time that he served faithfully as chair of the Boston ARC's PR committee when I was president. I'll miss Ed's counsel. 73 de K9HI. Visit <http://ema.arrl.org> for the latest section news and information.

Maine

Please excuse my absence on maintaining this column. Back in early October, I came down with a case of the

shingles, that manifested itself in my eye. Fortunately, my eyesight has been spared, and I am now up and running again, albeit the after effects will continue to linger for many months. Amateur Radio in this state is in excellent shape, thanks to all the hard-working clubs, such as the Portland Wireless Association, which is working with 27 Sea Cadets to get their Amateur ticket, and learning Morse code as well. The Ellsworth Hams are having a radio symposium at which Gov. John Baldacci will be in attendance. Other clubs like the Augusta ARC help support the Childrens Science Center, and the Androscoggin ARC will be working with Poland Regional HS electronic program. I know there are many other clubs doing similar activities, so please keep me informed, so I can help spread the word. The Maine State Convention will be on March 28 & 29 at the same location, the Ramada Inn and Conference Center, 490 Pleasant St., Lewiston. Special room rates are available for the event; be sure to mention the radio convention, in order to receive the special rate. For reservations, call 207-784-2331. Looking forward to seeing everyone who can make it. 73, Bill, N1KAT

Rhode Island

Greetings Fellow Rhode Islanders: The Groundhog saw his shadow, six more weeks of winter! Then, to prove it Mother Nature dumped a fresh blanket of snow on us. Well, it sure looks pretty for a little while. During all this I hear of fellow Rhode Islanders bagging some good DX, congrats! BVARC had their installation Banquet, congratulation to the elected officers and good luck in your term. They had a fantastic speaker for the evening, Frank Lennon, who is the Director for the USS Saratoga Foundation and Museum. He talked about his groups efforts to get the Sara to a permanent berth at Quonset Point, be able to tie in with the air museum, as well as incorporating the Russian Juliet Sub. Great program guys! PVARC is actively working on building their new club station, keep up the good work. The last Weds of this month they will host visit from SM and ASM/ACC. Fidelity is also hard at work on the SATERN station. Great project ! We also had the honor and privelege to award a 60 year plaque to Everett, W1LX. Mike Raisbeck, K1TWF The New England Vice Director was on hand as well. W1AQ is 75 years old this year, keep tuned for special events. OSARG Congrats newsletter is really looking great! Kudos to editor Ray N1VDF. PRA! Wow, played host to Princess Marconi on the anniversary of the first trans-Atlantic message. You throw a heck of a party NCRC, Had Lt Col. Bryan Cooper CAP speak on emergency communications and how the various agencies inter-relate. CTRI continues to dominate in the contests, keep up the good work. 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, wa1ri@arrl.net receives updated information of your new officers as well as for my club president's e mail list. Tfc: N1YKH 39

Vermont

Warm February Greetings To My Ham Radio Friends: THE MILTON HAMFEST AND VERMONT STATE CONVENTION IS FEBRUARY 22 The Milton Hamfest will be Saturday, February 22nd, from 8am until 1pm at Milton High School, Route 7 Milton. This is also the ARRL Vermont Station Convention. Milton is 500+ hams and teckkie types and thousands of square feet of hamfest goodies for sale. Milton is a wonderful educational experience as well. This year's special guest is Ed Hare W1RFI of the ARRL Technical Staff. His 11:00 RFI Forum is on "Interference to Hams", where he will talk about tracking down and resolving the various form of interference hams have to suffer with from computers, fax machines, modems, power lines etc. At the 9:30 Antenna Building Forum, he will build a 2-meter yagi out of pieces of copper plumbing. The QRP Forum will feature special guest Dave Bentsen of Small Wonder Labs, a manufacturer of QRP equipment. The Microwave Forum will feature, "How to Get on 10 GHZ Without Breaking the Bank." The Vintage Radio Forum will be at Noon (held later to allow for your shopping pleasure) and will feature the discussion, "High Voltage Power Supplies." The Contest Forum and YCCC meeting will present talks on building a contest station on a budget and on RTTY Contesting. The ARRL Forum, headed up by Vice Director Mike Raisbeck K1TWF and yours truly, will offer information and discussion on amateur radio and the ARRL. The Volunteer Exam Session at Milton will be at 9AM and 1PM. ARRL QSL Card checking for DXCC, WAS and VUCC will be available. Instead of mailing

hundreds of cards to the ARRL, you can bring them to Milton and have them checked locally. BUT, you must READ the RULES at the ARRL Web for the conditions of Field Checking and provide the proper paperwork. For all details on the Milton Hamfest, go to: www.ranv.org/milton.html or contact Mitch Stern W1SJ: w1sj@arrl.net

WA1ZMS: Vermont's own Brian Justin has broken another 145 GHz DX record. Working in the Lynchburg, Virginia area, Brian along with three other Hams spanned a nearly 80 KM path to set the new world DX record. Congratulations to Brian and his friends!

HAMS COVER DOG SLED RACE: On January 25, 2003, a small group of Burlington area Hams provided communication coverage for an annual dog sled race in chilly Craftsbury, VT. Thanks to W1CX, WJ1Z, N1PEA, N1UIG, N1MR, W1MP, & K1LI for providing coverage over the 60 mile course. At one point Brian K1LI soldered a break in an important antenna connection. Good work folks!

COMMUNICATIONS EXERCISE: On February 15, 2003, ARES volunteers in VT & NH tested radios at several Red Cross locations to make sure that the different chapters would be able to communicate with each other if called upon to do so. Both Ham and Red Cross frequencies were used. I was an observer at the Northern Vermont Chapter in Burlington. Communication with the chapters was achieved, and the exercise was deemed a success. Of course, meticulous notes were taken to make improvements. Extra check-ins from around the area were also a welcome surprise.

JANUARY TRAFFIC REPORT Submitted by STM Bert Morton W1FDU

NAME/SESSIONS/QNI/QTC/MINS/MGR VT YL NET 4/40/0/110 KA1LDS VPEN 4/24/0/242 KC1YW GMN 27/857/21/2371/ N1HXC VTNH 30/130/65/355 WA1JVV VTPTN 31/496/33/1462 CVTN 25/141/1 3/272

AA1PR

Western Massachusetts

WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS: SM: William C. Voedisch, W1UD, w1ud@juno.com - ASM: N1MAP, ASM (digital) KD1SM, STM: NZ1D, SEC: K1VSG, OOC: N1FL- Yes, I did get some 'flack' about the tone access on repeaters. Not as much as I thought I would. I had hoped that someone would come up with a plan to eliminate the tone but apparently the technical geniuses haven't devised a method yet. God help us if we ever forget the repeater manual and have to move into an area during an emergency or the tones inadvertently get changed before a disaster. Some of the clubs have tasked a liaison station to represent their organization during the Sunday morning ARES net. It may seem trivial but it is the only way we are going to pass emergency traffic during a statewide emergency. Maybe in the distant future the Mt. Greylock, Mt. Tom and the CMARA repeaters might be capable of linking during an emergency. That would provide 2 meter coverage for most of Western Mass. I'm an eternal optimist. Our New England Director, Tom Frenaye, K1KI, had a meeting of club officers and support people. I was not able to attend because of work commitments. Pat Peitrowsky, N1LZH, took the following notes. "There were many interesting topics brought up: Some stats he shared with us. Nationwide the ham community grew by about 2000. We have 36,542 in New England-down by 15 from last year. In the 90's we were growing by 4, 5, 6000 a year. The league has 156,815 members-down 4000. Only 1 out of 4 hams are League members. ARRL has been studying ways to get more new hams to join. An upcoming ARRL Board of Directors meeting in Newington will discuss whether it is worth spending money to fight for spectrum on the 5 GHZ band because of the low use. The FCC has changed its outlook regarding use of spectrum by unlicensed devices. With limited funds it would be impossible to fight off the manufacturers of these devices. Mary Hobart, K1MMH, attended the meeting. She was hired by the League as Chief Development Officer. She does fund raising, grant searching and looks for ways to raise funds for the league. I'm sure she was influential in securing the EMCOMM grant. She explained to the attendees the league's big project that is underway. It is a program for schools to be funded for ham radio classes. ARRL gives money and a nearby club gives some also. There are two schools selected. One in Worcester, MA and the other in Orono, ME. That concept sounds interesting. Any way we can get young blood into our hobby will be a great help.- Charlie, WN1E, has gotten rid of the call sign that nobody could get correct and applied and received KT1I. Only time will tell if the new one works. - Jerry, AA2T, reported that the Leominster Emergency Management was issued 800 MHz handheld radios from MEMA. A small diesel bus was also procured. Maybe with a little persuasion and work it could turn into a communications van? - Dan Henderson, ARRL Contest Branch Manager was the guest speaker at HCRA during the January meeting. Some of the subjects he covered was contesting, cabrillo format, and contest rules. Reports from the HCRA newsletter was that everyone enjoyed his well presented and informative presentation. - Jim, KK1W, is to be congratulated for a 365k plus score in the 10M

contest. Great job Jim! The HCRA combined club score was better than 894K. Not too shabby!! - Richard, KD1XP, has a SSTV net going every Tuesday night at 7:30 PM on the Amherst repeater (145.130-pl 123.0). For more info go to their web site at www.kd1xp.org. - I would like to get club newsletters. If your club publishes a newsletter send it to me via E-mail either as a letter or an attachment. Articles that may not seem newsworthy to you, are to other people in the section. Don't send it to me by mail because that is too costly. I have all the facilities to transpose the articles that will be put in the section news. MTRA has a new state of officers for the coming year: President: Paul Loiero, N1FI, Vice President: Peter Ouellette, N1AGV, Secretary: Joe Boucher, KD1YD, Treasurer: Cindy Loiero, K1ISS, Emergency Coordinator: Ray Lendzioszek, N1RLX, Activities Director:, Kathy Smith, Membership Director: Lynda Carroll, N1DOO, Publicity Director: George Bergeron, N1JSK, Intermod Editor: Paul Loiero, N1FI (Temporary). I want to wish all of them well with their upcoming endeavors. 73 Bill W1UD

Northwestern Division

Eastern Washington

SB 5200 -- Amateur Radio Antennas --- On 17 Jan. 2003 at the WA State Senate Committee on Government Operations and Elections hearing session in Olympia, Senator Pam Roach introduced SB 5200. The bill would prohibit local government from restricting Amateur Radio antennas less than 70 feet. The only listed testimony for this bill was from Sophia Byrd representing the Association of Counties. Ms. Byrd voiced concern that the bill would remove some of the authority of the local land use boards who have historically controlled issues such as towers. Committee members posed questions that Ms. Byrd did not have the answers for and Ed Bruette, N7NVP was invited to respond. N7NVP discussed the benefits of having antennas as high as possible for; RF safety and effective line of sight communications. Also discussed were the operating conditions during major disasters i.e. EmComm organizations plan for the loss of their repeater(s) and rely on simplex paths to pass information. No other testimony was given. This was the just the first round. More hearings will be held on this bill. The Assoc. of Counties may develop a more definitive stand against the bill and we have not heard from the Assoc. of Cities yet. They are the ones who killed a similar bill 2 years ago. There is no corresponding bill in the House yet. As a side note; The committee Chair, Senator Pam Roach is studying for her Amateur Radio license. Senator Jan Stevens used to live in Alaska and is familiar with the service provided by Amateur Radio operators. If this bill is going to pass we will need a lot of support from the entire Ham community in WA. Since the bill has a number it is appropriate to write your Senator asking them to support this bill. N7NVP may be contacted at n7nvp@arrl.net Antenna bill Senate Committee on Government Operations and Elections Amateur Radio antenna height SB 5200 <http://www.leg.wa.gov/wsladm/billinfo/dspBillSummary.cfm?billnumber=5200> State Legislature link - Links to email lists, Legislative District finder, etc. <http://www.leg.wa.gov/wsladm/default.htm>

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The EWA Section Manager was in Yuma AZ from January 1 until Feb 10, 2003. This website is being up-dated at this time.

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SILENT KEYS: GREG MASON, KA7ZYQ, of Spokane became a Silent Key on Jan. 5th. Greg was actively involved on local VHF nets and public service events. He always volunteered his services for the Lilac Parade and Bloomsday run and other events. EARL HAWLEY, W7LBK, of Spokane became a Silent Key on January 7th. Earl was a ham for over 50 years and was active in MARS, and held an Official Relay Station position in the EWA Field Organization. He retired from the military in 1971 with the rank of Major, and worked for 30 years as a chemical analyst for Cenex. FLOYD LEHMAN, W7FDL, of Coeur d' Alene Idaho became a Silent Key on January 19th. He was a Pastor and was known by many hams in the Spokane/Coeur d' Alene area.

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Cheney High graduate Michael P. Anderson (Lieutenant Colonel, USAF), class of 1977 was a member of the flight crew of the spaceship Columbia.

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Official Observer Reports for December, 2002, and January, 2003: December there were 673 hours monitored, and for January there were 546 hours monitored.

Montana

Greetings, Sorry for the delay in getting the January Summary submitted. I had to overcome a hard drive crash and renew my programs. The most exciting event for January was the Sacajawea Middle School in Bozeman making contact with the International Space Station. They had an excellent contact and the students were able to confer with the astronauts and ask many questions. A job well done. Congratulations to Mark Ihde KB7SFA of Billings and Jim Cummins N7YO of Great Falls for their selection as Ham Of The Year by their local clubs.
Net/QNI/QTC/NM MSN 169 K7YD, MTN 2682/51 KD7HWV, IMN 677/130 W6ZOH

Oregon

February '03 SECTION NEWS Oregon - SM: Marshall Johnson, Sr., KK7CW, ASM/Administrative: WA7VTD, ASM/Training: KL7OR, ASM/Convention: W7WZ, ACC: K7SQ, OOC: AB7OC, PIC: W6ABM, SEC: KK7TT, STM/BM: W7IZ. January 18, 2003 the Executive Cabinet of the Oregon Field Organization met in Albany for a day long planning session. Cabinet members discussed the organization of the section, the vision and goals for the ARRL in Oregon and of course a brief talk about the budget. An extensive presentation by Wayne Jack-KK7TT of the changes going on in ARES statewide including the outcome of a DEC meeting in Sisters. Wayne has also taken on the task of gathering the human resources necessary to evaluate the digital network system in Oregon as it relates to ARES/RACES. Wayne is planning a statewide test of the ARES call out system sometime in the future. Now would be a good time to get with your local EC and get ready. Dean Davis-KL7OR has offered his services to develop an Oregon Section web page. He hopes to publish it soon. Dean is the ASM in charge of communications training coordination in Oregon. To that end, the ARRL is calling for local hams to become better trained in emergency communications and become Official Emergency Stations (OES). Training, membership growth, the handling of Section Alerts and Bulletins, Quake Ex '03, the Official Observer and Technical Specialist programs and a summer state convention were also given discussion time. All of these areas are in the hands of cabinet members currently for their development. Everett Curry-W6ABM, the Public Information Coordinator, is asking any and all amateur radio groups and clubs to submit their newsletters to him, "w6abm@arrrl.net" for inclusion in "Section News". Mike Callif-AB7OC is recruiting Official Observers for Western Oregon, specifically along the Oregon Coast and the Mid-Willamette Valley. Also, the Oregon Section is in need of a Technical Coordinator to manage the Technical Specialist program. The McMinnville Amateur Radio Club has changed their meetings to the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM at the McMinnville Manor Mobile Park Recreation Center. The Mike and Key ARC host their 22nd annual Electronics Show and Fleamarket, March 8th, 9:00 AM at the Western Washington Fairgrounds in Puyallup, Wa. The Northwest Division Convention, SeaPac, is scheduled for June 13-15 in Seaside, Oregon. Plans are already underway for Field Day 2003, June 28 & 29. Some significant changes have occurred in the rules for this year including the new "F" category for EOC's. A brand new Field Day packet is available on the ARRL web site. Amateur radio in Oregon is assisting in a extending test of the statewide emergency response system April 2 and 3 and also the following week. Hams are encouraged to participate by contacting their local EC's or Emergency Manager. 73 de KK7CW DECEMBER TRAFFIC REPORT Net Activity QNI/QTC: NW Traffic & Training 458/134, Or. Section #1 202/60, Or. Section #2 115/81, Beaver State 757/60, Or. ARES Traffic 671/112, Dist-1 ARES 1437/42, Dist-4 ARES 851/37. Public Service Honor Roll-Dec. '02: KK1A 120, N7YSS 110, AC7DD 100, W7VSE 95, KC7SGM 90. 73 de W7IZ

Western Washington

WWA January 2003 Section News Summary Legislative Report: SB 5200 is an antenna bill that has been introduced to the WA Senate. This bill seeks to prohibit local governments from restricting antenna heights to less than 70 ft. The bill is still in committee and is being opposed by the Association of WA Cities. The stated reason

they are opposed to the bill is “It restricts local authority to regulate radio antennas, beyond the existing federal preemption.” What you can do. Write to your legislators and encourage their support of the bill. Contact your emergency managers and other local officials to influence the Association of WA Cities to reverse their stand on the bill. A sample letter is available from Harry W7JWJ (w7jwj@arrl.org) and Ed N7NVP (n7nvp@arrl.net). We are both good in the call book in case you don’t have email. District 5 Cowlitz Co., DEC/EC Randy Greeley NU7D Email: nu7d@pacifier.com January 21, 22 & 25 Randy NU7D, Butch KD7DCM and Al WA7UQE assisted with communications for a drowning. A family of 5 was on an outing in their boat when all went overboard. The only person not rescued was the father. Clark Co., EC Bob Goodale, K7YFJ Email: rwgoodale@attbi.com On Monday, January 20th 47 members of the ARES/RACES group met. Howard Foreman, KC7IZH, Chief Engineer on a large ocean going container ship told of some of his experiences on board ship. He provided some useful HAZMAT info, general safety procedures, proper stowage at sea and its pertinence to properly stowed and secured radio in mobile installations and even in a home shack. On Friday, January 31, the ARES/RACES group activated because of local flooding. Glen, W7GHQ acted as net control contacting available operators. AEC John, KB7FND opened the ECC station at 1:30 PM with 2 operators and three observers in the field monitoring the Washougal River at three different locations. At 8:00 PM AEC, Mark, KG7CX took over at the ECC with one operator and three new observers in the field. They were released at 11:15 PM when the danger of flooding had decreased. SEC Comments Ed Bruette N7NVP Email: n7nvp@arrl.net 29 January marked the end of my tenure as SEC. During the past 5 years we have come a long way. We realigned the ARES Districts to conform to the boundaries of the State’s RACES Regions, got the DEC’s recognized in the State RACES Plan and replaced the State message form with the ARRL message form. We responded to the Nisqually Quake and sent several teams of volunteers to Eastern WA to augment the fire fighting effort in the Chelan area. SAR missions and flooding responses would have been much more difficult without our participation. Please know that my “Thank you!” for your service comes from the heart. I am very pleased to announce Jim Pace K7CEX (k7cex@arrl.net) has been appointed as my successor. Jim has extensive experience in emergency communications including a highly successful tour as the District 4 DEC. Please welcome and support K7CEX as he leads us into a future fraught with uncertainty. STM Report Pati Urie W7ZIW Email: w7ziw@arrl.net QNIs: NOONTIME 9951, WARTS 3698, CCAIN 139, WSN 922, WCN 238, NWSSB 723, and PSTS 30. Individual traffic totals: N7AJ 121, K7BDU 7768, W7DPW 22, W7LG 474, W7QM 474, KJ7SI 25, W7TVA 492, N7YSS 91, W7ZIW 61. Public Service Honor Roll: W7ARC 140, W7DPW 72, W7LG 100, W7QM 110, KJ7SI 95, W7TVA 415, W7ZIW 110 Official Observer Report John Burk W7BO Email: w7bo@adelphia.net HOURS MONITORED: W7BO 78, W7CSX 7, KK7JA 8, W7POE 20, N7QHC 15, KG7U 9, W7XC 4, W7DO No report. Due to family considerations W7CSX has resigned his OO position.

Pacific Division

Nevada

Hello Everyone! My first month as Section Manager has been busy, but before anything else I need to thank Jan Welsh NK7N . Jan took over the job of Section Manager under the worst of circumstances. When Section Manager Bob Davis K7IY became a Silent Key three years ago, Jan was asked by Rosalie White K1STO , ARRL Field and Education Support Manger, to serve the remainder of Bob's term. For the next three years Jan traveled all over the state representing the ARRL and making friends wherever she went. She also made some tough policy decisions that strengthened the section field organization. She was forced to step down for medical reasons, but she says her time as Section Manager was the most rewarding of her amateur career. Thank You, Jan. You have set a very high standard for me to follow. The month started early with Melissa and me driving to Elko on the 4th for the monthly meeting of the Elko Amateur Radio Club (EARC) where we met their new slate of officers. It was good to meet President Steve Guitar KC7YNS and the rest of his team. We also had a great time joining the EARC group for both breakfast before and dinner after the meeting. They are really a fun group of people! On the 20th we participated in the monthly training meeting of the Douglas County Amateur Radio Team (DCART) where they had a big crowd and great presentations by Roger Lamoni of the National Weather Service and Jim Utterback of

the American Red Cross. On the 25th I was able to attend two meetings. In the morning I made the Northern Nevada Amateur Radio Services (NNARS) meeting in Reno where Paul Cavnar NN7B was elected Chairman for the new year. That afternoon I attended the Reno Area Metro Simplex (RAMS) meeting where plans were being made for their annual Spring Ham Swap scheduled for May 10th. Finally, on the 30th I was pleased to attend a presentation by Bruce Wade N7ZA where he described the three weeks he spent in Guam for the American Red Cross. The pictures he showed of the effects of Super Typhoon Pongsona kept everyone's attention riveted on the screen. My thanks to the University of Nevada Reno (UNR) for hosting the presentation and for asking me to address the group following Bruce. It's not easy following a Super Typhoon! It was also a busy month for section appointments. Last Fall Official Observer Coordinator Steve Lybarger NU7T notified Jan Welsh that he would be stepping down at the end of the year. It was one of my first official duties to appoint Steve's own recommended successor, Tim Hunt WA6TNW, to take over for him. Tim is well respected and I am sure he will do a great job. It has been known for some time that Jim Frye NW7O will be moving from Las Vegas to Montana this Spring and when he does he will leave a tremendous void in the Section leadership. When Jim leaves Nevada he will also be leaving appointments as Technical Specialist, Technical Coordinator, Official Observer and DXCC, WAS and VUCC field card checkers. With Jim's help we have arranged to fill most of these appointments: Official Observer, Jim Tully N7ENB Technical Coordinator, Kent Johnson W7AOR DXCC and WAS Field Card Checker, Hal Waite K3AB VUCC Field Card Checker, Al Olcott K7ICW I am also pleased to announce that we have a new WAS and VUCC field card checker in Eastern Nevada. Dave Hough W7GK was appointed HF and VHF Awards Manager by the Elko Amateur Radio Club and he will be able to check cards for all WAS and VUCC awards. Please join me in thanking Dave for bringing this popular service to Eastern Nevada. 73, Dick Flanagan W6OLD NV SM Newsletters: CVRC, EARC, NRAC, RARA, SIERA, SNARS Traffic Totals: W7TC 119, W7VPK 58, N7CPP 33, K7NHP 16, NV7YL 4 Public Service Honor Role: W7TC 89

Sacramento Valley

SACRAMENTO VALLEY: SM, Jettie Hill, W6RFF. Most clubs started out the New Year with new officers. Now is the time to give them some help. Be a Volunteer. I am receiving a few club Newsletters but I would like to hear from all the clubs. If your club's newsletter is on your web page, send me an email with the URL. Now is the time for clubs to renew the club's affiliation with the ARRL. This can be done, easily, on the internet. www.arrl.org
SECTION NETS: Beginning on February 12, there will be a Section Net on VHF, 146.085+ MHz, PL 127.3 Hz., at 7 PM on the Yuba Sutter ARC repeater. At 7:30 PM there will be a HF net on 3987 KHz. These nets will be held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. There will be check-ins, from appointees, members and visitors, latest information and questions, Comments, etc. **HAMFEST:** The North Hills ARC will hold their hamfest this year on Sunday May 18 in Fair Oaks, at the High School on Madison Ave. More information later. **EMCOMM:** This years EMMCOMM Special Convention will be held in Reno, NV, on May 31. It is sponsored by the Northern Nevada Amateur Radio Services and NV ARRL section. Information and registration can be found at www.cvrc.net/emcommwest/. Pre-registration is \$10, at the door \$15. **BRING A FRIEND:** On April 15th North Hills ARC will hold a "Bring a Friend" meeting. There will be demonstration tables and talks on different phases of amateur radio as well as an ARRL table. This should be an interesting way to show what ham radio is and what it can do and to inform the general public. **MEETINGS:** I attended meetings of the Yuba-Sutter ARC and North Hills ARC in January. In February, I plan on visiting River City ARCS and the Old Timers/QWCA breakfast meeting. March will see me at Mother Lode DXCC and the Amador County RC annual dinner. **MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION:** Mother Lode DXCC will see a slide presentation of Ken, K6TA and Kay, K6KO's operation in Aruba during December. They operated during the ARRL 160 and 10 meter contests. Tahoe ARA web page now carries the SV Section report, thanks to Paul WA6EWV, President of TARA. TARA participated in the annual California State Emergency Hospital Drill at Barton Memorial Hospital. They used FRS radios between the hospital and their communication van, and then 2 meters to Marshal Hospital in Placerville. Their member NX6W moved to Washington State. Sierra Foothills ARC issues a CD with an accumulation of information from their club bulletins for 2000-2002, Thanks to Editor, Fred K6DGW. For more information on SFARC see www.sf-arc.org, thanks to KG6NYD Jerry Boyd, KW7J (ex K6BZ and former SM) spoke to the ARC of Anderson on DX and contesting. Jerry has been very active in DX and contests as well as being an expert in Emergency

communications. I am scheduled to speak to the ARCA in May. ARCA held a T-Hunt with N6RZR leading the pack. John, WA6OZZ, was their "Ham of the Month". Your SM spoke to the Yuba Sutter RC on ideas to increase club membership and meeting attendance. They are making plans to provide communications for the annual "Bike Around the Buttes, which will be held in April. Their ARES group met to prepare for a simulated emergency test. Members are converting their equipment to use Anderson Power Pole connectors so that equipment will be interchangeable. The group also published the "Yuba Sutter Amateur Radio Emergency Services Operational Manual - 19 pages of information! YSARC member, Ron K6KJ, has offered to teach an Extra upgrade class. MLDXCC Nugget profiled member Jim, WX6V. Jim is an avid contester. Member, Rick, W6SR lost an antenna rotor during heavy winds, but ran into problems in replacing it in the tower, with a larger rotator. New MLDXCC member is George, WL7NN. Interesting article in the NHRC's "On Frequency" about a Historical Electronic Museum, near Baltimore, Md, by member Carl, WF6J. Keep the Newsletters, Cards, Letters, email coming with up-to-date information. You could see your name and call here!! 73, Jettie, W6RFF

San Francisco

Rest in peace crew of Columbia. It is sad to report that Jim Maxwell, W6CF, Pacific Division Director, passed away 7 February unexpectedly. Jim will be missed by many throughout the section as well as through out the radio world. He was always ready to lend a helping hand and was very concerned with the state of amateur radio. He was also well know as a collector of radio information. 73 Jim, you will be missed by many. A beautiful quilt will be up for grabs at the Northern California DX group convention this spring. Get out and support the group in your area. It is many of these "DXer's" that are the back bone of HF emergency cw traffic. My thanks to all of you. See some of you at REDXA. The Valley of the Moon Radio Club of Sonoma is having a hamfest on April 26, 2003. It will be held from 8 am to noon at the Veteran's Memorial Building, 126 First Street West, Sonoma. This is a fine hamfest and will have a swapmeet, breakfast VE exam and demonstrations on QRP, AMSAT, homebrew equipment, and a beginners transmitter hunt. Talk in will be on 145.35, minus, with a PL of 88.5. Come and enjoy. An emergency net is run every Tuesday evening on 3915 kcs. This covers the section and every one is invited to participate. This is also the area emergency frequency for night time use, while 7245 kcs is the daytime frequency. Come and give it a try. The West Marin Amateur Radio Club at Pt. Reyes now has it regular meetings on the first Tuesday of the month. Breakfast meetings are also held. It is interesting to note that in my travels many of the clubs have a regular day for coffee or beakfasts or for a lunch. These are usually on a weekly basis and are in addition to the regular monthly club meetings. Check the local repeater of the area you are in. The San Francisco Section Convention is on track for late June. More information will be coming in the next couple of months. It is a real fun time and a good way to see 400 plus of the area hams, as well as visit the beautiful "Lost Coast" of California. I have also been notified that the Humboldt Amateur Radio Club is now working on their second emergency comm van. This will be placed in the northern part of the county, I understand. To have a club with two emergency vans is really super. Congratulations!! The EMCOMMWEST meeting will be held in Reno Nevada this year on May 31. This is a priemeir event about emergency communications. There is a website out now. Please check it for additional information. For learning about emergency communications, how somethings are set up in vehicles, and for many good semenairs, this is the place to go. Those of you that are in the NTS system, please let me know. It seems that there is more of a push to get more of you involved or help others get involved. It is also suggested that as many of you that can any where in the section, take the Emergency Communications Level I course. It really is a good thing and is being found to be exceptionally valuable in emergency work. Not much has been heard from the rest of the section. Please send your information to me. Now for the last, it is my honor to say that the Del Norte Amateur Radio Club was the outstanding club this year. This action is based on their public service events, and their work in the Bisquit fire. Besides doing public service and training, during the Bisquit fire they were active for over two weeks, set radios and telephones for other outside agencies that did not know how to, ran daily information nets as well as emergency nets, and gave traing courses to other agencies personnel. Congratulations to all of you way up north.

San Joaquin Valley

Report for the Month of January 2003 SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY: SM Charles McConnell, W6DPD- ASM K6YK, ACC W6DPD, SEC K6IN, OOC N1VM, STM K6RAU, PIC W7WN, TC W6TE. Affiliated Clubs are reminded to update your information on the ARRL Web, club area. Remember, affiliated clubs get a \$5 commission for recruiting new ARRL members. It is my sad duty to report the following Amateurs became Silent Keys: WA6ASO, KE6DEJ, N6GGY, W6HD, N6LYH, and Pacific Division Director Jim Maxwell, W6CF. They will be missed. Officers for the Sierra Amateur Radio Club of the High Mojave for 2003 are pres WA6QYR; 1st vp W6PTH; 2nd vp W6DWF; WB6EPD sec; and KC6UUS treasurer. WA6ARA is the editor. The club meets the 2nd Wednesday in Ridgecrest. Officers for 2003 for the Manteca ARC are KF6WFL pres; KD6PCT vp; KE6VOS sec; and KE6UTO treas and editor. The club meets the first Thursday in Manteca. The Fresno Hamfest is Saturday, April 26, 2003, at Riverland Resort located at Highway 99 and the Kings River, 25 miles south of Fresno. Admission is \$1 with sellers at \$5. This is a swap meet with food, prizes, tech demonstrations and card checking for WAS, WAC, DXCC, VUCC, and WAZ. Contact w6to@arrl.net for information. See <http://www.qsl.net/w6to> for information too. The 2003 International DX Convention will be May 2-4, at the Holiday Inn at Visalia. Contact w6yd@aol.com for information. See <http://www.ncdxc.org> and click on the DX convention line for information and a registration form. The M-Squared swap meet/open house is scheduled for Saturday March 29, 2003 at 9:00 AM at the M-Squared factory in Fresno. K6FDR is the new EC for Fresno County. WS6X has a FT 1000MP MK V. W6FRH operated from Aruba as P40RH. QSL via W6FRH. K7XQ is operating 1.2 GHz moonbounce and has contacted 6 European countries so far. He is working toward VUCC on 1.2 GHZ. W6XK and N6EE operated on UO 14 from VP5 and worked 24 stations including K6YK. W6FAH has a kw HF mobile and went countying with K6YK making lots of contacts. W6DPD put a 50 MHz endorsement on the WAC award. Check the Pacific Division webpage at For links to club web pages check <http://www.pdarrrl.org/sjvsec/index.html>. for information. Traffic for January: WA2MSU 46; KB6QIB 23. PSHR WA2MSU 110.

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. I am glad to report that there continues to be strong interest in ARECC training in North Carolina. Reimbursement for online training for ARECC Level II and III is now available to ARRL members, thanks to a grant from United Technologies Corporation. This will apply to students who enroll in these courses after February 17th. This reimbursement is for successful completion of the course, in a manner similar to that provided for the Level I course. These courses are a great supplement to any local training programs you may have in your area (but they are not a substitute – make sure you participate in local training also). Even those who have been involved with emergency communications for years will learn something. I took these courses even before reimbursement was offered - it was well worth the money and time spent, in my opinion. For those interested in volunteering to be mentors, instructors or examiners for this program, there will be an ARECC seminar at the Charlotte hamfest on Saturday, March 8th. Dan Miller, K3UFG will be in Charlotte to explain the program. It is suggested that you contact Dan if you plan to attend; his phone number is 860-594-0340 and e-mail is k3ufg@arrl.org. Also at the Charlotte Hamfest will be an ARRL NC Section forum in the afternoon – I hope you can attend. Last month I suggested we have some kind of exercise of our digital communications modes at least twice this year. The first one will be during the week of March 16-22 and will be easy: send one piece of traffic to me using some sort of digital mode. If sending via packet, my packet address is W4CC@#CLT.W4BFB.NC.USA. My address and phone information is on page 16 of QST each month. All that matters is that it originate on a digital mode and somehow gets relayed to me. Indicate in your message how you are sending the message (BBS, APRS, PSK31 and so forth). If the message must be relayed by non-digital means, the relaying operator should add an operator's note to the signature section with his callsign and the mode used for relaying (e.g. OPERATOR NOTE W4FNC RELAYED VIA SSB). I will report back the results in the April column, including number of messages, modes used plus number of non-digital relays. This exercise seems simple enough but will tell me something about our digital networks in NC. January Traffic: W4EAT 532 (BPL), W4UEF

335, K4IWW 192, K4RLD 135, AA4YW 125, KE4JHJ 119, WA4OBR 73, W3HL 71, KF4OCU 51, AD4XV 41, WD4LSS 39, KE4AHC 36, W4CC 35, KG4OQA 31, WA4SRD 26, N4FHM 24, N0SU 23, W4LN 19, N4TAB 18, W4EHF 15, N4NTO 12, W4FAL 10, KR4OE 8, KB8VCZ 5. December Traffic: WD4LSS 72. January PSHR: K4RLD 120, W4EAT 120, K4IWW 120, N4TAB 118, KE4JHJ 110, KG4OQA 100, WD4LSS 99, N0SU 93, W4CC 91, KF4OCU 85, AA4YW 80. December PSHR: WD4LSS 110.

South Carolina

Greetings to all Amateur Radio Operators! I'm Dr. Jim, N2ZZ, and beginning on January 1, 2003, I am proud to serve as ARRL Section Manager for South Carolina. I wish everyone a Happy New Year! I would like to thank Pat Hensley N4ROS, and her appointed section staff, for their service to the ARRL over the past several years. That being said, I would like to introduce my section staff cabinet that will be assisting me in the administration of the SC ARRL programs over the next two years: ASM's: Area 1-David Crockett WB4DFW, Area 2-Bob Bacharach WA2EMF, Area 4-Laurie Sansbury, Jr. KV4C, Area 6-Bob Besley K4NJJ; SEC-Charlie Miller AE4UX; STM-Adam Hoffman AF4QZ, Asst STM Joe Ferguson W4JF; ACC-Kimberly Smith K1MI, OOC-Sue Chism N4ENX, PIC-Dan Donovan KF4VIS, TC-Marc Tarplee N4UFP and SGL- Dennis Fowler KG4JIA. I have reviewed the ARRL appointment database, and in order to be certain that all appointees are all active, all previous section appointments have expired as of January 31st. I ask that if you wish to renew your appointment or apply for an appointment, please contact us. We do not wish to exclude anyone that is interested in actively being a part of the organization! Each cabinet position will appoint within their program. The STM will appoint NM's, and ORS's. The SEC will appoint DEC's, EC's and OES's, and so on. Please go to the SC Section Website at <http://www.qsl.net/arrl-sc/> for more information (and please bookmark that site!). I will be using the <http://www.qsl.net/arrl-sc/> for communication within the section, along with the section bulletins via the ARRL website. I will endeavor to keep the site updated in regards to hamfest information, and other items of interest to the SC section. I will also plan to make periodic announcements on the SC SSB net that meets at 7pm local time on 3915 kHz. Work permitting, I will plan to be there every Wednesday to give a Section Manager Report. The key word in this administration will be COMMUNICATION! If you have not signed up for Section/Division bulletins on the ARRL members-only website, please do so! I will be using that list to make announcements throughout the month. Please also go to the SC Section Website noted above, and sign up for the mail reflector where there can be an active dialog between the ARRL members in the SC section. For all ARRL members-If you have not done so already, please go to the ARRL members-only section, and apply for a YOURCALL@arrl.net alias. It is a benefit of membership, and aids in communication on the Internet! The major news for January is that Charlie AE4UX, our SEC, was appointed State RACES officer as of January 30th. This will ensure that RACES and ARES proceed in the same direction. We have had two hamfests, which were Greenwood and Charleston. Both were well attended, and the new enthusiasm in the amateur radio community is very evident! Additionally, an agreement was made between the American Red Cross and the ARRL-SC team to mirror the SOU between the ARRL and the national Red Cross. Finally, our SGL, Dennis KG4JIA is looking into developing an ARRL license plate to replace our Black and White "Plain Jane" plates. We are also planning a SC QSO party. Both Paul KB4GYT and Ray W8CNL are developing the details. A full Section Manager's report will be on the SC Section Website as noted above. Please check that site for a full report, and I will add an archive site so that past reports will be retrievable. Station Activity Reports, December 2002: AF4QZ 195, KA4UIV 161, KA4LRM 93, WD4BUH 22, K4JIF 20, N4VVX 13. Public Service Honor Roll Results, December 2002: AF4QZ 105, KA4LRM 100, KA4UIV 100, N4VVX 88. Station Activity Reports, January 2003: AF4QZ 181, KA4UIV 117, W4JF 34, K4NJJ 20, K4JIF 12, W4QD 7, K3LM 7. Public Service Honor Roll Results, January 2003: AF4QZ 100, KA4UIV 100, K4NJJ 70. Congratulations and thanks for your service to amateur radio! '73 de Dr. JIM N2ZZ Section Manager South Carolina Section

Virginia

Section News Summary for January SM, Carl Clements, W4CAC, ASM; W4PW, SEC; N4NW, STM; W3BBBQ,

PIC; W4PW, ACC; W4IM, OOC; W4NEZ TC; KD3PC. Web page; www.arrlva.org. Section News web page; www.arrl.org/sections/VA.html. ARES web page; www.aresva.org. Section Traffic web page; w4cac.tripod.com/vastm/. I hope everyone had a good holiday season. These Section News summaries and the information on the Section News web pages comes from information sent to me by the membership. If you have a news item or an event that you would see featured here, please send an email to me at w4cac@arrl.org with "Section News" in the subject line. The Chesapeake Amateur Radio Service (CARS) hosted Kid's Day on January 4th at their ham shack at the Chesapeake Center for Science and Technology. The CARS adults demonstrated amateur radio to quite a few youth during the day. The Loudoun Amateur Radio Group (LARG), the major source of ARES members in Loudoun, provided communications support for First Night Leesburg again this year. See the report on their activities at http://www.k4lrg.org/Service/FirstNight/FN_Leesburg_2003/index.html. Congratulations to John Kanode, N4MM, on being elected to the position of ARRL Honorary Vice President. John, former ARRL Third Vice President and Roanoke Division Director was bestowed the honor at the ARRL Board Meeting on January 17th and 18th. Because of the multi-million dollar upgrading of approximately half of the Virginia Air & Space Center to provide a new "Aviation Gallery", the Amateur Radio Exhibit, KE4ZXW, was relocated and its usable size increased by 50%. A work schedule at the Center is currently being prepared to 'hopefully' get the station back on the air in early March. I enjoyed the Frostfest in Richmond, hopefully you did also. Remember, keep the news coming, and YOU are the ARRL. 73 de Carl, W4CAC.

West Virginia

If you are an ARRL member, thanks for supporting this great organization. You obviously understand the value you get for your annual \$39 membership fee. However, I want to ask you a favor. What I simply ask you to do is bring in one new member- that's right, one new ARRL member. I ask you to be a salesperson and beat the ARRL's drum to let folks know what ARRL has to offer. If you need me to help you convince someone who isn't sure of the benefits, just let me know. I will be happy to write or e-mail anyone in WV who wants to know more about the ARRL. I recently sent out about 80 personal letters to new hams in WV letting them know about ARRL. These are folks who are new to our hobby and likely don't know what the ARRL actually offers. Those of you that know any of our new hams should encourage them to join ARRL. At your local VE sessions, are you taking a few moments to talk up ARRL membership? Are your affiliated clubs doing anything to recruit these new hams into your clubs and the ARRL? Are we truly doing a good job as ambassadors of our hobby and the ARRL for increasing our ranks within this worthwhile organization? If you can bring in one new ARRL member, please let me know about it by telling me who your "new recruit" is and I will recognize you and the recruit in a special way. If you are not an ARRL member and are reading this, I ask you, what are you waiting for? Is it the \$39 that keeps you from supporting the ARRL? Do you not feel like the ARRL gives you enough value for your membership dollar? Hey, I am open to your comments. Convince me that our hobby can survive without ARRL. **Good News from Garry Kibler, W8GAK that Father Jack, K8WMX is doing well and has been released from Cleveland Clinic following heart surgery on February 3. Jack should be home by the time you read this and I am sure he would appreciate a note or card. Please keep him and Vivian in your thoughts and prayers while he is on the mend. **Looking for a good turnout at PARA's Fayetteville Hamfest on Sunday, Feb. 23 at the Fayetteville Memorial Building. Stop by our ARRL Section booth & say "hello." ARRL DXCC card checking available too. The hamfest runs from 8a.m.-2p.m. and features major prizes and VE Testing. Admission is \$5.00. The PARA website is www.qsl.net/kc8lob. **And the folks in Charleston just about have everything nailed down for the annual Charleston Hamfest and Computer Show Saturday, March 15th at the National Guard Armory. Watch for more details soon. **We welcome our newest member of the ARRL WV Section Field Org. w/ the recent appointment of George Roberts, KB3GN as ARRL Official Bulletin Station (OBS). George will be keeping folks in the E.Panhandle updated with ARRL official bulletins and will be a big help to OBM Hal Tate, N8FXH. If you are interested in working with Hal and serving as ARRL OBS, please contact him at n8fxh@arrl.net. **Do you have our WV Section WebMaster Nick Seibold, KB8NDS on your club's e-mail list so your club announcements and newsletter can be posted on our ARRL website? Please update your address book with Nick's e-mail address kb8nds@arrl.net so your information/newsletter can be shared around WV **Lot's of exams around the state (Great opportunity to promote ARRL membership!). The ARRL VE team in Fairmont is set for March 9 at 1:00pm. I'm also advised by our WV

STM/ASM Dennis, W8YS that Marion County group is sponsoring SkyWarn training May 5th at Fairmont Courthouse at 6:30p.m. For more information about the training go to www.qsl.net/wvmcares . **Congratulations to our newest Emergency Communications Level I grads in WV: Pete Daily, K8PJD of Charleston, Patrick Schaffner, KC8CSE of Dunmore, and James Stephenson, KE8YB of Shady Springs. **73 de Hal. Tfc (January) KA8WNO 234, W8YS 140, WW8D 89, N8NMA 72, WD8DHC 64, KC8FTE 34, KB8NDS 22, W8WWF 20, N8XFH 17. PSHR: W8YS 120, WW8D 110, N8NMA 106, KA8WNO 90, WD8DHC 90, N8FXH 77, KB8NDS 74. WVMDN 728/54/452 WW8D; WVN(E) 142/35/276 N8NMA; WVN(L) 101/47/237 N8NMA; WVFN 1332/170/920 W8YS; MSEN 76/0/84 N8TMW; 2-meter Nets: BDARC 409/0/803; ARES/RACES 2-meter Nets: Marion Co. ARES 46/1/71; Mingo Co. ARES 46/5/163; Barbour/Upshur ARES/RACES 91/1/127; Multi County ARES/RACES 214/0/414; Mercer Co. ARES 42/2/82.

Southeastern Division

Alabama

Section Manager's Report February 2003 Congratulations to the Decatur Amateur Radio club who celebrated their 50th anniversary as an ARRL affiliated club. The Southeast Director of the ARRL, Frank Butler, presented the club with a certificate commemorating the event. They celebrated this accomplishment on Tuesday February 4th. I really enjoyed listening to the stories being told by the veteran members of this club. It was easy to see that this club is more than group of friends, but a large extended family. Mobile Amateur Radio Club is running an Amateur Radio Station at the Gulf Coast Exploreum Museum in downtown Mobile. They will be operating the station for the next four months, while the IMAX film "International Space Station" is being shown. For more information about the Gulf Coast Exploreum visit www.exploreum.net. ARRL Vice President Joel Harrison W5ZN will be the guest speaker at the Dekalb County Amateur Radio Club. The meeting will be on Tuesday February 25, 2003 at 7:00 pm at the Ryan Steakhouse Restaurant in Fort Payne, AL. For more information, visit their website at www.dekalbamateurradio.com Auburn University Student Satellite Project will launch a high altitude helium balloon on Sunday 23, 2003. It will be transmitting Amateur Television video on 434 MHz and will be tracked using APRS. The callsign will be the Auburn ARC's call of K4RY. Please monitor these frequencies and report your listening reports to kr4tz@arrl.org. Support your local Amateur Radio Club! 73, Bill Cleveland, KR4TZ

Section Manager / ARRL – Alabama Section Alabama Section Traffic Report for JANUARY 2003 SAR
(STATION, ORIG, SENT, RCVD, DLVD, TOTAL) W4ZJY 0 711 761 1 1473 (BPL Recipient) KD4CQJ 3 49 80 3 135 W4CKS 0 62 18 0 80 W4PIM 17 32 11 7 67 WA4JPK 0 7 18 0 25 W4QAT 0 25 6 2 33 W4DGH 1 7 3 1 12 W4NTI 0 10 1 0 11 PSHR (STATION, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, TOTAL) W4ZJY 40 40 30 0 0 10 120 KD4CQJ 40 40 10 0 0 10 100 W4CKS 40 40 10 0 0 0 90 W4PIM 40 40 10 0 0 0 90 W4NTI 40 10 30 0 0 0 80 WA4JPK 40 25 10 0 0 0 75 W4DGH 40 12 20 0 0 0 72 W4QAT 33 33 10 0 0 0 76 COMMENTS: RN5 REP : W4CKS W4ZJY WA4PIZ KC4VNO W4QAT K4VIZ W4PIM DRN5 REP: AC4CS W4CKS KC4VNO WA4MTG KD4CQJ K4JOE W4PIM

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. Section websites: www.qsl.net/arrl-ga and www.qsl.net/gaares Greetings, and Happy Valentine's Day! (Now you didn't forget, did you? Don't panic... you can pick up some flowers and a card on the way home from work...) This is kind of a frightening time to be a news junkie, isn't it, but not all of the news is bad. Some particularly good news for us amateur radio operators is the recent announcement that United Technologies Corporation has given an additional grant to the ARRL to be used for emergency communications training. This means that ARRL members will now be eligible for reimbursement for the successful completion of ALL THREE LEVELS of online EC classes. Great news! Many Georgia hams have completed the EC-001 course under the auspices of the reimbursement program, and I'm hopeful that many more

will take advantage of the additional opportunities offered by this new grant. Tell all of your non-League member ham friends about the opportunity, too, and urge them to join the League NOW!! Don't forget....a new membership paid through an ARRL affiliated club earns that club a \$15 rebate for its coffers. Or tell them to come sign up with us at the ARRL booth at the Dalton hamfest on the 22nd... we'd love to help them. And YOU come by to see us, too! STEVE DIGGS, W4EPI, LES SCOFFIELD, W4SCO, AND ROBIN CUTSHAW, AA4RC, provided the fantastic opportunity for some of us to make our first satellite contact at the before-the-meeting gathering in the parking lot before the Alford Memorial ARC meeting on the 13th. Thanks, guys! That was really FUN! (details to come in the next newsletter, along with some basic info on how YOU might try a bit of satellite communications yourself) This past week was the School Round-Up contest, and Saturday, the 15th, will be GOTA, kinda the girls' version of JOTA.... two great opportunities to work with young people on the air. If your school participated in the round-up, or if your group works with the Girl Scouts for GOTA, tell me about it. In fact, send any news you may have for the March newsletter ASAP, so I can help spread your good news. Until next time, this is AF4FO, signing clear. Take care of yourselves. And each other. Seeya at Dalton! 73, Susan***QTC January: WB4GGS-308;(WOW!)AF4NS-115; W4WXA-94; K4BEH-89; K4WKT-84; K4FUM-46; KG4FXG-45; K1FP-41; WB4BIK-34; WB2NYM-21; K4BG-20; KE4R-17***

Southern Florida

ASM-WA4AW, KD4GR, KA4FZI, W4WYR, N4LEM, K9SHT; STM-WA2YL; ACC & TC-WA4AW; BM-KC4ZHF; SEC-KD4GR; OOC-N4QPM HAMFEST - Stuart - March 15, sponsored by Martin County ARA. I'll be there with our ACC/TC Jeff, WA4AW with several area radio clubs. Please come and join us. It was great to meet many of you at Miami Hamboree. I hope you were able to meet ARRL president Jim Haynie, W5JBP. I enjoyed meeting the folks from Southern Florida and the Caribbean at the National Hurricane Center. Pictures from the Hamboree are on the section page at arrl.org. Please contact your U.S. Representative asking for support of HR-713 Spectrum Protection Act. We cannot conduct effective emergency communications without frequencies. Bills to give some relief from CCRs and lease agreements should be introduced in the Florida legislature soon. When we have a bill number I will send a special e-mail to you with information and sample letters. Please send club newsletters or links to newsletters, minutes, news from ARES activities, public service activities, etc to me and the ACC, Jeff WA4AW. I like to have news from every county to feature each month, so "keep those cards and letters coming". The SEDAN project is growing. The coastal link between Indian River and Palm Beach is being worked on and there are mailboxes at NWS in Jax, Tallahassee, Melbourne and the NHC. I am saddened to report the passing of Norm Ward, K4RBR. Norm was EC of Dade County when Hurricane Andrew struck and he was active in emergency communications for many years. He was a proficient traffic handler and was loved and respected by all amateurs that worked with him. Reminder: Tell your fellow amateurs to sign up for the section and division newsletters on the member data page. Section news is no longer in QST. More news items are at www.arrl.org/Sections/SFL.html News briefs from around the Section: Monroe – Our ACC, Jeff WA4AW visited the Florida Keys ARC and spoke about ARRL and the Southern Florida Section. He and our SEC, Jim KD4GR will be at the picnic on March 8. Plan to attend and meet them. Martin -- Feb 5, 2003 "This past weekend was amazing. As a member of a flight test team and as a member of an emergency response team I witnessed and learned from all of the events which unfolded before our eyes when the Columbia failed during re-entry. Once again, I was reminded that it is impossible to anticipate every emergency and every contingency...." de Donald Marquith, N3PYQ (complete text at www.arrl.org/Sections/SFL.html) Broward – Plans are underway to begin Hybrid ARECC classes (registration & exams online- material taught in classroom setting). Contact Scott, AF4YS for info. Collier – Glen Niesen, KE4KTZ is the new ARES net manager for Collier. Don Milke, WD4FLY served in that position for 12 years. Thank you for all your hard work, Don. Multi county – Glades, Hendry, western Palm Beach. The Big Lake Club meets monthly, alternately in Belle Glade and Clewiston. Jeff, WA4AW will speak at the February meeting. St Lucie – ASM/ DEC, Bruce K9SHT visited the St Lucie Repeater Association meeting and spoke about recruiting new hams and the upcoming antenna bill. Okeechobee – Bruce, K9SHT was also at the Okeechobee ARC meeting in February. Okeechobee ARC has a new club call – K4OKE. Indian River – Chris Myers, KF4DQY has been appointed ACS Coordinator for the county. SAR FOR January, 2003 WA9VND 504 (BPL), KA4FZI 228, KC4ZHF 199, KD4GR 140, WA2YL 130, W4YVV (club)124, K4FQU 68, AA4BN 53,

KG4CHW 50, KG4EQY 48, KG4MLD 47, KG4MLC 46, KG4QIP 44, KT4XK 38, WB4PAM 36, KG4ILJ 35, KE4UOF 35, WA4EIC 32, KN4JN 28, W3JI 12, AF4NR 11, KF4OMB 9, W4PPG 6, W6VIF 5, K0TIW 1. BPL: WA9VND Orig 7, RCVD 289, Sent 187, DLVD 21 PSHR FOR January 2003:KG4CHW 120, KD4GR 110, WA2YL 110, KC4ZHF 110, KG4MLC 105, K4FQU 101,WA9VND 100, KA4FZI 93, WA4EIC 92, AA4BN 88, WB4PAM 86, KG4MLD 80, KG4QIP 80, KE4UOF 80. de Jan WA2YL EC Reports: N4LEM, KT4XK, KA4HLO, KF4DQY, KC4UCN, N3PYQ and AD4RZ. We had 19 ARES Nets, 12 with NTS liaisons, 137 nets, tests, and drills. Current ARES membership is 1811 in these 7 counties. de Jim, KD4GR. Southern Florida is always listed on the Public Service page thanks to Jim and Jan.

Southwestern Division

Arizona

It is time for the Spring Hamfest. The date for this event is March 15th at the Scottsdale Community College. This is one of the three (3) big events here in Arizona so you do not want to miss this opportunity to buy/sell your treasures. Our Southwestern Division Director, Art Goddard, W6XD, will be at the Radio Society of Tucson club meeting on the 14th of March (Friday night prior to the hamfest). He will do a presentation to the club members. Other area clubs members will also attend the meeting so if your night is free, stop by and hear what is new with the ARRL. I plan to do a presentation for the Green Valley ARC on 13 March 2003 and then the Kachina ARC in Show Low on the 14th of March. Again, if you want me to do a presentation to your club, please call and we can come to an agreement and a date. Tucson has already had two (2) community service events with more to follow. Each community has various local events that can be supported by Amateur radio. Are you doing your best to help your community? If not, then maybe we need to look closer and see what we can do to help. We get our frequencies from Public Service. If we lose our Public Service image, then we will most likely lose frequencies. Don't forget the International DX convention on 2-4 of this year. It will be held in Visalia (as usual) with lots of good speakers and programs. Also the Arizona Amateur Radio Association (AARA) will host its yearly hamfest on 12 April 2003 at DeVry School in Phoenix, and then CARRA will host the Sierra Vista hamfest on 02 May 2003. In the March QST we had another good article on emergency communications. We have had our fair share of QST support in the last year. This is very unusual since most of the articles go to the East or West Coast clubs. 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) and get all your questions answered. Course cost is \$45.00 and is normally refunded after completion. 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. This article does not appear in the QST magazine but it can be found on the ARRL Web site [www@arrl.org/sections/index/html](http://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. Clifford Hauser, KD6XH; E-mail is kd6xh@arrl.org

Los Angeles

Some great people in the Los Angeles Section that you should know! Al Hart, W6UBM, is our ASM, and Al is an old timer with a "Telephone Engineering" background of some forty plus years. Al also was a Communications Specialist in the Military during WWII. Edgar Brown, N6OU, is our DX card checker and our Technical Representative. Edgar is always ready to help, if you have a DX question or technical problem. Edgar is active in the DX Club and the Fifty Club. He is retired from the Dept. of Water and Power as a Communications Systems Engineer. Edgar is on our Speakers List. So give Edgar a call if your Club needs a great program. Dennis Smith, KA6GSE, is our ARES Specialist. Dennis is a consultant in the Cellular Telephone environment. He is available for Speaking engagements and consultation on Emergency Communications. Dennis recently completed the ARRL

study course presented by ARRL HQ personnel, on Emergency Communications. Joe Provenza, W6UPN, is our Official Observer Coordinator. Joe is a retired Electrical Engineer from the State of California. Our Section Web Site has telephone numbers and email addresses for all appointments and our list of SPEAKERS.

<http://www.qsl.net/arrlsw/lax/speakers.html> Memories of past visits with outstanding Amateurs: Dr. John Kraus, W8JK, professor, Ohio State University was one of my favorites to visit when dealing with Ohio State. I first met John when he was lecturing in Iowa. In fact he told me that he was interviewing for a professorship in Iowa. He was visiting his old College friend W9JI, in Iowa, my home state. The things that I learned from "8JK" may surprise you since most of my interests were of a technical nature. 1) My first observation was that John was the inventor type. In his first Iowa lecture, he projected a huge picture of his 8JK antenna. The most amazing thing was that you could just discern, that it was a beam antenna. It was covered with black birds. His picture was ample and convincing proof that antenna design must be of adequate strength to support dozens of birds. I later asked John what he considered the advantage of his 8JK bi-directional antenna design? You could have expected to hear items like low cost, easy to build, broad-band and other such technical characteristics. However, this was not the case. John said that he liked to contact rare expeditions around the World, especially Africa. So, in order to check if the band was open he would send three dots and wait for the trip around the World to return to Ohio. He would repeat the three dot routine at various headings and soon have a good understanding of which DX paths were open at that instant. 2) Some forty years later in his Ohio State office he gave me a history of the development of his many antenna patents. I think that his favorite antenna patent was the "Helical Spiral". He thought of the idea when he was in the Hospital and as soon as he arrived home, he built one in the basement and convinced himself that it worked. However when he showed it to an outstanding College Professor friend and acknowledged antenna authority; he was told that it would not work. We all know that it did work, and turned out to be one of the most outstanding antenna designs for circular polarization. 3) John authored many technical books; his basic College text is most popular and accurate for the basic understanding of antenna radiation. My question was when are you coming out with a new version of this great Antenna Text book? I was not expecting the answer he gave me. He said there are about eight minor errors listed for the latest addition. Publication corrections could cause this number to increase, so the accuracy is about as good as it needs to be. 4) The University received a gift of some technical equipment for the BIG EAR PROJECT. The lesson learned from this project was that: one should read the gift contract very carefully. New equipment could require the purchase of more land, equipment and even cause someone to pay for technical services for many years just for accepting a great gift in the first place.

San Diego

STATE OF THE SECTION: Hello folks, I wanted to take a little time to let you know just what's been going on this new year. Since taking over as Section Manager I've been able to see and make changes where needed. Here's a breakdown of our volunteer leadership and what's happening: Leadership: Our new Section Emergency Coordinator is Glenn Gerbrand, WM6B. Since taking over Glenn has made needed changes. Some of these are a complete rewrite of our training plan. Glenn, with the help of Jerry, KF6J and Skip, KD6RFQ, have implemented the ARRL's Level-1 curricula into the Section Training Plan. This is dynamic and interesting training targeted at beginners and experts that will help us all become better emergency communicators. We are nearing completion on our version of the ARRL Field Resources Manual. This document will further enhance our ARES training and field coordination. We have changed the Section breakfast location to the Spice House, the food is excellent and plentiful there. We've also moved the Section training over to the County of San Diego Office of Emergency Services (OES) formally known as the County EOC. The Facilities there are large enough so we won't out grow them, plus they have all the high tech electronic media with which we can conduct training. Our attendance has nearly doubled this new year! Glenn has nearly completed a section wide ARES Roster, which will be included in the Section ARES Resources Manual. This has been a major undertaking by Glenn and the DEC's. Rory Bowers, N6CKS, has stepped in as the new District Emergency Coordinator (DEC) for Imperial county. The position has been vacant since Fred, W6FFF, resigned last year. I'm confident that the Imperial District will grow under Rory's leadership. Thanks Rory! Al Rich, W6WYN, has stepped down as the DEC for Central after many years of dedicated work. In lieu of the vacancy, we will combine Central District and Southern Districts and call it Southern District until we can find a replacement. Southern District EC is Eric Crosser, N6SUB, a capable and proven

leader. Eric is also very active with REACT. Remaining DEC's Dennis Shirrel, K7DCG (Northern) and Rich Beisigl, N6NKJ (Eastern), round out our ARES Field organization and they will continue to lead their respective districts. We have newly appointed Assistant Section Managers to further define the section and our mission. Our current Assistant Section Managers and their respective duties are: Dan Briggs, KD6OKR: RACES Randy Buxton, KF6ZPN: Webmaster Dr. Don Compton MD, KG6NDX: Red Cross Steve Early, AD6VI: Recruiting Harry Hodges, W6YOO: MARS Stephen Lamprides, K6SCL: Scouting and Youth Programs Steve Smith, WB6TWL: SKYWARN Dan Briggs, KD6OKR, has been keeping us informed, and RACES too, of mutual concerns and training opportunities. Randy Buxton, KF6ZPN, stepped up last year and volunteered to be our Webmaster. We are so lucky to have Randy's talent behind the webpage! It is one of the best, most user friendly pages in any of the Sections throughout the ARRL. Best of all, Randy keeps making it better! Randy is also the current President of the Ramona Outback ARS and EC for Ramona. Thanks for sharing your expertise with us Randy! New to the Section, Dr. Don Compton, KG6NDX, has assumed the duties as Red Cross liaison after Al Rich, W6WYN, stepped down. We all thank Al for the many years he's served as the liaison. Don, being a retired Medical Doctor, should fit right in. Anita McNulty, KG6LYK, XYL of Steve, WB6TWL, will be assisting Don. Anita's background is a Registered Emergency Room Nurse. Steve Early, AD6VI, assumed the new position of Recruiting ASM. This position is charged with the recruiting of new hams and ARES members. Steve has hit the deck running and we should start to see our numbers swell in the near future. Harry Hodges, W6YOO, continues as the ASM for MARS or Military Affiliated Radio System. MARS shares many of the same goals as ARES and is recognized by the ARRL through a Memorandum of Understanding. Steve Lamprides, K6SCL, is very active with the Boy Scouts. I needn't tell you of the potential recruiting opportunities of getting our youth into amateur radio via the scouting program! I know of several other hams that are active with their kids in the scouting program and hope that you can compare notes with Steve so we can better serve our young folks. Any other folks that are involved with Girl Scouts, Boys/Girls Clubs or any youth organization, keep Steve informed. We'd like to know what's going on with our youth. Steve Smith, WB6TWL, has been working with the SKYWARN organization and was newly appointed to his position. Though we live in a pretty benign region, as far as deadly weather is concerned, Steve has training he will be giving on what we can do in our section. Looking forward to working with Steve. Del Radant, N6JZE, our Official Observer Coordinator (OOC) and Technical Coordinator (TC) continues his work in both areas and hasn't missed a beat. Del has expressed a desire to step down and we are looking for replacements. If you think you have what it takes to do the job, give Del or myself a call. Tom Caudle, KC6NZX, the Section Traffic Manager continues his task of coordinating the efforts and resources of the National Traffic System. Tom will be working closely with ARES in the near future to make us all smarter on NTS. Tom is also involved with Animal Rescue and holds the rank of Lieutenant. Our newest cabinet member is Marcia R De Runtz, KG6FIX. Marsha has taken over the position as Affiliated Club Coordinator (ACC). Marsha, though legally blind, is one hard charger! We've provided her with audio recordings detailing her job and clubs throughout the section. If she hasn't contacted you yet, just a matter of time. Welcome aboard Marsha! Training and Recruitment Since taking over the job as Section Manager we had few if any classes available on a regular basis. The El Cajon club maintained a fairly regular schedule with a Tech class. I took the liberty to offer up the new "Now Your Talking" books with an instructor guide to anyone/club that wanted to start a class. The books were to be reused until they became obsolete. To date I'm happy to report that we have classes going on in Vista, Penasquitos, Ramona, Carlsbad, El Cajon, Coronado and soon in Imperial County. Some of the classes are using the Section donated materials. Steve Early, AD6VI, is looking for more folks to instruct or assist in instructing these and future classes. I'd like to thank the following clubs for their willingness to offer these classes: Mercury Amateur Radio Association (MARA), the Coronado Emergency Radio Operators (CERO), the Palomar Amateur Radio Club (PARC), the Ramona Outback ARS (ROARS) and the El Cajon ARC. Did I miss one? Along these lines I wish to thank the San Diego Amateur Radio Counsel (SANDARC) VE program for the many years of licensing our local hams. We have a unique capability here in the San Diego section with SANDARC VE's who have pledged to offer cost effective licensing to our prospective new hams! I'm going to appoint a chairperson to address our annual Ham Radio Roundup. Looking to get a venue with lots of exposure and to solicit support. The Roundup has traditionally been held in the fall but perhaps a late summer date might be better. As you can see we've made a lot of positive improvements in the section. I'm happy to see recruitment is up, classes are being taught and more folks volunteering. What makes this happen? It's motivated folks like yourselves that make it all happen. We are headed in a very positive direction and

let's keep the momentum going! Do you see something you'd like to help with or interested in a position, give me a call. It's your section, I'm just here to help! 73, Kent, K6FQ

Santa Barbara

The ARRL Section News is no longer available in QST. Many of you have read the ARRL Field Organization Forum for decades and have depended on the postings for news of amateur radio and related activities. There is, however, a modern World Wide Web replacement for the old Section News, that won't take months to get to you. You can get on board AT NO COST TO YOU and receive these messages as easily as you received this one. There are three additional sources of information that are available to you just for the "pointing and clicking" on the links or e-mail addresses below: 1) To subscribe to the ARRL Santa Barbara Section e-mail reflector click here: <mailto:arrlsb-request@mailman.qth.net?subject=subscribe>. Not only will you receive up-to-the-minute reports and items of interest, but you will be able to post your own responses or comments that will be read by all of the other subscribers on the list. 2) To subscribe to the ARRL Santa Barbara Section Council of Clubs e-mail reflector click here: <mailto:arrlsbclubs-request@mailman.qth.net?subject=subscribe>. If you are a club leader, or just an active member interested in seeing your club grow and prosper, you must subscribe to this list. Your club doesn't have to be a member of the ARRL Club Council for you to subscribe. 3) To view the ARRL Santa Barbara Section Web site click here: <http://www.qsl.net/arrlsb/>. Check to be sure that your club information is included and is correct, as you browse all of the information-packed pages on the ARRL Santa Barbara Section Web site. And don't forget to "bookmark" or "favorite" the URL for fast, easy return. What better way to stay on top of things regarding ham radio on the Gold Coast? You, as active members of the ARRL Santa Barbara Section (Santa Barbara, Ventura and San Luis Obispo Counties), will want to be on the cutting edge of any developments in today's Ham World. The challenges to our avocation and the threats to our frequencies have never been greater. We must remain informed and active if our place in the RF spectrum is to be preserved. Your Section was a pioneer in providing the e-mail reflector – sometimes called a list mailer – for use by all interested ham radio operators. This is your opportunity continue this pioneering spirit. I will look forward to seeing your contributions or comments in the days ahead! 73, Rob Griffin, K6YR Section Manager

West Gulf Division

South Texas

ASM's:KS5V, N5WSW, W5GKH, K5DG, N5LYG, WA5UZZ, KK5CA,K5EJL,W5ZX, KB5AWM, WA5JYK, K5PFE, K5PNV, W5JAM. STM: W5GKH. SEC: W5ZX. ACC: N5WSW. TC: KJ5YN. BM: W5KLV. OOC: KA5KQZ. SGL: K5PNV. PIC: KD5HOP. February has already started out with a terrible disaster to North and South Texas with the catastrophe of Columbia. We in South Texas certainly wish to express our deepest condolences to the families and friends plus the people at the Space Center here in South Texas and Florida. We understand the people at the space center are all like one big family. We have had several hams involved in the recovery effort. This was assistance with the Red Cross, Salvation Army, DPS, and several Sheriffs offices in North and South Texas. I do want to bring to the attention of all who are going into the area to assist. DO NOT bring any type of Camera equipment. It will be confiscated and you will be sent home. Thursday we had that happen in San Augustine. This is the third case of this nature so far. Dress as though you were going hunting in the coldest area. You must have water proof boots. If you wonder off from your assigned group you will be escorted out by DPS, given time to collect your property and sent home. The most important thing to remember the Feds are in charge. Security is extremely high. Be sure and have your ham license and ID with you. The 2 meter is 146.66 not sure about the tone. The facility is on the West side of town in San Augustine. Bob Ehrhardt, W5ZX, the SEC for STX, is on site and will be for the duration. Ray N5NAV SM STX

West Texas

WEST TEXAS MONTHLY SECTION NEWS As a result of last month's column, two West Texas Section hams are being honored for their years of continuous ARRL membership. Alan, N5NA, from Midland and Jack, K5JHS, of El Paso have been ARRL members for over 25 years. Congratulations guys. I am sure that there more members in our section who have been members for 25 or more years. Contact me for more information if you think you qualify. I was invited to speak to the Big Bend ARC at their annual banquet and officer installation. The President for 2003 is John, AD5BY, and the VP is Joey, KD5MXR. Many clubs honor a fellow member at the end of the year with their Ham of the Year Award. The BBARC did things a bit different. They surprised Ike Roberts of Marathon with an Honorary Ham of the Year Award. Ike is the OM of Sue, KB5LMB, and has been a valuable part of the BBARC Team for several years. I also heard the rumor that Ike is a pretty good Field Day cook. Just don't ask him what he puts in the stew. The Midland County ARES in conjunction with the Red Cross and the National Weather Service took part in a Rapid Response exercise this month. The primary purpose of the exercise was to test the group's response time in case of an actual disaster. The team received a very high rating from the Red Cross observers and excellent publicity from the local TV station. The participants also learned that emergencies do not occur under ideal conditions. The temperature during the exercise was in the mid 30's with the chill factor in the 20's. Thanks to a new grant, Level II and Level III on-line courses in the ARRL EmCom classes are now eligible for tuition reimbursement. Level I tuition continues to be reimbursable under the original grant. Check the ARRL Website for further details on EC-002 and EC-003. The next scheduled registration for EC-001 opens at 11:01 PM CST Sunday, March 2. EC-001 is a prerequisite for the EC-002 and EC-003. Congratulations to the PBARC on applying for ARRL Affiliated Club status. I attended their club meeting this month and encouraged them to apply for affiliated status. Their paperwork is now at League HQ awaiting approval. Welcome aboard guys. The folks at Midland are making big plans for their St. Patrick's Day Hamfest. This is always THE EVENT in West Texas. Don't miss it. Big news in Amarillo. Long time ARRL member and Amarillo ham W5MJD left a significant portion of his estate to benefit High Plains Public Radio. The gift was in excess of 1.5 million dollars. Joe was first licensed in 1947 and was active for 50 years. Newspaper coverage of the gift focused on his ties to amateur radio. A group of us from the KCARC spent a day relocating our Skywarn HQ to a new facility provided by John, WX5TX. We removed four antennas from one building and installed a tower and three antennas at the new location. Thank goodness for the loan of a bucket truck. We are up and ready. Links are tested and ready. It is that time of the year in West Texas. ARE YOU READY? Section Manager's schedule Feb. 21 Sun City ARC meeting. Feb. 22 El Paso Hamfest. ARRL Forum hosted by AE5B. 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 hosted by West Gulf Director Coy Day, N5OK and AE5B. <http://www.w5qgg.org> May 17 Amarillo Picnic/Swap fest, Thompson Park John Dyer AE5B West Texas Section Manager