

# Section News for February 2003

## Atlantic Division

### Delaware

In an Op-Ed piece in the February 2003 issue of QST the author argued the point that the term Amateur Radio Operator is somehow un-professional, and that to be more professional we should adopt the use identifying clothing similar to that worn by the FBI, Police and other first line responders and to adopt a name that "sells" ourselves better. I fear what the author has missed is that in public service there is more to acting professionally than a name and official looking uniforms. It's carrying out our duties in a well organized and effective manner. It's about being there when we are called upon to provide a service for our friends and neighbors. It's about doing what we can to provide for their safety and public well being, even at the risk of facing some temporary discomfort ourselves. This can range from providing communications in a full blown hurricane, to something as simple as making sure everyone gets around a fund raising walk. Being a professional means approaching each task with the same dedication and sense of purpose that has long been the hallmark of the amateur radio service. Unlike the author of the Op Ed piece, I am proud to be known as an Amateur Radio Operator, and of our efforts in the area of public service. I hope you feel the same. Traffic (FEB) DTN QNI 140 QTC 14 in 20 sess. DEPN QNI 24 QTC 3 in 4 sess. 73 Randall Carlson, WB0JJX

### Eastern Pennsylvania

The responses that I received to my last article regarding E. Pa. EC's, DEC's and the SEC as well as OES' participate in the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course (ECC), although there were very few, were all basically supportive of the idea. However, there was one response that deserves some discussion. This response came from a long time friend of mine who was once active in the E. Pa. emergency communications structure. The e-mail I received asked a rather far-reaching question. How do the ARRL ECC courses integrate into the Federal Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) plan? This individual went on to say that the ARRL seems to have a nice certification program but there seemed to be no tie-in to the CERT program. The initial answer to this question is - There is no tie-in. At the same time a more detailed answer of the question is that - there is a definite logical tie-in even though the CERT program at no point even mentions the existence of Amateur Radio. Let's take a closer look at the CERT program and some of the details that many people may not be aware of. First of all my friend stated that a search of CERT programs in Pennsylvania only yielded one group which was in the Philadelphia area. This fact was due undoubtedly to timing. Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) had only just completed its statewide program to train the trainers in all of the counties across the Commonwealth. The counties now have to start a training program that trains individuals for local CERT membership in order to form the actual teams.

The CERT program is focused on training individuals to respond to disaster situations with an emphasis on life and safety within their own neighborhoods when the arrival of the professional first responders (Police, Fire and Ambulance) would not be able to respond for an extended period of time. Throughout the program mention is made of communicating not only between CERT members but also between the CERT and the county emergency center. The only hint of a communications mode is the example of the Family Radio Service (FRS) radios, which are readily available. It is at this point we, as Hams, must realize that our hobby although very wide spread does not guarantee that every neighborhood which may support a CERT would have licensed Hams available. Hence it would be unlikely that the federal program would call for the use of Amateur Radio putting what could be a difficult task for many neighborhoods. On this point I would have to say that the lack of mention of the use of Amateur Radio for a portion of the needed communications is a big shortcoming of the CERT program. As individual Amateur Radio operators the CERT program is something we should all pay attention to. We all know that disaster situations bring out the best of many people including Hams. Many Hams will undoubtedly be right at the forefront of these situations. With the great many interests and diversity that our hobby generates an excellent beginning to understanding emergency communications comes from the ARRL ECC. We cannot force anyone to take any course of this nature whether it is the ARRL ECC or any of the Emergency Management type emergency training. As Section Manager with thirty-four years as a Public Service professional (Policeman & 9-1-1 Administrator), I feel that it is vital for me to ensure that the E. Pa. staff involved in emergency communications receive at the minimum the ARRL Emergency Communications Course. I also highly recommend attending a course that would help in dealing with the reality of what one finds in disaster situations. 73 Eric D. Olena, WB3FPL S.M. E. Pa.

## **Southern New Jersey**

With the (hopefully) onset of spring in a few weeks, it is time to think about checking your antennas to see what the weather may have done and getting them ready for activities such as contests, Field Day and just chatting. It is also time to check locally for public service activities such as March of Dimes, MS and American Cancer Society. I also see in my tealeaves a couple special events to look forward to. The details are still being worked out. There will be plenty of ham things to rid us of the winter blues (and memories of snow shovels). Also with the onset of warmer weather some clubs may be considering a trip to the Battleship New Jersey. Over the winter some new displays have been added and there are more planned. Clubs or groups of hams are asked to make plans at least a few weeks ahead of the trip to avoid problems. Please email Dave Burgess at [wa2tvs@arrl.net](mailto:wa2tvs@arrl.net) and make the arrangements. Nearly 200,000 have visited her and enjoyed the history, the displays and for many it has been a trip back to a time they called her 'home away from home'. Some have been hams, had their license with them and operated. Be sure to bring your license with you the day you come. For those who would like a new call sign license plate with Amateur Radio and your call sign on it, call DMV Special License plates at 609-292-6500 and ask for form ISM/SPU-43 Amateur Radio Plate Application These forms are not avail a local DMV offices. They fee is \$15. You will need your NJ Vehicle Registration, FCC License (Copy both sides) and if you are leasing, have the agreement with you. When you

receive them, ride with them proudly. Traffic report for Feb 2003 Traffic manager - Dan Ostroy K2UL QNI reports..NJM 40 N2GJ NJPN 171 W2CC NJSN 167 K2PB NJN(E) 160 AG2R NJN(L) 148 AG2R (above dual with NNJ) JSARS 481 WJ2F SJTN 58 KB2RTZ SJVN 230 WB2UVB SAR reports.. K2UL 77 WA2CUW 58 AA2SV 54 WJ2F 43 N2VQA 40 W2QOB 39 WB2UVB 39 KB2RTZ 34 KC2IYC 19 N2WFN 18 WA2NDA 13 KA2YKN 7 KB2VYZ 7 N2ZMI 1 KB2VSR 1 KB2YBM 1 KC2ETU 1 PSHR.. N2HQL 195 KB2RTZ 184 WB2UVB 134 WJ2F 115 K2UL 110 KA2YKN 104 AA2SV 90 WA2CUW 90 N2VQA 87 W2QOB 60 N2WFN 57 KC2IYC 56 KB2YJD 46 SJVN Traffic and Training Net (WB2UVB Manager) is a new net on the Waterford Repeater. Feb stats: QNI 11 QTO 0 QTR 30 minutes in 2 sessions. Anyone can learn to be a traffic handler. Just listen in to a few nets and you will become familiar with the routine of passing and receiving traffic. Camden County is holding a Basic/Refresher Skywarn Training course at the Cherry Hill Municipal Bldg on Thurs, April 10 at 7pm. If you are interested, forward you name and phone number to Mike Ledoux, the Camden County Skywarn Coordinator at mikel@express56.com OBARC recently learned of the passing of Bob Brietenback, KB2ESD age 84. Bob passed last October. He studied and was newly licensed in his 70s. He enjoyed CW and loved telling stories of his contacts. SNJ and the ARRL is pleased to welcome the Atlantic Radio Club back into ARRL club affiliation. Clubs are the backbone of Amateur Radio. As spring approached, I will be planning some visits to the various clubs and I look forward to seeing many of the people I have met over the last 6 years as Section Manager. If you have something for next month's newsletter, just email me. Thanks and be seeing you. Jean

## **Western Pennsylvania**

The Two Rivers ARC will sponsor it's hamfest on March 23. Additional information about the hamfest is available at [http:// www.qsl.net/w3oc](http://www.qsl.net/w3oc) The Breezeshooters ARC's popular 10 meter ground wave contest is scheduled for March 22 for the SSB portion. Information and rules for the contest are available at <http://www.breezeshooters.net/contest/contest.htm> Rich Beaver N3SRJ has appointed Larry O'Toole, K3LBP as DEC for Western Pennsylvania. Larry will serve as Rich's chief assistant. Join me in welcoming Larry to the ARES team. During the early spring the National Weather Service conducts numerous SKYWARN training classes in different regions of the section. I encourage each of you to attend one of these sessions and become actively involved in the Skywarn program. Contact your local emergency coordinator for information about a class near you. As I write this, the news has warnings of war. In preparation for such an event we should all take the time to check our stations and other equipment. Check the condition of all your batteries for handhelds and also the status of your grab and go kit. I am hopeful as I am sure all of you are that we will not have this event in our lives. Should it occur we must be ready to lend our service to provide communications where needed. Please be sure you are registered with your local ARSE emergency coordinator and also with your county RACES radio officer. Remember the section emergency frequencies are 3983 or 7272 khz depending upon time of day and band conditions. Please be prepared to help in the event of a disturbance. Jan 2003 MNR Net Sessions Traffic Check-ins Net Mgr. Liason with

WPA Phone&Traffic Net 28 131 601 N3KB 3RN-CYC.2 WPA 2meter Traffic Net 27 34 135  
KA3BGC WPAPTN WPA CW Traffic Net 28 82 154 WA3QNT WPAPTN NWPA 2meter Trf  
Net 27 45 641 WA3ZSC WPAPTN Erie Area Mail Bag Net 17 14 176 N3PBD WPAPTN  
TOTALS 127 306 1707 Jan 2003 PSHR CALL SIGN 1 2 3 4 5 6 TOTAL N3WAV 40 41 30 10  
0 0 121 N3KB 38 40 10 0 0 0 88 KA3CQM 28 8 0 0 0 0 36 TOTALS 106 89 40 10 0 0 245 Jan  
2003 SAR CALL SIGN REC. SENT DELIV. ORIGIN. TOTAL WB3ING 6 4 3 0 13 KA3CQM  
0 7 0 1 8 AA3TH 12 15 1 0 28 N3KB 30 6 6 0 42 N3WAV 28 13 0 0 41 N3IBT 4 1 3 0 8  
KC3NY 19 20 0 0 39 AA3ML 0 5 0 0 5 WA3QNT 40 7 1 0 48 W3QOS 4 5 3 4 16 WB8KPE 25  
20 6 2 53 W3GJ 7 13 2 0 22 WA3FFS 32 32 0 0 64 TOTALS 207 148 25 7 387 Join the WPA  
Phone and traffic net nightly at 6 PM on 3983 khz. 73 John Rodgers N3MSE W. Pa Section  
Manager n3mse@arrl.org

## Central Division

### Illinois

Welcome to March. With the beginning of the public service season and storm season it is time for all of us to check out the HT's and make sure that it is working and ready to go. There are a lot of storm training classes being held this month, be sure that you attend one of these classes so that you will be ready. Ron Morgan, KB9NW, IL ASM has been busy this month. He attended the Tri-County ( Peoria, Tazwell, Woodford) ARES meeting this month. The event coordinators did a great job in getting the word out to the area amateurs and there were 65 amateurs in attendance. Pat Stowell, N9PN, DEC was also in attendance. There will be another meeting on March 27th. The group leaders are wanting to develop a trained pool of communicators that would be available to assist local public service agencies. Ron also attended the TCARS (Tazwell County Amateur Radio Society) meeting. A county wide net was conducted 15 minutes prior to the meeting on the club 146.91 repeater. TCARS is in the process of installing a new UHF repeater on 444.550 Mhz which needs a few minor adjustments before it will be ready for general use. Members of R.A.D.I.O. formed an Emergency Planning Committee so that they can gain ARES certification. Members are AI9H, Wabash County EC, KB9KKF, KB9VPS, and WB9UDJ. They plan to pursue ARRL affiliation for the organization. Bruce Talley, WA9APQ reports that there will be a Skywarn training on March 28 at the Carterville Fire Dept. The Carterville Fire Department now has a new comm-trailer which includes an Icom-706 and B & W folded dipole. Also the fire station has HF & VHF capability. Traffic for February 2003, WA9SLT 27, WB9TVD 33, W9HLX 71, NC9T 37, W9FIF 10, WD9F 20, PSHR 80, WA9RUM reports that the W9VEY Memorial net traffic for February is 6 pieces of traffic and 166 check-ins. ISN totals for February, QNI-251, QTC-117, sessions 28 D9RN net report, sessions 54, total check-ins 496, average per session 9.19. Total traffic 217, average per session 4.02, Illinois represented 92.57% by NS9F, W9HLX, N9NK, NN9M, N9PLM AG9Y KB9YRW. There are two hamfests coming up this month that you might want to attend. One is the Sterling Rock Falls ARS hamfest on March 16 in Sterling. Then on March 23 the North Shore Radio Club Hamfest will be held at the Lake county Fairgrounds. I hope to see you there. 73, Sharon Harlan,

N9SH

## Indiana

Indiana Section News for February 2003 Condolances to the Family and Friends of Larry Gonia WK9X, of Noblesville. He became a Silent Key on February 12th. "Hats off" to the individuals who take the time from their busy schedules and perform the duties of Net Control for the Indiana Traffic Net(ITN), the Indiana CW Traffic Net (QIN), the Indiana Code Net(slow speed CW), the Indiana Section ARES Net, and all of the local VHF/UHF nets. These individuals are the backbone of organized amateur radio communications networks. Without their skills and dedication, we could not effectively pass formal messages, bulletins, and get information to the public and to the amateurs who depend on these on-the-air meetings. If you would like to try out the job of Net Control, contact your Net Manager, or one of the NCSs for more information. On the Section level nets, the Net Managers are always looking for individuals who would like to be a Net Control Station. The ARRL is requesting that all Emergency Coordinators take at least Level I of the Emergency Communications Course (EC-001). Also, all DEC's should take all three levels of the Emergency Communications courses. There is funding now available to reimburse any ARRL member who takes the training from the League through the Grant. Now is the time to upgrade your operating skills and knowledge if you have not already completed these courses. Information on the courses can be found at: [www.arrl.org/cce](http://www.arrl.org/cce) This last week, I attended a NWS spotter seminar that had a mixed audience of police officers, volunteer firemen, EMA personnel, and the general public. At the opening of the seminar, the NWS representative graciously allowed me a few minutes to talk to the group, and play the new video "Amateur Radio Today". The video was very well received and its message provided the non-hams in the group a very favorable picture of amateur radio. I also found that this video will play under Power Point software as well as the "Real Player" and "Windows Media Player" programs. Senate Bill 109 Amateur Radio Antenna Regulation was referred to the Indiana House Committee on Technology and Research and Development on March 4. As of March 12, it has not been scheduled for a hearing where testimony will be allowed. As soon as there is any information on this important legislation, my staff and I will get the word out. In the meantime, it is not too soon to call, write, or e-mail your Indiana Representative about supporting SB 109.

NET FREQ DAILY TIMES(UTC) QNI QTC QTR SESSIONS ITN 3910KHz 1330/2130/2300 3039 184 1791 84 QIN 3656KHz 1430/0000 275 158 1177 55 ICN 3705KHz 2315 61 11 382 18 ARES 3910KHz 4th SUN/MO@1300 15 0 26 1 Hoosier VHF Nets 6 Reporting 261 0 667 27

February ORS Traffic Reports: K9PUI 220, WA9JWL 138, KO9D 84, K9GBR 66, N9KNJ 48, KC9BZL 45, WB9OFG 43, KB9TUI 20, W9EHY 16, AB9AA 8, WB9NCE 4, W9XD 1. D9RN Cycle 1&2 for february 2003: QNI 496, Avg. 9.19, QTC 217 Avg 4.02 in 54 Sessions. Indiana represented 98.15%. Thanks to the following stations for their participation: KE9AK, K9GBR, N9KNJ, K9QDR, K9PUI, KC9UU, and KA9WPB. James Sellers K9ZBM Indiana Section Manager

## Wisconsin

WISCONSIN: SM: Don Michalski, W9IXG. BWN 3985 0500-0715 W9RCW. BEN 3985 1200 KE9VU. WBSN 3985 1715-1800 K9FHI. WNN 3723 1800 KB9ROB. WSSN 3645 1830 WA9ZTY. WIN-E 3662 1900 WB9ICH. WIN-L 3662 2200 W9UW. CTN 3994 Mondays @ 2000 KC9IS (All times are Central) With regret, I am informing you that Chuck Humboldt, KC9BWS, 50, passed away unexpectedly. Chuck was the EC for Columbia County. On February 4th, Mike Anuta, W8HKY celebrated his 102nd birthday. He is still active on the M&M ARC Sunday evening net, and is one of the oldest hams in the country. Both he and Marianne, who is 100 years old, reside at Rennes East in Peshtigo. Sherm, KB9Q, reported that the VHF/UHF FM Sprint was a resounding success! Hope this was just the first of many such events. 9RN report for February—Wisconsin represented in all 54 net sessions! Thanks go to the following stations for their participation in 9RN: W9CBE K9FHI WD9FLJ W9IBL KB9IME KB9KEG K9LGU W9PVD K9RTB W9SWL K9WVM. Lynn Tamblyn, K9KR, WAWC chairman for WARAC presented the Worked All Wisconsin Counties (WAWC), certificate #3, to Al Algiers, W9HR. He, also, has 2935 counties to his quest of the 3077 total and 246 countries! Al accomplished all this with just a dipole, a vertical, a G5RV and 75 watts. Congratulations, Al! You are an inspiration to many amateurs that high achievements are possible with modest stations. This is the beginning of severe weather. If you plan on being a severe weather spotter, we advise that you take courses that are available around the State. Is your club affiliated with the ARRL? If not, it is highly recommended that your club become affiliated. Requirements are modest and the benefits are high. Check out this site: <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/> for details. If the president needs assistance, for instance, checking to see if the club has the required 51% ARRL membership, please contact me. I can help by checking your membership list against the ARRL database. The MRAC reports that Rick Kissell, WB9GYT, and John Merkl, WB9PSE, donated an Icom 746 and antenna to Boy's Tech! Wonderful contribution! Thanks, guys! I hope that I meet many of you at the AES Superfest on April 4 & 5! 73, Don, W9IXG, w9ixg@arrl.org (608) 274-1886. Here is the news from STM, Denny, K9LGU: There's growing popularity of the "original digital" mode, and some operators would like to know what the attraction is. All traffic nets are intended to facilitate the passing of radiograms into, out of, or within an area. All of our section nets are "directed", that is, they have a net control who calls the shots. Each mode, however, has its own method of operation, its own shortcuts to make it more efficient. It's those shortcuts that add a special charm to CW nets. The best way to learn of the fun on CW is to listen to a net or two. The efficiency will be readily apparent. A lot is said in very few characters – although there may be a number of real characters on the nets. It's over quickly, and the participants have the special feeling they've done something very efficiently, sharing their skills and enjoying a special camaraderie. It's fun. PSE QNI TNX 73 – K9LGU

## **Dakota Division**

### **Minnesota**

SECTION NEWS FOR MONTH OF: February 2003 MINNESOTA SECTION

MANAGER:RANDY WENDEL-KM0D. NET FREQ TIME QNI/QTC/SESS MGR ~~~ ~~~~  
 ~~~~ ~~~~ ~~~~ ~~~~ MSPN/E 3860 5:30 P 1158/81/30 KB0OHI MSPN/N 3860 12 P  
 590/35/28 WA0TFC MSSN 3710 6 P N/A VACANT MSN/1 3605 6:30 P 271/148/28 K0WPK  
 MSN/2 3605 9:50 P 124/21/25 KC0HAW PAW 3925 9A-5P 3029/83/87 KA0IZA MONTHLY  
 STATION ACTIVITY REPORTS (SAR) STATION ORIG. REC'D. SENT DLVD. TOTAL  
 BPL NO.OPS. ~~~~~~ ~~~~~~ ~~~~~~ ~~~~~~ ~~~~~~ ~~~~~~ ~~~~~~ K0WPK 1 140 86  
 10 237 N 1 W0GRW 0 95 102 0 197 N 1 N0UC 4 29 72 50 150 N 1 W3FAF 0 61 61 12 134 N 1  
 WA0TFC 0 84 49 0 133 N 1 W0LAW 0 44 81 2 127 N 1 KC0HAW 1 27 51 9 88 N 1 W0HPD  
 3 25 21 11 60 N 1 AB0XN 11 15 11 15 52 N 1 K0PSH 0 0 29 0 29 N 1 N0JP 0 0 5 0 5 N 1  
 WA0YSL 0 0 4 0 4 N 1 PUBLIC SERVICE HONOR ROLL (PSHR) STATION 1 2 3 4 5 6  
 TOTAL ~~~~~~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~~~~~~ N0UC 40 40 10 0 0 10 100 WA0TFC 40 40 20 0 0 0 100  
 W0LAW 40 40 20 10 0 0 110 SECTION TRAFFIC MANAGER MONTLY REPORT NET  
 ABBR. SESS. TFC. NMCALL NTS LIASON ~~~ ~~~~~ ~~~~~~ ~~~~~~ ~~~~~~ ~~~~~~  
 MINNESOTA SECTION MSPN/E 30 81 KB0OHI RN-10, C4 PHONE NET/EVENING  
 MSSN, MSN/1 MINNESOTA SECTION MSPN/N 28 35 WA0TFC RN-10, C2 PHONE  
 NET/NOON MSPN/E MINNESOTA SLOW MSSN N/A N/A VACANT MSPN/E SPEED  
 NET (CW) MSN/1 MINNESOTA SECTION MSN/1 28 148 K0WPK RN-10, C4 NET (CW)  
 6:30P MSPN/E, MSSN MINNESOTA SECTION MSN/2 25 21 KC0HAW RN-10, C2, C4 NET  
 (CW) 10:00P MSPN/N PICONET ALLDAY PAW 87 HRS 83 KA0IZA RN-10, C2 WATCH  
 MSPN/N/E RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: RANDY WENDEL, KM0D, MINNESOTA  
 SECTION MANAGER

## South Dakota

SM Rich Beebe, N0PV VE Test Dates Huron: March 15, April 12, May 10 and November 1  
 Rapid City: June 7, November 15 Hot Springs: March 8, October 11 Sioux Falls: March 15  
 Huron Amateur Radio Club held their January meeting on January 16th with discussions on  
 events VHF Sweepstakes; 10-10 International; Winter SSB QSO; CQ WPX RTTY; Bismarck  
 Hamfest; Fargo Hamfest; Norfolk Hamfest. A letter with information on ILRP was read and  
 discussed. A letter from the Huron Chamber and Visitor's Bureau was also read. Lake Area  
 Radio Klub held their meeting on January 30th. One item of particular note was the discussion  
 on the Special Event station that was normally run from the Watertown Winter Farm Show. This  
 year the Lake Area Technical Institute planned to use their booth throughout the full five day  
 event and no other exhibitor has made a last minute cancellation. There were discussions on  
 promoting "Operation Deep Freeze" and also the possibility of operating from another nearby  
 town who may also have a farm show. SkyWarn recognition day was a big success with  
 approximately 13 hams participating in this national event. A discussion on the 2 meter link  
 system that the Glacial Lakes Repeater Association has undertaken occurred. The topic of the  
 Garden City repeater was also discussed in reference to the continuing problems with the link  
 system. It was also decided to draft a thank-you letter to Ron Souter, Codington County  
 Emergency Management Director. Hub Amateur Radio Club had their meeting on January 6th.  
 NWS SlyWarn Recognition Day participants operated 22 hours and made contacts with 36-40  
 states, 210 total contacts and qualified for 5 certificates. GOOD JOB! Boy Scout Klondike

Derby was mentioned as an upcoming event. Also an attempt to get some younger members to the meetings was needed. Black Hills ARC held their Annual Auction and Holiday dinner on February 22nd. To see some pictures from this even please surf to <http://www.w0blk.org/club.htm> Test dates are set and listed in the VE Testing section of this news listing. SEARC in Sioux Falls continues with the licening classes and are moving towards the light at the end of the tunnel. The club is planning on participating in the MS Walk and the MS 150 Bike Ride. Approval for a special event station for Space Day at the Washington Pavillion was grated and the event is open to all. Also on the horizon is the USS South Dakota Battleship Reunion special event station. The Pierre Amateur Radio Disaster team met on Tuesday, December 3 at 7PM. The Glacial Lakes Amateur Repeater Association was started as a result of not having reliable radio communication. About two years ago we started working on a grant from NOAA to get our west link into Bowdle repeater site. There's a new repeater in Sioux Falls area near Beaver Creek. I'm not sure who to recognize for installing the repeater except WA0IVB and Al Belk. NWS Spotter Training Spotter training will start soon please check the NWS web site for the class in your area. <http://www.crh.noaa.gov/fsd/spotters.htm>

## **Delta Division**

### **Arkansas**

Bob Ideker, WB5VUH SM – [www.all-arkansas-hams.org](http://www.all-arkansas-hams.org) - As the old Frank Sinatra song goes, - ...And now, the end is near... and its to time to start a new beginning... - and boy, what a great time I've had! You've given me a wonderful time to remember for the remainder of my life. Please join me in congratulating Dennis Schaefer, W5RZ, as the new Arkansas Section Manager for 2003-2005. His office will commence on April 1st & his email address at that time will become: [w5rz@arrl.org](mailto:w5rz@arrl.org). He will do a great job & know he will be looking forward to your help & support during his tenure. We've started the transitional phase of our exchange & feel sure that Dennis will be ready to assist you very soon. Help him, as you did for me. Now, please allow me offer my thanks to a lot of hams; but, rather than taking a chance of missing anyone individually, please allow me just to say one big THANK YOU that is meant for each one of you for allowing me to serve. Each of you have a special place in my memory, & your trust, support, friendship & willingness to help in setting& achieving goals goes far beyond the simple word of just saying, thanks. My sincere hope & desire was for you to have found something of value in the period that I've served. It was a lot of fun & I'll always remember how excited I got when hearing of something you as a ham, or you as a member were doing to help & the publicity you were given when you tried new things & received recognition of your accomplishments. We truly have a very talented ham section & the things you did, are currently doing, or in the future will do, have such a tremendous impact on the success of our hobby & our section. Go forward & reach harder for the goals you've set as becoming a ham. Do things you never thought you'd try. Get involved, by being a team player & foster your support to newer hams by sharing your knowledge & abilities. We've come to a lot of bridges & a few overpasses, but we've done them together. I've learned so much from each one of you & will



miss you & the daily events that comes with this position. You have been my inspiration & the reason that many things were tried & tested. You have a voice, a very strong voice in what is tried & done. The accomplishments, if many, were done through your desire to make them successful. Your ideas, suggestions, support, & willingness to try new things were incredible. Sure we stumbled some, especially me, but hopefully we learned & will use that knowledge for future opportunities that lie ahead. I truly wish each one of you a life of success & accomplishment not only in ham radio, but also in life itself. As our world changes, we too, must change to survive. Work hard to improve our hobby, & to stand-up to those who try to take it away from us. My hope will be that you will return to your clubs, to the ARRL, & anything that will advance our hobby. Again, words truly can't express my appreciation to each & all of you. It goes without saying that I think our Arkansas Section is definitely, second-to-none. Good luck & may God bless you & the United States of America in years to come. Traffic for February: W5RIP 160, N5NDO 93, W9YCE 30, K5BOC 30, W5RXU 30, WB5HIL 21, KC5TMU 7, AD5AM 5, KB5ILY 5, KC5RRU 3, KC5RDU 2, WA5EVW 2. And now, - 73 to each of you. - /.-. QRT.

## Louisiana

LOUISIANA SECTION NEWS – FEBRUARY 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. WA5LQZ reports that the National Weather Service (NWS) Drill on February 19 was a huge success! Amateurs from LA, MS, and TX representing NWS stations in Lake Charles, Shreveport, Jackson, and Corpus Christi, along with a large number of other served agencies (OEP, Red Cross, Salvation Army, etc.), were active on 7285 kHz during the drill. Over 50 stations from the tri-state area were active on the HF net and many others participated during the drill on VHF/UHF nets. In fact, time constraints limited the number of check-ins on the 40-meter net to served agency representatives and ARES/NTS officials! Alan did an excellent job of organizing the event and I want to thank him and all of the drill participants in demonstrating our unique ability to provide backup communications for the NWS and other served agencies. Alan also reports that the new LA ARES Net (LAN) will hold its very first session on Sunday, April 6, at 7:30 pm (local time) on 3873 kHz. A short training exercise will usually be conducted during the weekly net. ARES members and others interested in emergency communications are encouraged to check in as often as possible. W4DLZ reports that our section's CW traffic net, LCW, handled 150 messages during February, a new all-time record. This is an average of over five messages per session! A special thanks is owed to WA5CAV, W4DLZ, and W5NK for relaying much of this traffic from LCW to RN5. We are also seeing several new stations from the Baton Rouge and Shreveport areas checking into LTN these past few months. Everyone is invited to check into either or both of our section traffic nets whenever possible. LTN meets daily at 6:30 pm on 3910 kHz; LCW meets daily at 6:45 pm on 3673 kHz. New officers for the Central LA ARC are KD5EIY, President; KD5LCP, Vice President; N9VOC, Treasurer, and KD5MDQ, Secretary. 2003 officers for the Baton Rouge ARC are W5RLK, President; KC5ZZ, Vice President; N5ADF, Treasurer; and KB5TIQ, Secretary. New officers for the Twin City HC are KC5LFB,

President; KB5YEN, Vice President; and K5OR, Secretary/Treasurer. The Minden ARA officers are KB5PKW, President; KD5IUZ, Vice President; KB5WFE, Treasurer; and KD5LKB, Secretary. New officers for the Jefferson ARC are KD5PCR, President; KD5BPR, Vice President; W5RMX, Treasurer; and W5KB, Secretary. 2003-04 officers for the Acadiana ARA are KA5BSE, President; KN5GRK, Vice President; N5YCS, Treasurer; and KD5JSM, Secretary. Congratulations to all! New station appointments in our section's Field Organization are K1DW (Official Relay Station) and KB5SDU (Official Emergency Station). Traffic totals: K5MC 545 (BPL), W4DLZ 198, K5IQZ 112, W5NK 73, N5KWB 51, K5AZR 29, NF5B 29, W5PY 29, K5DPG 18. Public Service Honor Roll: AC5VN 126, K5MC 110, WA5LQZ 104, K5DPG 104, W4DLZ 100, K5IQZ 100, N5KWB 100, K5ER 99, W5PY 99, NF5B 84, W5NK 80, KC5LFB 77. Section net reports: sessions/QNI/QTC. LTN: 28/420/63. LCW: 28/155/150. 73, Mickey Cox K5MC LA Section Manager Email: k5mc@arrl.org LA Section Website: [www.cox-internet.com/k5dpg](http://www.cox-internet.com/k5dpg)

## Mississippi

Mississippi SM: Malcolm Keown, W5XX. Section Web Page: [www.arrlmiss.org](http://www.arrlmiss.org). Web Master: K5IBM at [BillScott@StoreReport.net](mailto:BillScott@StoreReport.net). ASM: N5PA, WJ5K, W5EPW, ACC: N5JGK, SGL: AB5WF, STM: KJ5YY. Looking for an interesting field trip for your club? Jeff, W0XV, has located and restored a large collection 50's through 80's ham gear. All of this equipment is in mint condition and ready to be put on the air. Jeff welcomes visitors to his working museum in Brookhaven. You can contact him at [w0xv@arrl.net](mailto:w0xv@arrl.net). Want to hear the ARRL Audio Newsletter each week? You can do this each Sunday Evening at 8:45 PM compliments of W5PPB by tuning in the Pelahatchie Repeater on 147.24. Jeff invites other repeater owners to link in. On the last Sunday of each month when the Central Mississippi Skywarn Net is in Session at 8:45, Jeff will transmit the Newsletter at 9:15. In spite of cold, rainy weather, tornadoes seemed to pop up pretty regularly during February. As a result SKYWARN has been up several times. DEC AB5WF reports that some of the folks manning W5JWX at NWS-Jackson have been KD5JPB, KC5WYY, KB5HKI, K5TMA, AC5SU, and AB5WF. The Skywarn linking repeater system is really starting to pay off in terms of providing real time spotter reports. Thanks to KA5SBK, W5PPB, KB5ZVK, KI5FW, W5SAR and many others, who maintain the repeaters and activate them when needed. Hams across Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas participated in joint tornado drill during the NWS Severe Weather Awareness Week to determine how well emergency communications could be supported for served agencies. In addition to the many EOCs and Red Cross Chapters that checked into the 7285 Net, NWS Stations in Lake Charles, Shreveport, Jackson, and Corpus Christi were on frequency. In addition there was considerable VHF activity. The exercise was organized by WA5LQZ, the Louisiana SEC. The Lowndes County ARC got nice write up in the February SERA Journal describing ARES response to the two tornadoes that struck Columbus in November. The article was prepared by K5VVA. The Vicksburg ARC again provided communications for the Annual Run Through History conducted at the Military Park in Vicksburg. Those participating were: K5NRK, KC5QZW, W5WAF, N5JGK, N5KWT, and WB5OWY. In addition, the Jackson County ARES/RACES

Group provided communications support for the American Heart Association's Walk for Life. Those supporting this effort were NN5AF, KB5ZIA, AC5GX, N5RPV, KF4WNK, AB5RS, KC5RID, and KC5VGL Welcome to new hams: Jonathan, KD5UTG - Madison; Jose, KD5UTH - Soso; Karil, KD5UTI - Soso; Bobby - KD5UWO, Poplarville; Dale, KD5UVV - Picayune; and Jesse, KD5UZY, Collinsville. In section matters, welcome to KB5JN as EC for Adams County and W3TWD as Manager of the Mississippi Slow Net. Many Thanks to KI5UK, who has been Slow Net Manager for 8 years. In addition thanks to Mr. Sam, N5AXQ, who has retired as MSPN Flower Chairman after 5 years of service. W5KWB will be taking over his job. And last but not least, congratulations to KC5YCH, who completed the FEMA Basic Incident Command System and Emergency Program Manager Courses. Regret to report the passing of KB5RCI of Tupelo and W5JJW of Summit. PIO Report: W5KWB; DEC/EC Reports: NN5AF, KD5FUO, AC5GX, KA5ICO, KD5JXL, N5NQ, AC5SU, WA5TMC, AB5WF, N5ZNT. Net Reports: sessions/QNI/QTC MSPN 28/3729/59; MTN 28/111/18; MSN 28/1329/9; PBRA 27/579/1; Jackson Co Em Net 27/321/7; MSSN 20/48/1; WCMS ARES 12/83/2; MAEN 6/91/1; Laurel and Jones Co ARES 4/87/0; SW MS ARES 4/66/0; JARCEN 4/76/0; MBHN 4/61/1; MLEN 4/51/0; Lowndes Co QSO Net 4/38/0; MCARA 4/65/0; HAEN 4/58/0; Metro Jackson ARES 4/66/0; CMSN 1/58/0; PSHR: KJ5YY 80, W5XX 76, AC5SU 74; Traffic: KJ5YY 20, W5LEW 13, W5KWB 11, W5XX 7. Compilation of traffic statistics provided by KJ5YY, Mississippi STM

## **Great Lakes Division**

### **Michigan**

Have you ever looked around and wondered where in the world is technology going to take us next and where does Amateur Radio fit into the whole picture of technology? If you go to any Swaps, Club meetings or any type of gathering of Hams, it seems that this topic has a way of rearing up and being talked about by someone either formally or just as a topic of conversation. Everyone has their own ideas on what Amateur Radio is all about; some feel it is for DXing, some feel the bands are for contesting others feel digital is the only way to go. There are those who feel that it should be used for emergency communications and traffic handling because after all, isn't that what we were given our privileges to do? There are some who feel that it should be a family thing so that you can stay in touch with the spouse or kids and find out how they are doing. Can we say that any or all of these are not correct in their thoughts and/or opinions? I personally think not. Amateur Radio is all of these things and more. Do you have to have the "Latest and greatest" to get on the air; of course not. Do you have to use all of the bands that are available to you; of course not again. We all have our own thoughts and ideas as to what we want to do, how much of it and what methods we want to try. Now where does all of this fit into the previous paragraph? There is something for everyone out there and there is always something that Amateur Radio will fit into. How many cell phones would there be if Hams had not developed the technology to get it there; how much television could you watch if some "old timer" hadn't messed around; how about just plain old broadcast radio stations? It was started by

some "old timer sitting behind that old crystal rig" who decided that there were things that should be put out there for the general public. Today it is not some "old timer" who maintains your repeater or keeps your radio going. There's a new generation of Amateurs who are working within the companies who are developing this "new" technology. How about the TV networks? Any idea how many Hams work behind the scenes, in booths, maintenance and development of the equipment used today? You don't see their call-signs plastered on TV, but they are there. Amateur Radio is fulfilling the demand for "technologically oriented" people in today's world. The same interests in electronic theory, principals and technology that are needed in all of these "wonderful new things" are the same things that draw someone to become a Ham. Does all of this mean that we can leave the "Defense of the Bands" up to these people and that those folks who are working within these areas are the only ones who need to do anything? No way does that leave a majority of the hams to "play" and do as they want. If you enjoy talking on the repeater or HF or via digital or whatever it is that you are into doing, you need to support the programs and those people who are actively involved in the "Big Picture". When the FCC asks for an opinion do not feel that the ARRL is the only one that has any real say and that my "vote" does not count, because it does. By expressing your thoughts to the Leadership in Michigan, Great Lakes Division and ARRL, you are showing that you care and that you feel a part of Amateur Radio. Do your part the next time they ask for an opinion, please don't just blow it off as not counting. John Freeman, N8ZE, ASM, Special Projects February SAR:KC8LBZ 1180;N8EIZ 346;KB8ZYY 337;W8XKW 217;K8LJG 186;VE3EUI 90;K8JN 70;AA8SN 49;WA8DHB 47;K8AMR 46;K8GA 46;N8JAT 37;K8UPE 34;K8ZJU 34;WB8RCR 31;KA8DDQ 25;WB8YPG 23;N8UN 20;K8RDN 14;K8FE 13;KA8LAR 6;KC8TLJ 4

## **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.arrl.org/nnj](http://www.hudson.arrl.org/nnj) I hope many NJ hams, both North and South Jersey, have written to Assemblymen Sires and Green asking for their support in releasing A3065 for vote in the State Assembly. If you have not done so,PLEASE DO! There still is time to show your support. Just go to the Hudson Division webpage (the link is from ARRL as well as the NNJ webpage)to get their addresses and a sample letter that has been prepared as a guide for YOUR RESPONSE. Your PRB-1 Committee is still meeting with various Legislators to gather support for A3065. But, we all still have to get letters to these Legislators by the end of March. I have been happy to hear that several NNJ clubs have been hosting letter writing campaigns to press the issue. We have a rough road to travel as New Jersey is a "Home Rule" state. That is, each town want's to enforce its own regulations. So, when you do write, please stress our support for local events and the ability to provide communications when all other efforts fail. Also, visit our section webpage for more detailed news from the PRB-1 Committee. Our SEC, Steve Ostrove K2SO has been doing a fine job in getting an ARES net going in the Section. It meets the 2nd Monday of each month on the

WS2Q (146.895) Morris OEM repeater at 8PM. The NCS rotates between County DEC's. Please check in to show your support to the Section. Also, our Morris County DEC, Bruce Gould KB2UQW is retiring. KQ2F will be replacing him. Please give Kathy the great support Bruce has gotten. And, Bruce, thank you for all your support to the Section. Dick, N3DV has been appointed DEC for SATERN (the Salvation Army ham radio arm). The section now has liaison with both the Red Cross and Salvation Army. (Thanks to K2SO). Congratulations to the 10-70 Repeater Club for being the FIRST group in the tri-state area to receive the National Weather Service SKYWARN Active Recognition Award. This is a major accomplishment and all of NNJ should be proud! On another front, our Monmouth County Local Interference Committee, founded by Steve, N2CKH, has been asked by the West Central Florida Section to use its charter as a model for coping with problems WCF is experiencing. This is another fine example of the efforts the Section has done as well as being recognized for its work! Thank you, Steve and your dedicated group. You have set an example for other sections to follow. As I have written in previous months I would like to visit with NNJ clubs. Just let me know your meeting dates and I will try attend. Again, my thanks to those clubs who have me on their mailing lists. Also, our webpage is another place to post ANY club activity such as special events, licensing classes and Public Service activities. The address is at the top of the page. Mark, N2WZB, our webmaster will be more than happy to list your club! Remember, the webpage is our source of news for NNJ. Please use it. 73, Bill Hudzik, W2UDT SECTION TRAFFIC Feb-03 NORTHERN 45N3RB1101210WB2KNS75712N2OPJ02353W2CC0217K1VDH

## **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 KANSAS STATE CONVENTION August 17 in Salina We'll have forums and discussions all inside the air conditioned facility. Trojan ARC has volunteered to handle incoming ARRL QSL bureau cards for all "ØN" cards. Cards sent thru the bureau with a zero followed by the letter N will be sorted at Colby and mailed from there. Mike K0FJ along with other NW KS hams is doing extensive APRS work. Gary KB0HH -E5 ARES Net Mgr. spent 10 days in East Tx working as a team leader with the Space Shuttle recovery effort. Sedgwick Co. ARES is rolling right along with a new local traffic net on Thursdays. Ft. Scott ARC in Bourbon Co. has their 444.175 repeater working much better now and using the club call KB0SWH. Hiram Percy Maxim Award deadline is March 31st. This award is bestowed on a ham under 21 years old. If you have someone in mind that would be a model representative of the youth of Amateur Radio please call me or send an e-mail. Affiliated clubs may take an instant rebate on New ARRL Memberships. New members or those that have been "out of the family" for 2 or more years qualify for the \$ 15.00 rebate program. The form and info may be found on ARRL Web at: [www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/forms/rebate.pdf](http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/forms/rebate.pdf) This is something your membership committee should look at. Registration for the next available Level I class

opens Monday, April 7, at 12:01 AM Eastern Time. Kansas RACES/ARES Net is held on the First Thursday of the month at 7PM on 3.940 MHz. Check in and make sure YOUR county and group are represented. January Nets/Sessions/QNI/QTC/Mgr: KSBN/31/1339/53/N0KFS KPN/22/359/43/N0KFS KMWN/31//705/557/WB0YWZ KWN/31/1007/736/WB0YWZ CSTN/26/2640/88/AB5PA QKS/62/324/116/K0PY QKS-SS/8/31/2 KB0DTI. SEC: 67 sessions QNI 830 QTC messages 18, Ks participants KB0AMY N0BTH KC0CFL KC0CIG WD0DDG WD0DMV KC0GDV AA0IQ AA0OM WA0SRR AB0UO K0UO KB0WEQ . Joseph WD0DMV SEC. TEN: 62 sessions, QTC 307, Ks 90% with K0PY W0WWR NB0Z WB0ZNY Dave W0SS/Mgr. Traffic: W0WWR 829 NB0Z 51 W0OYH 33 KB0DTI 28 N0RZ 21 AB0WR 20 KC0JCQ 19 WA0LYK 14 KI0BK 4 N0ZIZ 4 W0FCL 3 Please put me on your newsletter list, e-mail is fine too. 73- Ron 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: <http://www.arrl.org/sections/KS.html>

## Missouri

MARCH SECTION NEWS (FOR MORE NEWS CHECK THE ARRL WEBSITE SECTION NEWS) HAMFESTS Joplin Hamfest will start April 4th from 6-9 p.m. On April 5th there will be a 7:00 a.m. Breakfast with ARRL Director Wade Walstrom, W0EJ and a 12:00 noon Luncheon with ARLR Int'l Affairs V.P. Rod Stafford, W0ROD \$12.50 at the door. For more information check out the website at <http://www.joplin-arc.org> ARES UPDATE Don Moore, KM0R SEC Don Moore, KM0R, MO SEC announced the appointment of Roger Volk, K0GOB to be the project coordinator of the Missouri Emergency Packet Network. Roger will be a great addition to the ARES effort in the Missouri Section. Don is also looking for a replacement for Joe Counsil who recently resigned as the Digital Communications Coordinator. At the 2003 Crisis Communications Conference at Tan-Tar-A in Osage Beach there were a large number of ARES members, ECs, DEC, STM and SEC. Part of the regular program was a series of presentations by Amateur Radio ARES leaders under the topic "What Amateur Operators Can Do for You in a Disaster" Kurt Bleich, KB0HNR, Jeff Young, KB3HF, Don Moore, KM0R, John Kline, N0XG, and Bill Grimsbo, N0PNP. The entire program was geared to Crisis Communication and Amateur Radio played an important part of almost every presentation. (Note: SEC report follows the NTS report at end of Section News on the ARRL website) MISSOURI QSO PARTY 2003 The Boeing Employees Amateur Radio Society of St. Louis (BEARS) is pleased to announce that it will again be hosting the MO QSO Party in 2003. The event will be April 5th and 6th. The exchange for MO Stations will be a signal report and county. For Non-MO Stations their exchange will include the Signal Report and State/Province. You can get a one time 100 pt. bonus for working the Host Club station W0MA. Points will be two for CW and one for SSB. Send logs to [n0aj@arrl.net](mailto:n0aj@arrl.net) and check out the website <http://www.qsl.net/w0ma> for more info. CLUB NEWS MO SECTION Keith Haye, W0EG, ACC The Leadership of the Suburban Radio Club and the St. Louis Repeater Inc. met recently and the result was a proposed merger of the two organizations. St. Louis Repeater Inc President Jim Glasscock, W0FF and Suburban Radio Club President Steve Schmitz, N0JGU and their respective Boards have agreed to put the proposal to a vote of the membership in the 3rd quarter of 2003. The Boards are very positive

about the benefits of the merger and feel that if approved by the membership the new "St. Louis & Suburban Radio Club Inc. would continue the tradition of a strong and active Amateur Radio Club for the next fifty years. At the February meeting the Callaway Amateur Radio League membership re-elected the entire leadership for 2003. I'm sure that this represents a real vote of confidence to Pres. Gene Meador, WBØHKN and the rest of the leadership team. In January Doug, KI6DS, a hooncho in NorCal, the huge world-wide QRP group based in CA, sent all the members of Four State QRP group a free 80 meter transceiver kit. The "Pixie" doesn't compete with those multi-thousand dollar rigs, but according to Jay Rugar, KØETC of Joplin, MO the little xcvrs will amaze you with what you can hear and work. The St. Charles ARC members are fortunate to have Scott Schultz, NØIU write for their newsletter about the various modes available to Amateur Radio Operators. The March article focused on Hellschreiber "bright writing" mode. This mode is hardly new since it was first patented in 1929, but only with the modern computer software has it become a practical mode for Amateur Radio Ops.

## **New England Division**

### **Connecticut**

CONNECTICUT SECTION NEWS Will it ever be Spring? I am sitting here on Spring break wondering if the snow and ice will ever melt. Andy KA1SLG points out in the newsletter of the Stamford ARC that so many things have changed since last Fall-gas prices from \$1.30 in November to \$1.70, the world situation, another space shuttle disaster, the mess with the State budget, and the fact that we probably will not get to play on 5MHz. Gosh! The impending warm Spring air ought to cheer us up and bring more optimistic results! I enjoyed Andy's commentary so I thought I would share it with you. Candlewood ARA had W1QK, W1NG and K1CC give a demo of the DX packetcluster and the CT contesting software at their meeting which was held jointly with YCCC. Members are busy planning their ham fest which will occur on September 14. It's Science Fair time! ARRL was present at the Connecticut Science Fair at Quinnipiac College under the leadership of Jerry, KH6hu. Present were Al, AA1Do and Joe, AA1GW both of whom served as judges. Members of the Field Organization were also there to help out. Dan, KY1F was among the judges and Sparks, N1ES helped ARRL staff present the awards from ARRL to middle school students at their awards ceremony March 15. On April 3-6, the CPTV Science Fair will take place. The Newington Amateur Radio League is coordinating the exhibit. Many volunteers are needed-if interested, please contact Bob, KB1EYS kb1eys@arrl.net. Many thanks to all involved in both science fairs-our representation is very important to the growth of AmateurRadio. If we do not get involved in these activities, many young people will never know about our fine hobby. Efforts like these are lots of work-take the time to thank those you see involved in these activities. Thanks, too, to Jerry Hill, KH6HU of ARRL Who has served Amateur Radio so well coordinating "The Big Project." He will be leaving the Section in late May; his wife has completed her degree at Yale in Divinity. So Jerry and his wife will be going back to Hawaii where Jerry will pursue work in education and his wife will serve as a minister. To date, 40 schools are involved in The Amateur Radio Education And Technology Program.

We will certainly miss Jerry in CT-many of you met him at your club; why not take a minute to drop him a note wishing him well-kh6hu@arrl.org. Hearty congratulations to you both Jerry-all the best from CT! April 6 is the date of the Southington ham fest and all of the related meetings that seem to go on during that time. ARES plans to meet at the ham fest as well as The CT Spectrum Management Assn and the technical specialists. Our new technical coordinator plans to get together with the tech specialists and have their first eyeball meeting. Paul N1TUP told me an amazing story that has happened as a result of some fine publicity. Apparently, the BEARS of Manchester put an article in the local paper which told the story of Amateur Radio in emergency communications and invited Amateur operators interested in ARES who were not active to contact them. The invitation was also made to the public to become an operator. Well! Six inactive hams responded and six unlicensed enthusiasts responded. A class was run and everyone is working together. The hams who responded are helping the newly licensed operators and all are thoroughly committed to ARES! Their local OEM paid for the course and examination materials. Paul can tell you about the details better than I but what a fantastic story! Congratulations!

## **Rhode Island**

Greetings Fellow Rhode Island Amateurs: My personal thanks to our ASM and ACC, Bill WA1RI for writing last month's summary of section news. I was unexpectedly held captive in one of the Boston hospitals treating an infection in my foot and couldn't get to a computer by the publication deadline of 2/12. Actually, Bill did such a better job of writing that I tried to convince him to write it every month but Bill didn't bite. So, you're stuck with reading my summary again. Seriously, I want to thank all the clubs for extending their hospitality to Bill and me over the last several months. We have visited nearly all the ARRL affiliated clubs in RI and plan to return in 2003 since our terms as Section Manager and Asst. SM has been extended for two more years. Bill and I plan to continue in our program to encourage and support club programs. The Pawtuxet Valley ARC is very active, planning to support the March 22nd canoe race in No. RI and the Camporee scheduled for May at Camp Yawgoo. PVARC President Ken Carr and DEC Matt Hackman are both dedicated Boy Scout leaders and will lead the way for the club to lend a hand. The American Diabetes Association is looking for communications help in the Ocean State 150 Bicycle Race on May 31 and June 1. PVARC is leading the drive to secure sufficient volunteers. DEC KB1FUP will be coordinating ARES volunteers for the activity. Contact KB1AWV or KB1FUP if you can help. The Newport Co RC has a new slate of officers. Best wishes to all, especially President Doris Oliveira, KB1EEG. Good luck with your winter and spring programs. SATERN EMA construction is progressing thanks to a generous donation of building materials by W1TKO. The Fidelity ARC is helping in many ways to support the Salvation Army leadership's needs. Several copies of the newest video titled "Amateur Radio Today" have been provided to them to familiarize them and their served agencies of the multiple uses of Radio Amateurs. In it narrator Walter Cronkite's own words, "ham radio is the last resort of communications. It will get through when all else has failed." Get ready for the spring '76 Flea Market and Auction and plan to attend. It's scheduled for Saturday, May 10 and is held at the VFW post picnic area in Forestdale, close to BVARC's test location in Slatersville. Besides



being a great social event for the entire region, including Massachusetts and Connecticut, it provides the funds to maintain operation of several RI repeaters including the popular 146.76 machine. Due to it's wide coverage, our ARES communications training and actual deployment depend on this repeater. To show ARRL's support of this essential program, As your SM, I will again be providing a large selection of new and popular League publications to the auction. Everyone wins; you will buy your needed additions to the shack bookshelf at a bargain, RIAFMRS will gain major funding to pay its bills and ARRL will demonstrate its local support in a most tangible manner. This spring, about \$350 worth of publications will be auctioned, so be there! You who have heard WA1RI and me speak at club meetings know that we are passionate concerning our need for ARRL in these days when so much US business and international money and effort is being thrown at acquiring spectrum for all sorts of purposes outside of Amateur Radio. Whether we always agree with every move made in Newington (surely I don't), we need to have them in the battle fighting for our bands and privileges. There's no other group or lobby who is capable and motivated to work for us, none! Think about it for a moment and tell me, IF NOT THEM, WHO? TFC: N1YKH 195

## **Vermont**

**ARRL VERMONT STATE CONVENTION** The Northern Vermont Winter Hamfest was held on Saturday, February 22, 2003, and has been deemed an unqualified success by the tireless organizer Mitch Stern W1SJ. Several Hams were seen trotting off with their treasures in tow. At the test session, 19 applicants took 25 exams and passed most of them. A poor weather outlook, that turned out to be primarily false, may have kept some folks away, but that did not stop a record number of people from New Hampshire making an appearance. The club sponsor was Radio Amateurs of Northern Vermont (RANV). In other news the Burlington Amateur Radio Club (BARC) is continuing with "Elmer Night", started by Bob DeVarney WE1U. The purpose of Elmer Night is three fold; first to help new or potential Hams operate, second to allow general access to the station, third to have more members familiar with operating the station so as to support ARES / Red Cross activities when needed. Elmer Night is the second Friday of each month at 6:30 PM at the Red Cross (Club Station) on Mansfield Avenue in Burlington; this coincides with the VE session. Contact Dave Berteau W1HRG for more information on Elmer Night. The Green Mountain Wireless Society (GMWS) reports that meeting attendance is up at their winter meetings. Some members have completed the EC-001 course and they are constantly looking for ways to improve their emergency preparedness. The Southern Vermont Amateur Radio Club (SOVARC) is hoping to get the vanity call sign K1SV for their club. They also report that their local repeater is now hooked up via Echolink to the Internet. When I was down there recently for a meeting, a member checked in via Echolink to the meeting from Florida. In other news, they are also working on a 440 MHz link for the 2-Meter repeater. The Central Vermont Amateur Radio Club (CVARC) has been teaching its members the ways of Fox Hunting, via articles and meetings. This should net Vermont some more highly skilled radio operators! Carl KC1WH and I recently spoke at a recent club meeting. We were very impressed with the fine turn out and sincere dedication to the hobby that we saw while we were there.

Congratulations go out to Burr & Burton Amateur Radio Club. They were recently renamed a Vermont ARRL Affiliated Club. I am always pleased to announce what our Vermont Ham Radio Clubs have been up to. They are the backbone of our fun hobby. If you do not currently belong to a club, I encourage you to do so. A lot can be learned or taught a regularly scheduled club meeting. February Traffic Report Submitted by STM Bert Morton W1DFU  
NAME/SESSIONS/QNI/QTC/MINUTES/MGR VT YL NET 4/36/0/130 KA1LDS VPEN  
4/28/0/295 KC1YW GMN 24/651/19/1912 N1HXC VTNH 28/99/45/293 WA1JVV VTPTN  
28/415/51/1400 CVTN 27/145/21/400 AA1PR 73 Bert W1DFU

## **Northwestern Division**

### **Idaho**

In late February, I returned from a week in Washington D.C. where I met with state emergency managers and a number of federal agencies. March 1st is the day that 170,000 federal employees from 22 federal agencies merged in the Department of Homeland Security. One of those agencies is FEMA. For all practical purposes, FEMA no longer exists, as of March 1. Rather they are being divided into two directorates of the Department of Homeland Security including, the Office of National Preparedness in the Border and Transportation Security Directorate, and the Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate. We in amateur radio have worked closely with FEMA and with the Office of Civil Defense before FEMA was formed. So you can expect to continue to work closely with the Department of Homeland Security. The names have changed, but helping the public and private sectors during major emergencies and disasters is still an important amateur radio priority of both the American Radio Relay League and the RACES organizations of the various states that still have an active RACES program. Should we go to war with Iraq, and looks more and more like we will, I am increasingly concerned that communities in Idaho are not as well prepared as they need to be to deal with the effects of terrorism. About 90% of the people polled by Boise State University after 9-11 said they didn't believe that there is a threat to Idaho. Frankly, I don't know if there is a threat or not. What I do know, is that preparedness is not a matter of whether or not there is a threat. Preparedness is about being prepared for whatever may occur, whether we think there is a threat or not. You either are -- or you are not -- prepared. There's no middle ground. The President has asked all Americans to engage themselves in the war on terrorism by being prepared. That means individuals, families, businesses, communities, counties and states. I strongly urge you to take the time to prepare your family, and to join RACES or ARES to help prepare your communities. I encourage you to keep yourself informed by checking the Department of Homeland Security web page at [www.dhs.gov](http://www.dhs.gov). 73, John, K7BDS Proud to be... Idaho's Section Manager

### **Montana**

February was a pretty calm month for Amateur activity in the Montana Section. The only event known was the annual support in communications for the Race To The Sky Dog Sled Race. Due

to weather and snow conditions routing was changed and check points removed. This resulted in the Race officials being able to communicate themselves by Cell Phone between the start line at Fawn Creek and Race Headquarters in Lincoln. This resulted in the Amateur Support being terminated right after the start. If next years snow and weather is normal we will be asked back to man the start finish and check points. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for the support you have given me as Section Manager for the past 8 plus years. It has been a very enjoyable experience and I urge you to continue your support for your new Section Manager Doug Dunn K7YD. Also continue to check in on the Montana Traffic Net and Montana Section Net as well as local ARES Nets conducted by your clubs. 73's Darrell Thomas N7KOR Net/QNI/QTC/NM MSN 133/3 K7YD, MTN 2464/51 KD7HWV, IMN 610/82 W6ZOH

## **Western Washington**

WWA February 2003 Section News Summary Communications Academy The Communications Academy 2003 will take place Saturday and Sunday, March 22 and 23 in Shoreline at their conference center 18560 1st Ave. NE, Shoreline, WA, just north of Seattle. More info & registration is available at: [www.commacademy.org](http://www.commacademy.org). Legislative Report SB 5200 is now included in a bill that will establish a workgroup to study Amateur Radio issues. The workgroup will have 6 members 3 of which will be Hams. See: [http://www.leg.wa.gov/pub/billinfo/2003-04/Senate/5200-5224/5201-s\\_03052003.txt](http://www.leg.wa.gov/pub/billinfo/2003-04/Senate/5200-5224/5201-s_03052003.txt) for a copy of the proposed bill. District 2 DEC Owen Mulkey N0WO Email: [owen@olympus.net](mailto:owen@olympus.net) Owen, N0WO and his bride Nan, KD7AKA were elected "Citizens of the year" of Marrowstone Island in recognition of their work in emergency communications. District 5 Clark Co., EC Bob Goodale, K7YFJ Email: [rwgoodale@attbi.com](mailto:rwgoodale@attbi.com) On Monday, February 17th, the ARES/RACES meeting was held at the CRESA center. John, KB7FND, provided a critique of the recent ARES callout in support of the minor flooding experienced on Friday, January 31st. Rich Foster from the 911 center showed a brief video describing Clark County Emergency Services and conducted a tour of the 911 center. We also practiced message traffic handling, with a follow-up critique. District 6 – Medical Marina Zuetell, N7LSL Email: [zuetell.m@ghc.org](mailto:zuetell.m@ghc.org) Duane Mariotti, (WB9RER) Director of Clinical Engineering and Emergency Preparedness Liaison, Harborview Medical Center Seattle announces that the Washington State Department of Health plans to provide amateur radio VHF and UHF transceivers for the 98 hospitals in Washington State. WB9RER emphasizes that equipment does not make the system. The program is recognition by Washington State Department of Health, Washington State Hospital Association and hospitals across Washington State of the critical infrastructure amateur radio operators provide in disasters. Duane comments, "Much, if not all, of the credit for this program is the result of the significant hours and work of Marina Zuetell, N7LSL." SEC Comments Jim Pace K7CEX Email: [k7cex@arrl.net](mailto:k7cex@arrl.net) Please welcome the following new ECs; King Co., Ron Zuber KC7RWT, email: [Ron.Zuber@METROKC.GOV](mailto:Ron.Zuber@METROKC.GOV); San Juan Co., Sam Hendrickson AC7HR, email: [ac7hr@rockisland.com](mailto:ac7hr@rockisland.com); and Pacific Co., Dan Dimick, KD7PYN, email: [kc7pyn@arrl.net](mailto:kc7pyn@arrl.net). Thank you to the outgoing ECs who have served so well, Charles Ratcliffe, W7HND and Rick Wilcox, WA7RW. Your hard work and dedication is greatly appreciated. STM Report Pati Urie

W7ZIW Email: w7ziw@arrl.net QNIs: NOONTIME 10468, WARTS 3384, CCAIN 130, WSN 854, WCN 854, NWSSB 62, and PSTS 25. Individual traffic totals: W7ARC 148, N7AJ 127, K7BDU 822, W7DPW 20, W7LG 68, W7QM 402, KJ7SI 27, W7TVA 480, W7ZIW 79. Official Observer Report John Burk W7BO Email: w7bo@adelphia.net HOURS MONITORED: W7BO 88, N7QHC 14, KG7U 6, KK7JA 33, W7POE 20, W7DO No report. Up to date news can be found on the WWA Section News web page at: <http://www.arrl.org/sect/wwa>.

## **Pacific Division**

### **Nevada**

Greetings to everyone in the Nevada Section! The month started off in the worst of all possible ways. On Thursday, February 6th, Pacific Division Director Jim Maxwell W6CF passed away. His death was sudden, unexpected and a numbing shock to everyone. I had known Jim since he was Vice-Director under Brad Wyatt K6WR and I have never known a more intelligent and passionate advocate for amateur radio. One of Jim Maxwell's most passionate loves was the history of amateur radio. He wrote a seven-page retrospective covering 125 years of amateur radio for the January 2000 issue of "QST" and would often spend hours on end in "the cage" at ARRL Headquarters sorting through historical items. I made a contribution to the ARRL Historic Preservation Fund in Jim's memory. Others may wish to remember him in the same way. Upon Jim's death, Vice-Director Bob Vallio W6RGG was automatically elevated to the position of Director. A few weeks later, ARRL President Jim Hanie W5JBP appointed East Bay Section Manager Andy Oppel N6AJO to replace Bob Vallio as Vice-Director. Rosalie White K1STO subsequently appointed Dennis Franklin K6DF to fill the remainder of Andy's term as East Bay Section Manager. On February 8th we traveled to Fallon for the Rural Amateur Radio Association (RARA) meeting. President John Hughes WB6QGH welcomed a new slate of officers and an enthusiastic group of members and guests from surrounding Lyon and Churchill Counties. RARA is a unique club serving the needs of rural Nevada and their next meeting is scheduled for April 12 in Pahrump. On the 17th we attended the monthly training meeting of the Douglas County Amateur Radio Team (DCART) where a presentation was made on VHF packet radio and its application in emergency communications. Starting in April, DCART (in cooperation with the Carson Valley Radio Club) will be putting on a nine-week classroom version of the ARRL ARECC Emergency Communications Level I Course. Speaking of the Carson Valley Radio Club (CVRC), at their meeting on the 22nd it was announced they had finished the year with 176 members, a 20% increase over last year. With seventy people at the meeting and lots of activities planned, they are looking forward to a busy year. On the evening of the 25th I traveled to Silver Springs where four of us met with the Vice-Principal of Silver State High School to discuss enrolling the school into the ARRL Education and Technology Program. With plans for a ham radio station and licensing programs, they stand a good chance of joining what Jim Hanie has called "The Big Program." In the latest issues of the Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society (SNARS) newsletter "Cracklin' Static" it was announced that their sponsorship of the annual Reno Hamfest in July is being redirected this year to support the May

10 Spring Ham Swap sponsored by the Reno Area Metro Simplex (RAMS) club. By pooling their resources they knew they could put on a better event than either club could individually. Along with the RAMS/SNARS Spring Hamswap on May 10, the month of May will also play host to EMCOMMWEST 2003 sponsored by the Northern Nevada Amateur Radio Services (NNARS) on the 31st. After several years in Northern Calif., this emergency communications symposium is moving to Reno where it is expected to expand to two days next year and become an event of regional scope. It is nice seeing clubs working together. If more clubs were to cooperate like this, there would be no limit to what they could accomplish. Please send me your concerns, opinions, questions and newsletters. Until next month, 73, Dick W6OLD Newsletters: LVRAC, SNARS Traffic Totals: W7TC 152, K7NHP 82, N7CPP 39, W7VPK 31, NV7YL 4 Public Service Honor Role: W7TC 90

## **Pacific**

SM Report February 2003. This was written in late February. I want to send my sincere condolences to Jim Maxwell's family and especially his wife Trudie. As was reported last month, we had a SET on January 18, 2003. The scenario was a terrorist biological attack and the exercise was mostly for Big Island Hospitals. One hospital from Oahu and one from Kauai also participated for a total of eight. I want to thank everyone. As a direct result of the exercise, Kohala hospital released a grant to set up equipment there. On February 19 John Buck (KH7T), Henry Ah Sam (KH6GQM), Warren Gunderson (KH6AOR), Herb Vanderbeek (WY6G) and I (AH6J) delivered, set up and tested the equipment. Over the last month a lot of repeater work was done on the Big Island. Levels were set or checked on both the Mauna Loa 146.82-machine and the Kilohana UHF link. This link connects Mauna Loa to Hualalai 147.16-. The Mauna Kea equipment was swapped and now seems to be working a lot better. I went to Oahu and spoke at the Koolau ARC meeting on 2/8. I spoke on power line interference. I visited the Battleship Missouri the next day. I even managed to make one contact. My wife and I went to the Kona Amateur Radio Society meeting on the 23rd. They held elections so that reminded me to list all the officers of all the clubs. The list is below. If there are any errors please let me know. We had rather intense thunderstorm on Friday 2/21. The storm started several fires in Hawaii Volcano's National Park in which thousands of acres were burned. It was spectacular from Volcano Golf Course. Ron Phillips, AH6HN, showed a DX video at the February 8th meeting of BIARC. Many people reported their March QST arrived near February 20th. We hope it is not a one time occurrence. Wayne Jones, NH6K, reported on the Great Aloha Run 2/27. He reports plans to support the Honolulu Festival Parade on 3/16. Dennis Niles, KH6XT, reported three candidates received licenses including Joe Bommarito, AH6TQ, who passed every element in one sitting. The testing was done during the Maui ARC's annual Christmas party. Lee Wical, KH6BZF, reported that Robert and Kelly Tatz both passed their General exams this month. Kauai Amateur Radio Club <http://www.karc.net/> Big Island Amateur Radio Club <http://www.interpac.net/~biarc/> Maui Amateur Radio Club <http://www.kh6rs.org/> Honolulu Amateur Radio Club <http://aditl.com/ham/harc/> Emergency Amateur Radio Club <http://www.qsl.net/earc/> Koolau Amateur Radio Club <http://www.karc.us/> Kona Amateur Radio Society <http://www.cfht.hawaii.edu/~veillet/hwars.html> Molokai Amateur Radio Club

## **Sacramento Valley**

SACRAMENTO VALLEY SECTION: SM, Jettie Hill, W6RFF. We are now in the 3rd month of the year. How times flies! Here is some section news. PACIFIC DIVISION: Bob Vallio, W6RGG, has assumed the position of Director of the ARRL Pacific Division, to replace Jim Maxwell, W6CF, who became a silent key. To replace Bob as Vice Director, the ARRL President appointed Andy Oppel, N6AJO, to complete the 3 year term. Directors and Vice Directors are now elected for a 3 year term. Section Managers are elected for two years. NEVADA COUNTY ARC: Don, N6YYK, made a presentation on Automatic Packet/Position Reporting System, (APRS). He described the APRS system, equipment required and how to set-up different APRS stations. Bill, KG6BAJ, is setting up a tri-County Simulated Emergency Test - Nevada, Yuba and Placer Counties. KS6S will teach a series of 5 Amateur Radio licensing classes for Tech and Tech plus, in Grass Valley. John, KK6XJ, is the contact for License Exams in Grass Valley, [kk6xj@juno.com](mailto:kk6xj@juno.com). Barry, K6ST, is organizing an ARES team in the Truckee area in Eastern Nevada County. RIVER CITY ARCS: RCARCS meets the 1st Tuesday/month at Sacramento County Corporation Yard (formerly SMUD building). Ken, WO6J, manages the VE sessions, held on the 3rd Saturday/month at the Carmichael Elksodge, Corner of Cypress and Hackberry. Information at [www.n6na.org](http://www.n6na.org) or email [n6na@arrl.net](mailto:n6na@arrl.net). YUBA SUTTER ARC: The club now meets at the Yuba County Library in Marysville, on the 2nd Friday/month at 7 pm. They are preparing to help on the 18th annual Bike-Around-the-Buttes, to raise money for the Diabetes Foundation. There will be 10, 17.5, 40 and 100 mile courses. They will provide communications from 7 am till 4:30 pm on 12 April. The ARES group has received donations of a 56' tower, tri-band beam, HF vertical and a rotator to be used for the Sacramento Valley Red Cross/ARES Emergency Communication Center in Yuba City. They are in need of other equipment. SIERRA FOOTHILLS ARC: VE exams were held on the first Saturday/month in Folsom. WW6G is the coordinator, [ww6g@arrl.net](mailto:ww6g@arrl.net) or [www.sf-arc.org](http://www.sf-arc.org) for information. Birton, N6UG, AEC for Placer County spoke on ARES and EMCOMM organizations for emergency communications. MOTHER LODGE DXCC: Kay, K6KO and Ken, K6TA, presented a slide show on their DXpedition to Aruba, for the 10 and 160 meter contests. Several members volunteered to help at the International DX Convention in Visalia, in May. Profile of the month was on Ron, KG6CMS, who did lots of skydiving and flying, besides amateur radio. The club has Field Day plans in the works. NORTH HILLS RC: NHRC will present "What is Amateur Radio" on April 15. There will be demonstrations and information on HF radio, Morse Code, Packet Radio, FM repeaters, ARRL, etc. The public is invited to learn about ham radio. Meeting is at 5026 Don Julio Blvd, corner of Elkhorn Blvd in Sacramento - the former SMUD building. They will also be hosting a Hamfest on May 18, in Fair Oaks at the High School on Madison Ave. SUN CITY ROSEVILLE: The Sun City Roseville Amateur Radio Group meets on the fourth Thursday/month for lunch. They are interested in forming a club in Roseville. There are nearly 300 licensed hams in Roseville/Granite Bay area. For more information contact Bob, K6JWR at [scotir@sprynet.com](mailto:scotir@sprynet.com). At present there are 11 members and they meet at the Sun City

Restaurant. TRANSMITTER HUNT: A group from several Sacramento area clubs met at William Land Park for an introductory T-Hunt. On March 23 they will have two hunts. At 10 am near Blodgett Reservoir, for a mobile hunt and at 1 pm at the Shrine Activities Center in Sacramento, for an on-foot hunt. Talk-in for both events is 145.250-, pl 162.2. SECTION NETS: Second Wednesday at 7 pm on 146.085+, pl 127.3, and 7:30 pm on 3987 KHz. We had approximately 30 stations check-in on each session in February! INFORMATION: I need more information from the Clubs and Members in the Northern part of the Section. PLEASE Write, Email, Snail Mail, Bulletins, etc!! 73, Jettie Hill, W6RFF

## **San Francisco**

The Valley of the Moon-Sonoma swapmeet is April 26. There is a swap area, displays VE sessions breakfast, and a beginners foxhunt. This all starts at 0800 and is over at noon. Time to go to the square in downtown Sonoma and finish out a nice day. The San Francisco Section Convention will again be held in Ferndale. This will be June 20 (setup), and the 21 and 22. Rosalie White, K1STO, head of the ARRL Field and Education Services Unit will be coming out to join us and see the beautiful Ferndale area. This is the weekend prior to Field Day and with its B and Bs, camping/RV sites at the fairgrounds, it would make a nice family getaway. Motels are available in the area also. There are swap tables, vendors, food, forums, displays, and a GOOD banquet Saturday night (limited seating) so get your reservations in early. There will also be a foxhunt Sunday morning. It is understood that a Level I Emergency Course will be taught with half of it on Saturday and half on Sunday (pre-registration required). See [www.humboldt-ARC.org](http://www.humboldt-ARC.org) for additional details. Del Norte County ARC is building foxhunt antennas and starting to have foxhunts also. There is an IRLP node there under construction. For additional information on this linking and method of communications, see [www.irlp.net](http://www.irlp.net). Fort Bragg and Willits ARCs are getting busy with public service events as are the other counties in the section. Runs, walks, motorcycle races, and other events are good training grounds for emergency work. Get involved in your local clubs activities. The Marin and West Marin ARCs are busy getting emergency communications ready for any event that they might be needed in. Many new hams are coming from the classes given by these folks also. West Marin is working with the Park Service for radio surveys of the park trails to help for lost hikers or other emergencies. Nothing has been heard from the Hamilton Radio Club lately. Sonoma County hams/ARES are working with the county ACS emergency communications. A MOU will be signed shortly to give better guidelines for the procedures that will be implemented if needed. Several members of SCRA worked at the Junior College radio station recently as the gateway station for the International Space Station Amateur Radio sessions to schools. This was a big success. San Francisco County is working on another repeater to help cover the area. Serious work is being done with the City/County by the ARES group. Much time has been spent in meetings and on basic ground work for emergencies. This includes all clubs there in the city. The REDXA has a nice newsletter and it is very interesting to note that many of them are HF contesters. Reading their last newsletter indicates that many of them compete in the contests and do VERY well. I believe the section is well represented by them. A lot of these contests are in cw, so loosen up the elbow, get out the key, and enjoy the original mode of radio

communications. A beautiful quilt has been made by a member for a raffle to help fund the Northern California DX Foundation. It will be raffled at the DX Convention in Visalia in May. EMCOMM WEST is the premier emergency communication meeting in the western United States. It will be held in Reno this year on May 31. It should be noted that KE6EAQ is no longer the Section Emergency Coordinator for the San Francisco Section. I will be starting a search for a new SEC in a few weeks. This position requires ARRL membership (as all appointed positions do), and will require that ARRL Emergency Management Courses be passed. Any one interested, start putting together a resume and interests for submission soon. A second web site for the section is now under construction. This additional website will be able to have pictures, more written information, and be updated on a daily or weekly basis as needed. I hope that I can get enough information from the various groups to be able to do that, much less get them mentioned in the main section news. Please send your club information to me at [wa6klk@arrl.org](mailto:wa6klk@arrl.org)

## **San Joaquin Valley**

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY Report for the Month of February 2003 : SM Charles McConnell, W6DPD- ASM K6YK, ACC W6DPD, SEC K6IN, OOC N1VM, STM K6RAU, PIC W7WN, TC W6TE. The following became Silent Keys in February: KF6FOP, W6PWV, KB6VBR and KC6UGN. They will be missed. Congratulations to the Turlock Amateur Radio Club on its 75th Anniversary in 2003. Congratulations to N6TST on winning the QST Cover Plaque Award for the Feb. 2003 QST article "Portable in Paradise, Cruise Ship DXing". 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](mailto: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](mailto: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. EMCOMM West is Saturday May 31, 2003, in Reno, NV. Check [www.cvrc.net/emcommwest](http://www.cvrc.net/emcommwest) for information. Pacificon 2003 will be October 17-19, 2003 at the San Ramon Marriott in San Ramon CA. This is a new venue for the convention. Check [www.pacificon.org](http://www.pacificon.org) for information. WA2MSU completed the ARRL Level 1 Emergency Communications Course. WA6QYR completed the Level 2 course. New officers of the Tulare County ARC are pres KF6KMY; vp W6SLT; sec KC6YRC; and treas WB6MUD. The club meets the 4th Thursday in Visalia. The clubs webpage is at [qsl.net/tc-arc](http://qsl.net/tc-arc). New officers of the Kern County Central Valley ARC are pres N6ZFN; 1st vp KF6JOQ; 2nd vp AC6OS; sec KD6UQZ; and treas KF6AMF. The club meets in Bakersfield. The webpage is located at [www.qsl.net/w6lie](http://www.qsl.net/w6lie). Field Day is the 4th weekend of June, this year on June 28-29. There are some changes to the rules for 2003. You can download the rules from [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org). Traffic for February: WA2MSU 98, KB6QIB 39. PSHR WA2MSU 110, K6RAU 51.



# 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. One of the things I have to do as Section Manager is to help update our database of Field Organization appointees. With well over 200 appointments in North Carolina, it can be challenging to make sure that addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses are up to date. One of the requirements for official Field Organization appointees is that they must maintain current ARRL membership in order to retain their appointments. I'm not going to jump the gun and cancel an appointment immediately after someone's membership expires, but if you go several months without renewing I have no choice but to cancel the appointment. If your ARRL membership has expired, please renew. Besides supporting the Field Organization, the League is our strongest defender of amateur radio against those who want to take our frequencies and take down our antennas. These other interests collectively spend millions of dollars in pursuit of their goals, and because of this we need to make sure that amateur radio has a strong voice to let people know who we are and why we are important to our communities and our nation. Without the support of League members, we would have no Field Organization, period. I doubt we would have very much left of amateur radio either. Just like any organization, the League is not perfect, but it is our best hope for making sure that amateur radio is an activity that people will continue to enjoy for generations to come. Looking forward to seeing the results of the digital communications exercise discussed last month. To summarize: during the week of March 16-22, send a message to me using any digital mode (and preferably in NTS format). Most of the messages will end up being relayed, that's perfectly OK and in some ways it will be more educational. Try to relay messages using digital modes if possible; if you relay using a non-digital mode add an operator's note to that effect so I will know what messages were purely digital and what messages required help on phone or CW. My packet radio address was incorrectly reported last month - it is W4CC@W4BFB.#CLT.NC.USA. If you want to send via Pactor can send messages via Carl, W4EAT on one of the following frequencies (Mark on LSB): 7PM - 7AM 3618 3620 3622; 7AM - MIDNIGHT 10128 10141; 7AM - 8PM 14096 14098. Carl meet section nets at: 7:45AM, 6:30PM, 7PM, 8PM & 10PM. Often meet D4RN 1:45PM. Otherwise he is scanning. It should be interesting to see how many messages I get and what kind of relays take place to get it here. I hope to see you at one of these upcoming hamfests: Down East (Kinston) March 23, RARSfest (Raleigh) April 13, Catawba Valley (Morganton) April 19. February Traffic: W4EAT 865 (BPL), W4UEF 345, K4IWW 250, K4RLD 191, KE4JHJ 100, WA4OBR 81, AA4YW 68, W3HL 46, KF4OCU 45, AD4XV 43, KG4OQA 40, N4FHM 38, W4FAL 33, WD4LSS 31, KE4AHC 30, W4CC 28, W4LN 24, N0SU 23, N4TAB 18, W4EHF 18, WA4SRD 14, N4NTO KB8VCZ 6, KE4BKR 3. January Traffic: W4IRE 59. February PSHR: KE4JHJ 150, K4RLD 120, W4EAT 120, K4IWW 120, N4TAB 118, WD4LSS 105, KG4OQA 100, N0SU 93, W4FAL 93, W4CC 80, AA4YW 80, KF4OCU 71.

## South Carolina

Greetings to all Amateur Radio Operators! This is Dr. Jim, N2ZZ with the March Section Manager's Report. I'm happy to say that almost all ARRL-SC cabinet positions have been filled, and many of the cabinet appointees have made appointments to their respective programs. Charlie Miller AE4UX, SEC has filled 5 out of 7 DEC spots, and has appointed 21 EC's. He is still actively recruiting for these positions. Sue Chism N4ENX, OOC has filled 7 OO spots. Adam Hoffman AF4QZ, STM has appointed 8 ORS's and 7 NM's. Dan Donovan, KF4VIS PIC has appointed 7 PIO's. Marc Tarplee N4UFP, TC has filled 8 TS spots. I know that this is a cornucopia of acronyms, but please check out the field services portion of the ARRL website: <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/org/> to see what these positions are all about. Perhaps there is an ARRL field service position that will interest you! Please keep in mind that the ARRL-SC website is at <http://www.qsl.net/arrl-sc/>, and there you will find current information on the ARRL field service in South Carolina and contact information. I also encourage everyone to join the ARRL-SC mail server by sending an e-mail to this address: [arrl-sc-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:arrl-sc-subscribe@yahoogroups.com). This will allow a dialog between the amateur radio operators of South Carolina. Please also keep in mind that the Section Manager's report is given weekly on the air on the SC SSB net, which meets on 3915 kHz, at 1900 Eastern time. On a special note, the SC SSB net is now celebrating its 45th year of service! Now for the developments for the Month of February. February began with the Charleston Hamfest on February 1st. This hamfest was at its new location in Ladsen, SC. The hamfest was a success, and I was pleased to give my first ARRL forum at this hamfest. Marc Tarplee N4UFP, TC gave a forum on "The Ultimate DX Experience". Pictures of the hamfest are now on the [www.qsl.net/arrl-sc](http://www.qsl.net/arrl-sc) website. Please support our SC hamfests! The next SC hamfest will be at Union, SC on April 5th, a new date for that hamfest! For the next hamfest, we have great news: The Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Society has been granted permission to hold an ARRL approved South Carolina State Convention in Greenville, SC on May 3, 2003! In Emergency Communications, Charlie AE4UX has been spending time presenting amateur radio to the SC Emergency Management Department (EMD) personnel. He has presented to Area 1, Area 3, and the State EOC personnel. He has portrayed a very positive image of amateur radio, and its usefulness in emergencies. Due to his efforts, Amateur Radio is gaining rapid acceptance by EMD personnel throughout the state of South Carolina, and Charlie has been asked to provide amateur radio communicators to several groups within the EMD system already. I would like to offer my congratulations to Bob Besley K4NJN, ASM6 and Paul Matthews KB4GYT (Aiken County Emergency Management Division Asst. Director) on their successful completion of the ARRL Level III emergency course! Projects still underway include developing a SC QSO party, currently in its development stages by Paul KB4GYT and Ray W8CNL. Additionally, Dennis Fowler KG4JIA, has developed preliminary designs of future SC Amateur Radio License Plates for comment. Look for pictures of these preliminary designs on the SC-ARRL website in the near future. Our hearts and prayers go out to Emmie Patience KA4LRM on the loss of her husband Lee W4DRF, who became a silent key in February. Lee contributed a great deal to amateur radio in this state. Miss Emmie, we hope to see you back on the SC SSB net in the near future. Station Activity Reports – February 2003 AF4QZ 217, KA4UIV 144, K4NJN 28, WD4BUH 26, WA4UGD 20, W4QD 2 Public Service

Honor Roll – February 2003 AF4QZ 100, KA4UIV 100 To everyone listed above, THANK YOU for your service to Amateur Radio! '73 de Dr. JIM N2ZZ ARRL South Carolina Section Manager

## Virginia

Section News Summary for February SM, Carl Clements, W4CAC, ASM; W4PW, SEC; N4NW, STM; W3BBBQ, PIC; W4PW, ACC; W4IM, OOC; W4NEZ TC; KD3PC. Web page; [www.arrlva.org](http://www.arrlva.org). Section News web page; [www.arrl.org/sections/VA.html](http://www.arrl.org/sections/VA.html). ARES web page; [www.aresva.org](http://www.aresva.org). Section Traffic web page; [w4cac.tripod.com/vastm/](http://w4cac.tripod.com/vastm/). 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 like to see featured here, please send an email to me at [w4cac@arrl.org](mailto:w4cac@arrl.org) with "Section News" in the subject line. February started the hamfest season for the section. The Frostfest in Richmond seemed to draw a good crowd. Then later in the month the Vienna Winterfest was held at the Northern Virginia Community College. I urge you to visit a hamfest near you this year. You will not only be supporting the club or group that is sponsoring the fest, you may actually have fun and meet both old and new friends. You may also find that elusive bargain, you know, the one that you just can not live without. The next hamfest is the Springfest sponsored by the Chesapeake Amateur Radio Service. The Springfest will be held on April 12th at the Hickory Ruritan Club on Highway 168 South in Chesapeake. Then on June 1st is the Manassas Hamfest sponsored by the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club. Remember, keep the news coming, and YOU are the ARRL. 73 de Carl, W4CAC.

## West Virginia

WEST VIRGINIA: SM, Hal Turley, KC8FS-- ASM: W8YS. ASM: KB8NDS. SEC: W8XF. STM: W8YS. OOC: W8DL. PIC: N8TMW. TC: W8DL. WEBMASTER: KB8NDS This summary only contains a few of the highlights of recent activity in the WV Section. Please refer to our WV Section ARRL website for additional and more in depth coverage. >> Bad weather probably was a factor in attendance at Fayetteville Hamfest. Otherwise, a good time was still had by all who braved the elements. >> Charleston Hamfest is on for March 15 and I am looking forward to seeing many folks from around the state. Please stop by our ARRL booth and plan to attend the ARRL & ARES Forum. >> SEC Mac, W8XF and I traveled to Lewisburg for SWVARAI meeting in February. Much enthusiasm with this group and am hoping they will soon become an ARRL Affiliated Club. Thanks to Prez. Connie, KB8TEI; Paul, KD8WY; Joe, ND4B and SWVARAI members for the invite and hospitality. If you ever get over that way, check out the first class Emergency Comm. Center that the city of Lewisburg has provided for these folks! >> Harrison Co. EC J.R. Chiado, WJ8G became a SK last month leaving a legacy of successes as well as many friends in the Clarksburg and No. Central WV region. >> Mac, W8XF announces leadership positions in ARES organization including: Dirk, WD8PAD as WV Training Coordinator; Tina, K8TAC as SKYWARN Liaison; Gail, AB8S- EC Mason Co.;

David, N8YPE-- EC Harrison Co. >> Level I EmComm Classes are underway in Clarksburg for the Stonewall Jackson ARA and Barbour County Area ARC. These are being conducted by Dirk, WD8PAD. Also EmComm Level I classes for the Mid-Ohio Valley ARC by Gail, AB8S. Gail also advises that Mason County ARES now has a website at: <http://pageproducer.ohiohills.com/hodges/masoncoarc.html> >> Governor Wise declared emergency from snow and rain last month and Mountain State Emergency Net was activated. Kudos to ops Jim Steele, W8HPD; Ab Starr, N8IBK and Bobby Lucas, AF4PQ for their participation and public service during this situation. >> Recent EmComm Level I graduates include Mac, W8XF and Bill, KC8RXQ. Congrats guys! We now have 31 Level I folks in WV and are targeting 100 by year-end. >> Update from Dave, KC8MSM President of the Barbour Co. Area ARC saying the club is working closely with Barbour County Commission and county's Comm.Center with purchase and installation of new radio gear, power supply, antenna and accessories. Dave says the director is making it SOP for dispatchers to hold amateur radio licenses! The club will be working with them make it happen. >> The WV DX Association is back on the books after a long absence and is WV's newest ARRL Affiliated Club. Thanks to Clark, W8TN for making this happen. >> Dave, WA8WV announces WV QSO Party set for June 14 and rules for 2003 are finalized with a few changes made from last year's "new and improved" version. Changes can be found on our WV section websites. >> I received a nice message from ARRL Lab Supervisor Ed Hare, W1RFI following last month's plea for ARRL membership efforts. Ed's piece is worth the read as he relates the true value of a League membership. 73 de Hal. Tfc (February) KA8WNO 198, W8YS 108, WD8DHC 72, N8NMA 58, WW8D 45, W8WWF 30, N8XFH 26, AB8OZ 15, KC8FTE 14, KB8NDS 12. PSHR: W8YS 120, KB8NDS 113, N8NMA 102, WW8D 100, N8FXH 95, KA8WNO 90, WD8DHC 90, N8FXH 86. WVMDN 687/49/456 WW8D; WVN(E) 142/35/276 N8NMA; WVN(L) 101/47/237 N8NMA; WVFN 1293/154/955 W8YS; MSEN 74/1/87 N8TMW; 2-meter Nets: Mingo Co. Emergency 25/5/1380; ARES/RACES 2-meter Nets: Marion Co. ARES 43/0/51; Raleigh Co. ARES 39/0/49; Mingo Co. ARES 64/10/194; Barbour/Upshur ARES/RACES 66/3/116; Multi County ARES/RACES 131/1/273; Mercer Co. ARES 47/2/64.

## **Southeastern Division**

### **Georgia**

SM: Susan Swiderski, AF4FO; ASM/South GA: Marshall Thigpen, W4IS; ASM/Legal: Jim Altman, W4UCK; ASM/Webmaster and SEC: Mike Boatright, KO4WX; STM: Jim Hanna, AF4NS; SGL: Charles Griffin, WB4UVW; BM: Eddy Kosobucki, K4JNL; ACC: Mary Ahls, W4NZJ; OOC: Mike Swiderski, K4HBI; TC: Fred Runkle, K4KAZ; PIC: Kevin Martin, W4SJR  
\*\*Section websites: [www.qsl.net/arrl-ga](http://www.qsl.net/arrl-ga) and [www.qsl.net/gaares](http://www.qsl.net/gaares)\*\* (Check 'em out!)==>First off, sincere thanks to HUGH WALTON, KG4QJE, who's responded to my recent plea for a vounteer to serve as communications coordinator at the Georgia Special Olympics, May 30-June 2, at Emory University. Amateur radio operators have provided communications for these games for many years, and we all owe our gratitude to Hugh for ensuring that the efforts will

continue again this year. To volunteer to join this year's efforts, you can contact Hugh at kg4qje@arrl.net Thanks to all of you who volunteer your efforts to these games every year... your service is greatly appreciated. Congratulations to the Cherokee Capital ARS, the Alford Memorial ARC, and the Southeast DX Club, all of which recently renewed as Special Service Clubs, re-affirming their commitments to excellence. Way to go, folks! As I write this, tomorrow is the Kennehoochee ARC's 50th annual hamfest at Jim Miller Park in Marietta, and the weather looks a little questionable at this time. But hey! Don't let a little bit of rain keep you away... don't forget: they have lots of areas protected from the weather. Hope to see you there. Next hamfest will be in Calhoun on the 26th of April, the same weekend as the VHF Society's 7th annual conference at the Huntville Marriott. (for more info, see [www.svhfs.org](http://www.svhfs.org)) Between those two events, it should be a great weekend for Georgia hams. Special recognition goes to members of the Athens ARC, who volunteer just about every weekend to provide communications for one activity or another: you guys deliver public service with a capital PS, and go a long way towards reinforcing a positive image for amateur radio in your area. Thank you. Hats off to HOWIE "ELMER" GOULD, W9HG, who was recently honored at the Gwinnett ARS club meeting for 25 years of ARRL membership and a lifetime of service to the ham community. He's definitely one of the "good guys". Don't forget the Georgia QSO party coming up April 12 and 13... check <http://gqp.contesting.com> for details. Sounds like a good time for me to turn off the computer and turn on the rig and have some fun. On a sadder note, two SKs to report, both from the Macon area: CHARLES JOSEY, K4LNL, and ROBERT WRIGHT, W4OZF. Sincere condolences to the families and friends of both of these fine men. If you have any "news" for the next section newsletter, it's time to be sending it this-a-way, so I can get it ready to send out your way. Until then, this is AF4FO, signing clear. Take care of yourselves. And each other. 73, Susan\*\* February QTC: WB4GGS-257; W4WXA-197; AF4NS-82; K4BEH-62; KG4FXG-60; KE4R-57; K4FUM-56; K4WKT-38; WB4BIK-35; K1FP-18; KG4QDH-11; K4BG-10

## **Puerto Rico**

QST-P.R. Section News Date: 03/01/2003 PUERTO RICO: SM, Víctor Madera, KP4PQ – Todas las organizaciones que albergan radioaficionados están trabajando arduamente en la preparación de sus programas de trabajo para el nuevo año. La radioafición se ha enfrascado en una etapa de mejoramiento en todos los aspectos. Los talleres técnicos se han popularizado y han sido muy bien recibidos. Muchos compañeros se están preparando para servir de instructores de clases preparatorias para la licencia Technician. Con miras a los cambios que se implantarán el 1ro de julio próximo ya se está preparando material de estudios nuevo. Ya está disponible el examen de práctica para el Elemento 2 en las páginas del Internet. El PRARL ha puesto a la disposición de todos los VECs la traducción de las preguntas del nuevo examen. Esto hará posible que todos los exámenes que se ofrezcan, no importa el VEC, serán iguales. La radioafición se beneficiará grandemente de este paso al frente que se ha logrado. Nuestras felicitaciones a los participantes en los varios concursos. Exhortamos a los nuevos pinos a participar en ellos. Estén pendientes a los "nets" y las publicaciones para radioaficionados, encontrarán información valiosa sobre los concursos venideros. Ya estamos reclutando nuevos

candidatos para el staff del SM. Necesitamos voluntarios que puedan dedicar tiempo a la radioafición. Los interesados deben comunicarse con su SM por [kp4pq@arrl.org](mailto:kp4pq@arrl.org) o escribiéndole al PO Box 191917, San Juan, PR 00919-1917.

## **Southern Florida**

Section cabinet: Assistant Section Managers –WA4AW, KD4GR, KA4FZI, W4WYR, N4LEM, K9SHT; Section Traffic Manager – WA2YL; Affiliated Club Coordinator and Technical Coordinator – WA4AW; Bulletin Manager – KC4ZHF; Section Emergency Coordinator –KD4GR; Official Observer Coordinator – W4WLR: District Emergency Coordinators – N4LEM, K9SHT, AA4BN, N4QPM, KG5QD, W4SS Spring has arrived in Southern Florida. Trees and flowers are blooming and the frost bitten grass, in the northern counties of the section, has turned green. The other evidence of spring is the listing of Skywarn training to be conducted in March and April in almost every county. Many groups also reported participation in Florida Severe Weather Awareness Week. You've been reading my news messages – it's evident from the photos I've been receiving (send more). The section page at <http://www.arrl.org/sections/SFL.html> has photos and information about many events in the section during recent months. E-mail length is limited - more Section News and ARES changes appear at [www.sflarrl.org](http://www.sflarrl.org) Please note the changes above for appointees around the section. The Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 2003 now has been introduced in both chambers of Congress. Idaho Sen. Michael Crapo introduced the Senate version of the bill, S 537, on March 6. Florida Rep Michael Bilirakis introduced the House version of the bill, HR 713, on February 12. Please contact your Senators and Representatives and ask them to co-sponsor these important bills. If you send an e-mail don't forget to put your full names and address in the message; the staff will only count area constituents in their reports. Around the Section: Congratulations to our newest affiliated club – North Brevard Amateur Radio Club. Hamfest - 3/15 in Stuart and Free Flea in Sunrise on 3/22. The Special Event Station for Pelican Island NWR on 3/15 and 16 has been cancelled due to circumstances beyond the control of the Vero Beach ARC. Congratulations to our newest affiliated club – North Brevard Amateur Radio Club. Collier ARES and Motorola ARC participated in the ARRL NA/DX contest on March 1 and 2, along with many individuals throughout the section. Coach Canfield at Astronaut High School in Titusville is planning an elective course entitled: Communications I (ham radio) for next school year. The HF station at the school is currently down. Tubes for the FT 101 are needed - one 12BY7 driver tube and two 6JS6C. If anyone can help contact him at: [w4run@hotmail.com](mailto:w4run@hotmail.com) or [canfieldb@brevard.k12.fl.us](mailto:canfieldb@brevard.k12.fl.us) (Astronaut High School is the only school in our section participating in the Education and Technology/Big Project grant program). The annual Section-wide SET is scheduled for the first weekend in May. K9SHT, N4QPM and KG5QD will be planning the exercise. N4LEM, K9SHT and N4QPM will be writing a training program to assist ECs in handling walk-in volunteers during emergencies. N4QPM will be compiling a list of Licensing Class Instructors, Training instructors for emergency communications, Elmers, etc. Contact them if you have information on these subjects. February SAR Totals: K4FQU 486, WA9VND 411, KA4FZI 287, KC4ZHF 233, WA2YL 187, WA4EIC 142, KD4GR 132,

KG4EQY 116, W4LX (club) 103, KE4UOF 63, KG4CHW 51, KG4MLD 43, WB4PAM 42, KT4XK 37, AA4BN 35, K4PG 35, KG4QIP 35, KG4MLC 34, K4VMC (club) 34, KN4JN 27, KG4ILJ 24, W6VIF 24, K4ENA 17, AF4NR 17, W4WYR 13, KF4OMB 11, W3JI 9, K4OVC 9, W4PPG 6, KØTIW 5. February PSHR Totals: K4FQU 237, KD4GR 135, WA2YL 135, KG4CHW 110, KA4FZI 120, KC4ZHF 120, KE4UOF 105, WA4EIC 100, WA9VND 100, WB4PAM 90, KG4MLD 80, AA4BN 76, KG4MLC 72, KG4QIP 72.

## **Southwestern Division**

### **Arizona**

SM Article for February/March 2003 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. He is also scheduled for Sun Life ARC on Monday the 17th, Explorer Post 599 on Tuesday the 18th, and Maricopa County Sheriff's Posse on the 19th. 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 CARA will host the Sierra Vista hamfest on 03 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](http://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

## **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**

### **West Texas**

WEST TEXAS MONTHLY SECTION NEWS Congratulations to the Midland and San Angelo Amateur Radio Clubs. Their ARRL Special Service Club status has been reviewed. They now have SSC bragging rights for two more years. If your club is interested in joining the SSC ranks, contact either your SM or K5IS. I messed up the call of Jack Scheiderer, W5JHS, in last month's newsletter. My dog and my call sign are both old friends. We have been together a long time. It certainly gets my attention when someone messes with either of them, so my apologies to Jack



for the goof. Jack recently received his pin and certificate for 25 years of membership in the ARRL. The YL and I visited the El Paso clubs in last month. Friday evening found us at the K5WPH club house for the Sun City ARC meeting. I was very impressed by their system of repeaters in the El Paso area. The EL Paso ARC's hamfest was held the next day at the K5ES clubhouse. The hamfest was well attended and I came away with a W5ES qsl card for our initial qso in 1972 and a WAE certificate. Tom, WB5QLR, had his application for 40 Meter SSB WAS certified. Congratulations Tom. Congratulations also to N5DO for making the "box" in the CQ WW WPX CW contest. Besides being an excellent cw operator, Dave is EC for Brewster County. Many clubs are having problems retaining tower sites for their repeater. Tower space is becoming a prime commodity. While visiting the Big Spring ARC, I learned that they do not have that problem. A local oil company donated their club a tower some years ago. Could that be a possibility in your area? Are you a part of a local ARES or similar group? Does your area have a local VHF/UHF net? Does your local net have a way to interface with the rest of the world outside of your repeater range? What if you had a message for Dallas? How would a message from Dallas find you? In an ideal world, ARES and NTS would work hand-in-hand with a common goal. As an ARES member, what do you know about formatting and handling a formal message? As an NTS participant, is the local ARES even aware of your capabilities? Something is BROKE and we need to be considering a remedy. If I was smart enough to have all the answers, I would be a high paid consultant instead of an old Texas dirt farmer, but it is an issue that we need to consider. Let's talk about it at the Midland and Abilene ARRL Forums. Upcoming events: March 15-16. ARRL State Convention/St. Patrick's Day Hamfest, Midland. March 22. Oklahoma QSO Party. Give our neighbors a shout. April 5. Belton Hamfest. May 3-4. ARRL West Texas Convention/ KCARC Hamfest, Abilene May 17 Amarillo Picnic/Swap fest, Thompson Park May 24 Odessa Swapfest. New date. More information later West Texas related nets, all times local Panhandle Traffic & Emergency Net 3.933 6:00PM Daily North West Texas Emergency Net 3.950 8:00AM Sunday Big Bend Emergency Net 3.922 8:30AM Sunday Texas Traffic Net 3.873 6:30PM Daily Daytime Texas Traffic Net 7.285 8:30AM Daily Texas State ARES Net 3.873 7:30PM Monday 7290 Traffic Net 7.290 10-12AM Mon-Sat 7290 Traffic Net 7.290 1-2PM Mon-Fri See you in Midland John Dyer AE5B ARRL West Texas Section Manager