

Section News for November 2003

Atlantic Division

Southern New Jersey

SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY DECEMBER 2003 REPORT Merry Christmas and happy holidays and a safe and Happy New Year to everyone. As we go into the New Year, we still have a lot of work to do to get the antenna structure bill moving and we need to continue to do whatever is necessary to preserve our hobby for future generations. We have a big job ahead of us but we are many. The ARRL is continuing to fight in the BPL arena and for those who have written their letter (or letters) we say Thanks. Just keep checking the ARRL website for the latest news and updated. The Battleship New Jersey is still attracting people who want to see her. The first-timers come away being very impressed with the work that has been done. Others are coming for return visits and bringing family and friends back with them. New displays are still in the planning and many have been completed and are currently being enjoyed. The encampments are doing very good. Our Amateur Radio club, NJ2BB, has been very active and continues to talk all over the world. New members are continually signing up. Meetings are held about 4 times a year and are now being held on Saturday mornings at 10AM. Check the website for meeting and all other information. In the year 2003, about 5000 hours were logged by volunteers who help NJ2BB to be the active and viable club that it is. The TTY (teletype) is to be upgraded with a new installation. Equipment had been donated and is on its way. Good things are happening in ATV in the club. We will be part of a network from Philadelphia to Baltimore and will have live two-way communications. Next year promises to be good year for the Battleship and for NJ2BB. Overall NJ2BB has made 11,500 QSOs and received over 2200 responses. Listen for NJ2BB and let us know you are out there. www.qsl.net/bb62 Traffic rpt - November STM Dan, K2UL QNI reports – NJM 77 N2GJ NJPN 214 W2CC NJSN 188 K2PB NJN(E) 191 AG2R NJN(L) 150 AG2R The above nets are dual nets of both SNJ and NNJ. Liaisons with 2RN. JSARS Q478 KN2JBZ SJTN 51 KB2RTZ SJVN not available, WB2UVB SJVN training net QNI 4 B2UVB SAR – WA2CUW 152 WA2YL 132 K2UL 102 AA2SV 47 W2QOB 40 KB2RTZ 19 KC2IYC 19 N2VQA 22 KA2YKN 2 PSHR N2HQL 175 KA2YKN 139 WA2YL 130 KB2RTZ 111 K2UL 110 WA2CUW 90 W2QOB 90 AA2SV 80 N2VQA 65 KC2IYC 64 Late reports for October for SJVN QNI 257 SJVN Training Net QNI 3 SAR WB2UVB 63 PSHR 120 Each year the New Jersey State Museum in Trenton holds a “Super Science Weekend” for kids. This year, local Amateur Radio Operators will be manning a table with information on Amateur Radio. It is also hoped that they will be able to set up a station and antenna that will get them out to talk reasonably well. The dates are Saturday Jan 10 and Sunday Jan 11. Gary Wilson, K2GW, Section Emergency Coordinator and PIO for DVRA is pulling this demonstration together and it is a joint effort with The Sarnoff Radio Club. Gary has a few hams to work with him but needs a few more operators who have worked radio events before and can communicate ham radio to kids of all ages. Most of the kids may never have heard of

Amateur Radio. If you have and you can give a few hours, contact Gary at k2gw@arrl.net. I am sure you will find the experience very rewarding. Just a few dates to remember a cold winter day and night will be Dec 20 – Jan 4 which is the Lighthouse Christmas Lights QSO party and for those CW buffs there will be the ARRL Straight Key Night on Dec 31. At this time of the year we think a lot about gifts for friends and family. We wait for those special dinners and those wonderful traditional dishes that take us back to childhood. We sing special songs and think how another year has gone. But there are many people who are not as fortunate as we are. There may be a new neighbor on the block as I have this year. There may be a family with a very sick child or a family with a recent death in the family. We need to do something for them. We need to remember to give thanks for what we have and give some back to others. Everyone have a good holiday and remember to be safe. See you all next year.

Western Pennsylvania

With the holiday season once again here and the end of 2003 hot on its heels. Seems like the year at times seemed about 15 minutes total and at other times it seemed endless. I do thank those who have volunteered in any of our Radio hobby and do appreciate their time! One item of interest I have noticed is that the Western Pa Section seems to be lagging behind our kin in the Eastern Pa Section in one area. I kind of keep tabs on who and where in the State Amateurs have taken any of the Ecomm classes. Well Gals and Guys they nearly have us 2 to 1! I kind of look at this like a "Steelers" - "Eagles" kind of thing. We all know what the Steelers did this season so maybe we are on the same slump? Only one way to solve that! Lets get in there and take "Advantage" of the fact that these Courses are "FREE" yes that's right "FREE" All three levels of ecomm "I II III" lessons are subsidized! What that means is you sign up, Pay the \$45.00 dollar fee (if you're a league member) Take the Course, Pass the test and with your very nice certificate and wallet you get a check back from the league for \$45.00. That's a whole lot cheaper than "Tickets" to see the game. So here it is I would like us (WPA Section) to come out strong in the second half and Beat the East. Lets win one for the ole Gipper! (I know I know. Don't say it *Smile*) I'd like to take this time to announce the selection of our NEW WPA Section RRT/MAA team co-ordinator Dave Leiser, K3NPX. Dave is currently the EC for Beaver County and will be retaining this position along with his new job. As most have known for some time now our Rapid Response Team has been lagging along with what is being taught in the Ecomm classes it's time to update our concept of the RRT to include a Mutual Aid Assist team, Larry KA3HUK our SEC has appointed Dave to fill this new spot. More information will be provided in the coming months as the program gets under way. Please keep in mind as with the original team. The purpose is NOT and I repeat NOT to take OVER and local ARES activities in any of our counties. This program is to assist EC's DEC's with materials such as command posts/radio's personnel/etc as needed. If 9/11 has taught us anything it's the fact that we need to be ready and the "event" we are called to serve may involve us much longer than anticipated! Please join me in welcoming Dave into this additional role. Along similar lines Larry KA3HUK our SEC still has some openings in some of our counties. Feel free to contact him if you are interested. On a personal note like to take this time to thank all that have helped me

during my first 3 months or so as Section Manager. Between family member illness and the death of my grandmother its been a bit busy at times. But i do wish to personally thank the kind words and the great people who make up the Western Pa section. I've been fortunate to have been invited to quite a few ARES groups/ Club Meeting's / Holiday parade (which i will post a few pictures up here for all to enjoy)/ and ARES Events. Once again let me stress that this why i'm here and the rest of the Section staff is here for. That's to assist you where we can and to be there when we are needed! I look forward to meeting and working with even more this coming year. I just hope spring comes early so we can get back on the road ASAP. The Best of the holiday season to each and all! 73 Rich N3SRJ SM WPA PS: Its not the fact i can't spell. Its the fact my fingers can't read the keys!! 73's

Central Division

Illinois

First of all I would like to take this opportunity to wish each one of you a very happy holiday season. I also hope that those toys you have been wanting will be under the tree on Christmas morning. This year was a very active year as far as weather was concerned. We had a very active spring with a lot of severe weather. Many thanks go out to those of you that participated in the Skywarn nets and forwarded important information to be passed on to the National Weather Service. In one area the NWS issued warnings just on the information from amateur radio Skywarn volunteers. There were also many volunteers throughout the section who participated in many events such as races, walks, parades, canoe races, JOTA and so on. The contribution made by each volunteer was meaningful to the success of your club. Without you, working according to your abilities, amateur radio clubs cannot succeed and grow. The new officers for the Starved Rock Radio Club are President, KB9UPS; Vice President, KB9RKU; Secretary, KF9NZ; Treasurer, WB9VLW. W9QA-Static Editor; KB9PZA, K9ZQ, and KB9PUT as directors. Five members of the Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club assisted at the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation's 25th Ron Santo Walk to Cure Diabetes. New officers for the SARC are President-Frank Giampa, Vice President-Neil Ormos, Secretary-Kent Ochs, Treasurer-Andy Sharkey--and elected to the board Bill Smead. New officers of the Peoria Area Amateur Radio Club are--John Coker, N9FAM, President, Mark Suhs, W9WGN, Vice President, John Best, N9MSG, Secretary, Darhal Wolf, K9DRF, Treasurer. Directors-Doug Meiner, KB9TOA, Dave Pearsall, KA9YSE, Trustee-Jack Frank, KE9WS. The results of the election at the Hamfesters Radio Club are-President, George Young, N9VOK, Vice President Jim Riley, KB9CYL, Secretary, Roberta Brankin, WB9ZHZ, Treasurer, Lee Tolksdorf, WB9USE. Sgt. at Arms, Ralph Zimmer, N9KYM. Trustee Ron Kaiser, K9RCN. Directors, Emil Balsano, AB9DD, Rick Nabor, K9GYO, Wayne Strickland, W9BB, Sue Strickland, WD9ARN and Bob Maloney, W9TOE. The Fulton county Amateur Radio Club also held their election of officers at their annual Christmas party/meeting on December 11. The officers for 2004 are: President, KS9A, Colin, V. President, KB9NKT, Jimmie, Secretary, AA9YA, Jack and treasurer, NG9A, Gary. November traffic: W9HLX-39, W9FIF-7, NC9T-20, KA9HRO-58, WA9APQ-4, PSHR-

Indiana

Condolances to the Family and Friends of Lee Dunn, WB9QPA, of Westville, who became a Silent Key on November 22nd. Lee was a long time traffic handler on the Indiana Traffic Net, and served as a 9th Region representative for Indiana. Lee was a recipient of the Indiana Radio Club Council's Outstanding Amateur of the Year Award. He will be missed. The Fort Wayne Hamfest/Indiana ARRL Convention is over for another year. The attendance this year was in excess of 5000! A number of forums had excellent attendance. Dan Miller K3UFG, Manager of the ARECC program for the ARRL, was present both days at the ARRL table. Dick Isley W9GIG Central Division Director, Jim Weaver K8JE Great Lakes Division Director, Dave Pifer N9YNF Indiana SEC, and I made up the League representatives for the ARRL table at the hamfest. It was a pleasure to meet so many friendly faces, and talk to people that I have met on the air. This year's recipient of the Indiana Radio Club Council's Outstanding Amateur of the Year Award was a husband and wife team. Ray Andrews K9DUR and his YL, Natalie Andrews K9CAT(SK). Normally the IRCC Outstanding Amateur of the Year Award is only given to one individual. But the contributions and efforts to Amateur Radio by Ray and Natalie truly dictated that this award be a joint award for 2003. Congratulations to both! A number of Section Level Nets, ITN, QIN, and ICN are not being covered by a Net Control Station. If you are willing to make a little extra effort to cover any session, please contact the Net Manager. The Net Manager for ITN is our Section Traffic Manager Frank Dick WA9JWL. The QIN Net Manager(s) are Newt Straup KJ9J, and Dick Hickok K9PUI (KJ9J has gone south for the winter). Currently, we have no Net Manager for the Indiana Code Net. Your Section Manager is covering this position pro-tem. (Remember, the National Traffic System is the only supporter of ARES in the event of an major emergency or disaster.) Being a NCS for a net is really not difficult, and the effort involved is not great. It is just a matter of being there and being organized. ARE YOU WILLING TO HELP?? If not, the result is obvious! If enough NCSs cannot be found, there will be a reduction in the number of nets for the Indiana Section. The number of sessions for Section nets in October should be: ITN - 93; QIN - 62; ICN - 31; ARES - 1 Please note the Section Traffic Net statistics below. The Indiana Section website ARES page is about to receive a make-over according to SEC Dave Pifer N9YNF. The INARES@YAHOOGROUPS.COM is available for Indiana Section specific announcements. Dave also says Thank You for sending him your monthly ARES/EC reports. Please don't forget that Annual EC Reports are due January 31st. The report forms can be downloaded from the League's website. From your Section Manager, and the entire Indiana Section Staff: ARL SIXTY ONE! November Section Net Activity: NET FREQ DAILY TIMES (UTC) QNI QTC QTR SESS ITN 3910 KHZ 1330/2130/2300 2706 188 1558 80 QIN 3656 KHZ 1430/0000 211 136 930 56 ICN 3705 KHZ 2315Z 38 10 247 15 ARES 3910 KHZ 4TH SUN/MO @1300 10 1 16 1 HOOSIER VHF NETS 11 REPORTING 557 28 778 42 HOOSIER DIGITAL NETS (2) 26 64 ?? 60 November ORS Traffic Reports: K9PUI 237, WA9JWL 131, KO9D 125, K9GBR 48, W3GQJ, 39, KB9TUI 37, AB9AA 12, KC9UU 11, W9EHY 10, WB9NCE 9, N9PF 7. November Public Service Honor

Roll Reports: Callsign 1 2 3 4 5 6 Totals WA9JWL 40 40 10 15 10 115 W3GQJ 40 39 10 89

Wisconsin

WISCONSIN: SM: Don Michalski, W9IXG, SEC: WB9RQR, STM: K9LGU, ACC: Open, SGL: Open, OOC: N9VE, PIC: W9UQ. TC: K9GDF, BM: WB9NRK, ASM: K9UTQ, W9RCW, W9CBE, N9VE, W9DGI. ** With regret, I inform you of the passing of James Summers, WB9QFC, 75. He was a member of the Riverland Amateur Radio Club. Also, Keith Tonn, SR., N9PQV, 49, is a Silent Key. Keith was a member of the M&M ARC. W9NSE, Clarence Graff, 84, and W9BNM, Louis Vogl, 92, have passed away. Myron Jackson, WB9BBI, 63, is a Silent Key. Myron was president for the Fox Cities ARC and a former AEC. ** The 5th annual EC conference was held on November 8. Hosted by EC, Dan Lenz, KB9IME, the conference drew 72 ECs, AECs, and ARES members. We were honored to have Howie Huntington, K9KM, Vice Director of the Central Division, give a nice presentation and special award for 5 years of outstanding service to outgoing SEC, Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR. Our new SEC will be Bill Niemuth, KB9ENO. He will take over on January 1, 2004. ** The Wisconsin section web site: <http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=WI> has a list of speakers willing to give a talk to your club. We have added a nice presentation on APRS by Michael Martens, KB9VBR, kb9vbr@yahoo.com. He includes a live demo of WinAPRS. Contact Michael, if interested in learning about APRS. In addition, Richard Polivka, N6NKO, n6nko@arrl.net has a presentation on HF Mobile Operation for the Emergency Communicator: Installation, Operation, and Safety concerns involving HF mobile emergency communications!! Also, I have put together a presentation on the subject of various basic wire antennas. I cover some easy to understand theory on power transfer, antennas, feed-lines, ground effects, recommended materials to use, etc. This presentation takes about 60 minutes. This is primarily targeted for those just getting into HF. If your club has a number of new amateurs who are interested in building wire antennas, let me know and I'll be happy to give this presentation to your club! ** The frequency change for the Wisconsin Valley Radio Association's W9SM 146.64 repeater in Wausau is planned for Saturday, November 15, 2003. The repeater's new frequency is: 147.135 MHz, PL 114.8 +600 KHz offset. ** We welcome the Amateur Radio League of Wisconsin, Inc., ARLOW, <http://www.arlow.org/> as an affiliate of the ARRL! ** Arde, KA9WAR, reports that Cliff, K7BQ, turns 100 on December 2! Cliff makes his summer home on Washington Island and is a member of the DCARC! Happy Birthday, Cliff! And, a happy 82nd wedding anniversary to Mike (W8KHY) and Marianne Anuta! Mike will be 103 in February! Must be something in that NE Wisconsin air that is good for long life! ** Bill Howe, KA9WRL, and the LEFROG organization put on quite a communication demonstration at Ledge Park during the recent JOTA event. Thanks to Dave, K9MKP, for sending me the impressive Horicon Reporter newspaper article. Well done LEFROG on another successful JOTA! ** From our STM, K9LGU: Thanksgiving and the holiday season reminds us of all for which Hams in Wisconsin should give thanks. I pay attention to the traffic-related issues, but there's a lot more. We are indeed a fortunate ARRL section, so here's a partial list of what we would do well to pause and appreciate. ARRL, W9IXG, WB9RQR, KB9ENO, ASSISTANT SMs; W9CBE, K9UTQ,

W9RCW, W9DGI, N9VE, BSSS, K9EN and staff, K9GDF and all the Technical Specialists, net managers, net controls, liaison stations, traffic handlers, and all regular checkins. Don't forget every Ham in Wisconsin, who serves as an Elmer, reports the weather, assists the Red Cross, helps local emergency management, or experiments with radio. There are many more deserving of special commendation for keeping our hobby functioning so well, for building and maintaining camaraderie, for making us a valuable resource. Those who work with our repeater systems, our local and area clubs, our legal issues, volunteer testing, and public information are only a few that come to mind. So thanks, everyone, for your help. 73 K9LGU/STM-WI ** And, from the Wisconsin Section team, we wish everyone a happy holiday season! 73, Don, W9IXG, w9ixg@arrl.org.

Dakota Division

North Dakota

NORTH DAKOTA: SM, Kent Olson, KAØLDG -Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all! I hope this busy season finds all of you with family and friends enjoying the company and good times. Maybe Santa will bring you something good of the ham radio variety this year. I hope you've been nice. Mark your calendars for these upcoming hamfests in the next couple of months; Grand Fork's on February 7th, Bismarck's on February 28th, and Fargo's on March 6th. I'll see you at a couple of those. It's also time to make that New Years resolution and I have a suggestion; how about getting one new person involved in ham radio. Bismarck and Fargo are holding Technician classes this winter, so check with them for dates and times, or check to Section's web site. The Dakota Division Convention in Fargo on Sept 9-11, 2005. Section's web site at: <http://home.earthlink.net/~qtipf16/>. HF NM KØHDA net reports for Nov: Goose River Net, 5/52/0; WX Net 38/658/2; Data Net 26/680/20.

South Dakota

The holiday season is upon us and I want to take a second to wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season. If you are travelling enjoy but please be safe out there. It looks like the bills in congress are gaining some attention. If you are in the area please drop a QSL card by your representatives office or enclose one in a letter. It is going to take that personal attention to get them to bring this to a vote. Aberdeen: SKYWARN RECOGNITION DAY -- Special event station was operated this year from the National Weather Service Office in Aberdeen Dec 5-6 using callsign N0Y Lake Area: The repeater radio and antenna were replaced on November 1st, 2003, and plans to install a CAT-1000 controller are in the works. The ARRL Simulated Emergency Test drill began after the event at Wal-Mart on October 4th.,2003 Every Saturday (Except Holidays) Members, guests, friends, and any interested persons are invited to Hy-Vee on HWY 212 at 9:30am for a casual gathering Huron: No News Provided Pierre: No News Provided Prairie Dogs (Yankton/Vermillion): Emergency Management Trailer was brought to the meeting by Nelson KAØWTZ. It is a brand new trailer. Large enough for all the radios and

persons to operate them. It also has a heater/air conditioner on the roof. It has already been wired for 220 volt for the air. It has Yankton County Emergency Management lettering on both sides. It also has the ARRL logo on the sides and will get Prairie Dog Amateur Radio lettering around the ARRL logo. SEARC: The 146.895 repeater has been moved to a site at 18th and Bahnson and appears to be working quite well from that location. The remote receiver is still at the Menlo site. SkyWarn Recognition day was held Dec 6th at the NWS Office at the Sioux Falls Airport. The group participating made over 150 contacts. Deuel County: Net on 28.400 SSB and 29.600 FM on Thursdays at about 830pm. Hot Springs: No News Provided Black Hills: Four club members have begun the ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level I (EC-001) on-line course and should be finished in December. Black Hills Club will hold their auction on Feb 21, 2004 at the Canyon Lake Senior Citizens Center in Rapid City. BHARC will be sponsoring a regenerative receiver design contest - rules will be available on the BHARC web site at www.w0blk.org The BHARC VE Team tested 4 persons at our November 15th test session. We ended up with 1 new Technician. The ARRL approved the application of the Black Hills Amateur Radio Club to hold an ARRL approved hamfest in Rapid City, SD on February 21, 2004

Delta Division

Arkansas

Merry Christmas to all! I hope Santa is good to you and leaves some ham goodies under the tree. A few new ARRL members would make my day! Thanks to everyone for all you do. There is a lot of good activity going on in the section, and that takes a lot of hard work. Last month, we reported N5GMR as a Silent Key. We apologize for the error – Jewell is alive and well. It was his cousin who passed away. The Cross County Amateur Radio Club assisted with the Mid-South Marathon and were mentioned on the sports page of the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette. The Ozark Wireless Society club had a tour of the new facilities at W5YM, the University of Arkansas radio club. The CAREN club operated a special event station at the NWS in NLR for Skywarn Recognition Day. The ARES club operated the Sweepstakes contest in Burns Park, making it a public information event. K5UR, Delta Division Director, gave a program on 160 meters for the Batesville Amateur Radio Club. The ARKAN club had a program on BPL. Daryl Stout, N5VLZ, had to resign his OBS appointment due to other commitments. Thanks, Daryl, for many years of helping get out the news. We had a discussion about amateur radio clubs on our Section Net. The consensus was that we need to help newcomers more. Be an Elmer! Welcome new hams and don't criticize – help them do it right. The Camden Amateur Radio Club has several new VE's and is planning another licensing class. Mark your calendar for the next two Arkansas hamfests – Russellville on March 6th and Harrison on March 13th, 2004. Have you visited www.arkansashams.org lately? Webmaster KB5FJX is continually improving the look and content of the web site. Polk County EC KD5PVH has started a weekly packet net – Thursdays at 8:00 p.m. local time, on the W5AUU conference bridge. See the packet page on www.arkansashams.org for more information. Congratulations to ADXA member Rick Harris,

AI5P, who has now worked DXCC from eight different countries. Public Service Honor Roll: KB5ILY 210, W5ARS 157. Net Reports for November: Arkansas Phone Net: QNI 497, Traffic 24, Manager W5SXV. Arkansas Mockingbird Net: QNI 413, Traffic 20, Manager WB5YLI. Arkansas Razorback Net: QNI 1862, Traffic 169, Manager K5BOC. OZK CW Net : No report. November traffic: KB5ILY 87, K7ZQR 63, K5BOC 39, WB5HIL 19, AD5AM 12, KA5MGL 10, KA5RRK 2.

Louisiana

LOUISIANA SECTION NEWS – NOVEMBER 2003 Melinda KC5RJY and Wayne KD5JJP are now serving as the Emergency Coordinators for Richland Parish and Claiborne Parish, respectively. James N5NVP is a new Official Emergency Station. The following stations have earned net certificates for their regular participation on the LA Traffic Net: KN5GRK, K5IQZ, K5DPG, WB5ZED, WA5CAV, N5KWB, W4DLZ, W5PY, WA5LQZ, N5CBB, K1DW, W5NK, KA5JNL, N5CFL, AC5VQ, AC5VN, WB5LBR, KA5LMZ, KB5SDU, W5CDX, KD5MLD, K5MC, AD5JC, AA5HY, KB5IEJ, KB5GA, WB5JZQ, KA5SUR, NF5B and AE5V. In addition, WA5CAV, K5IQZ, WA5LQZ, W5CDX, W5NK, K1DW, W4DLZ, K5MC, K5KV, and WB5LBR have earned certificates for participating regularly on the LA CW Net. The Acadiana ARA provided communications for the Cajun Cup 2003 10K Run on November 15. Participating in this public service event were N5AN, K5FNQ, KA5BSE, KB5SMX, WB5GAF, KC5VRN, WD5FDD, K5ARH, N5RLM, N5YCS, KD5JCT, KD5TJZ, and KN5GRK. The Delta DX Association (DDXA) has asked me to urge all clubs and members in our section to contact their U.S. Senators and Representatives regarding the harmful interference possibilities of Broadband over Power Line (BPL). The DDXA believes an informed Congress will help provide a more rational process and I agree. With the recent comments by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regarding BPL, we now have a strong ally on this issue. However, we must not assume at this point that the battle is over. In contacting your elected officials you should point out that FEMA's comments to the FCC echo those of the ARRL and other groups representing users of the HF spectrum. Moreover, our officials must understand, as FEMA makes clear in its comments, that there is no alternative to HF in terms of meeting national security and emergency preparedness requirements at the national, state, and local levels. Although the League's Logbook of the World (LoTW) has been operational since mid September, it was late November before I joined the nearly 5,000 hams worldwide already participating. LoTW allows us to submit QSO data electronically that can be used for awards credit. If you haven't done so already, be sure to check out the details of this excellent program on the ARRL website and in the October issue of QST. Traffic totals: K5MC 197, AE5V 177, AC5VN 101, K5IQZ 93, W4DLZ 87, NF5B 57, W5NK 30, K5DPG 16, W5PY 14, N5KWB 3. Public Service Honor Roll: AC5VN 150, K5ER 118, K5MC 110, K5DPG 101, NF5B 100, K5IQZ 100, W5PY 99, W4DLZ 90, W5NK 70, N5KWB 63, WA5LQZ 60, KB5UHH 33. Section net reports: sessions/check-ins/messages handled. Louisiana Traffic Net: 30/419/113. Louisiana CW Net: 29/152/101. Louisiana ARES Net: 5/85/1. Local/district net reports: sessions/check-ins/messages handled. Ouachita Parish ARES Net: 4/92/1. Northeast LA ARES

Net: 4/62/0. Union Parish ARES Net: 4/45/1. 73, Mickey Cox K5MC LA Section Manager
Email: k5mc@arrl.org LA Section Website: www.laarrrl.org

Mississippi

Mississippi Section Report for November 2003 Mississippi SM: Malcolm Keown, W5XX.
Section Web Page: www.arrlmiss.org. Web Master: K5IBM at BillScott@StoreReport.net.
ASM: WJ5K, NN5AF, W5EPW, ACC: N5JGK, SGL: AB5WF, STM: AD5IS. DEC KD5CKP reports that the DeSoto County ARES Group operating as K5M set up a demo operation in the MEMA Mobile Operations Van at Camp McCain during the 2nd Annual Seminar of the Mississippi Search and Rescue Association. Assisting Tim in operating the station and explaining ham radio to the MSARA attendees were K5VV and N5FML. The Jackson County ARA hosted another successful Ocean Springs Hamfest at the St. Martin Community Center with many visitors from Alabama, Florida, and Louisiana. Chairman WM5W reports over 250 in attendance with several dealers set up. State RACES Officer AB5WF conducted a forum on the RACES reactivation in Mississippi. This Hamfest is really growing. Members of Southeast Louisiana Amateur Radio Club and Southwest Mississippi Amateur Radio Club did a superb job of handling communications for the 20th Annual Multiple Sclerosis Tour for Cure. DEC N5ZNT reports that the event raised over a half million dollars for MS victims and research. Over 1200 cyclists participated with the youngest being 6 years old. For the first time in over 3 years there were no repeater spasms, hurricanes, or train derailments. The 25 ham operators who participated were: W5KCH, WB5FBS, KB5SKW, KC5BXU, KI5MW, KD5WYM, N5VYW, N5ZNT, AA5GP, K5NDT, KD5MDO, KD5LWJ, N5XVJ, K5CAV, KD5PCM, KD5PCK, KK5EQ, N5HAY, KB5YZF, KD5QNT, AG5AT, KD5PKS, KD5RGT, KD5YMU, and KD5JXD. In yet additional Boy Scout Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA) participation, KD5RYQ reports an operation from his QTH in cooperation with the Northwest Mississippi Chickasaw Council. Assisted by W4FP, KD5CKP, and W5KK, Cub and Boy Scouts and their parents got an introduction to ham radio. In total Mississippi had five JOTA operations. The other four were reported in last month's Section News. The Tupelo ARC and United Blood Services joined together to sponsor a community blood drive in memory of K5JG. This was certainly a unique civic service initiative for a ham club. The event was so successful that WJ5K reports an annual event is planned. The Vicksburg ARC again provided support communications for the annual Vicksburg Christmas Parade. In spite of a very long parade route N5JGK, K5NRK, KJ5RC, KC5QZW, KD5WCT, KD5ZIP, and W5WAF kept parade officials advised of progress of the floats and potential problem areas. Don't forget about the Annual Mississippi on-the-air New Year's Eve Party hosted by N5JCG. The festivities begin December 31st at 11:00 PM on 3862 and will last until ????. Congratulations to K2FF whose article on his beverage farm was featured in the recent DX Magazine. PIO Report: W5KWB; DEC/EC Reports: NN5AF, KD5CKP, WB5CON, AD5DO, KD5GWM, W5LMW, AC5SU, WA5TMC, KU5W, N5ZNT; Net Reports: sessions/QNI/QTC MSPN 30/3469/77; MTN 30/135/39; MSN 31/1481/12; PBRA 30/759/2; Jackson Co EN 28/248/9; MSSN 20/63/3; WCMS ARES 8/65/0; MLEN 6/66/3; MAEN 5/55/0; HAEN 5/85/0 MBHN 5/48/0; Itawamba Co ARES 4/48/3; JARCEN 4/50/0; SW

MS ARES 4/72/0; Lowndes Co QSO Net 4/48/0; Monroe Co ARES 2/12/0; PSHR: WB5ZED 130, AD5IS 110, W5XX 81. Traffic: WB5ZED (BPL) 2374, AD5IS 119, W5LEW 16, KM5WN 8, W5XX 5 Compilation of traffic statistics provided by AD5IS, Mississippi STM.

Great Lakes Division

Michigan

12-16-03 I recently swapped a few emails with Bruce, N8UT who is the frequency coordinator for the Michigan Area Repeater Council. As you are aware, repeater coordination does not fall under the purview of the ARRL, but certainly the greater interest and well being of the hams in Michigan does. Hence this commentary: Bruce expressed his concerns about complacency in the ranks of ham radio and the frustrations often faced by applicants for repeater frequencies. They are related. As Bruce describes it, far too many of us seem to be content in letting the other guy do it instead of taking an active part. Repeater frequency coordination is done by a volunteer team, folks who have to sacrifice some of their other activities to help the rest of us find suitable frequencies. Presently, there are simply not enough of these volunteers to allow this effort to process applications as fast as we all would like to see them done. It is not a complicated procedure, but one requiring that all of the internal processes be followed. In brief, the Michigan Area Repeater Council could use your help. Amateur radio thrives on volunteerism and this is an area seriously in need of some assistance. We use and support all of these great repeaters across this great state, so let's pitch in and help the repeater coordinators. You can reach Bruce at n8ut@arrl.net. Just a few volunteers will make a big difference. Don't let the other guy do it, this is important, get involved. Thanks. Congratulations to newly elected officers in the Branch County ARC, Pres. WB8R, Sec/Treas KB8VWI, and new board NS8T and N8CTI and for Milford RC, new officers are Pres WA8UYZ, VP K8AIR, Sec K8ZKJ, Treas KC8NQJ, Activities KC8IDE, Trustee WA8WOQ. 2003 was an interesting year for us as ham operators; there were many changes, improvements, challenges and victories. Without a doubt, 2004 will bring those same items before us along with a few more, each seemingly a test of our capacity to innovate, adapt, tolerate, and accept with grace those things we cannot control. As a final note, from Judy and me to each of you and your families, the very best wishes for a peaceful and happy holiday season and a safe journey into the new year. 73, Dale

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 NNJ SECTION WEBPAGE:

www.hudson.arrl.org/nnj Many of you may have already seen the Field Day results in the December QST. The year's premiere operating event featured some NNJ clubs in the totals. In the

2A Battery class the New Providence ARC operating N2XJ placed #9 while Tri-County ARA's W2LI finished #11. The very competitive 3A saw the Cherryville ARA place #1 using W2GD and Sussex County ARA operating W2LV, placed 3rd in the nation. Split Rock ARA operating K2RF took 2nd place in the 3A Commercial category. At the opposite end of multiple transmitters the 10-70 Repeater Association using K2SE placed #2 in the 12A group. The new Class 1F category, operating from an EOC, had the West Essex RC using W2EF, place #4 while the New Providence ARA used WK2I to finish #5 in the nation. Thanks, also, to the many other NNJ clubs and groups who turned out to showcase amateur radio to their community and the general public! The Ocean-Monmouth ARC is continuing its activities at the Diana Radar Site/Education Center in Wall Township. They include Army MARS meetings and kit nights centered around Doppler equipment. Thanks to the 10-70 Repeater Association for hosting the Hudson Division Awards Dinner again this year. KC2CJW and KA2ANF did an outstanding job co-ordinating the sold out event! The group also operated a special event station from the submarine USS Ling. WB2AWQ and his crew did a fine job in spite of poor propagation. Look for them again next Spring with the Submarines On The Air event. The Garden State ARA is looking for volunteers to help with activities at the Ft. Monmouth MARS station. Contact Marty WN2DX if you can lend assistance with antennas, logging or Collins Gear. Members of the Roseland ARC turned out to help their town's 5K Diabetes Walk as well as Roseland's 5K Heart Fund Walk. Our SEC, Steve Ostrove K2SO gave a talk about ARES at the Roseland ARC November meeting. Steve and his great power point presentation on ARES in NNJ is available to other clubs as well. Also, OOC K2ZD and I will be happy to talk about the OO program and the Amateur Auxiliary to NNJ clubs. Amateur Radio and Emergency Communications was the title of a workshop K2SO and I, along with Bob Schroeder, N2HX and Joe Painting of the State Police OEM Office gave at the annual New Jersey League Of Municipalities Convention in Atlantic City. Our 90 minute workshop was attended by over 70 elected officials and municipal professionals. Steve opened his ARES talk with the new Walter Cronkite video which just wowed the audience! We passed out over 30 copies of the video and 50 ARRL flyers about ARES to the workshop attendees. By the way, this was the FIRST time amateur radio and emergency communication was featured at the NJLM convention in its 40 year history! Don't forget to post your club's activities on our section web page. Check it as well for updates on our quest for NJ's PRB-1 Bill. 73, Bill Hudzik W2UDT

Midwest Division

Kansas

Kansas Section News Summary-November 2003 SM, Ron Cowan, KB0DTI-- SEC/OOC: Robert Summers, K0BXF ASM: Orlan Cook, W0OYH PIC: Scott Slocum, KC0DYA SGL: Steve Hamilton, KB0JYL Holiday greetings to all- This time of year we are thinking of club dinners Straight Key Night and the year past. This was a full year for us with the public service activities and WX related events. I hope we all gained experience in these areas. I sure enjoyed seeing and meeting you at the hamfests and convention. This was a Kansas Section election

year. I thank you for your confidence. The Kansas City Metro Drill was held November 1st, several counties made this their SET. Put together by the KC Metropolitan Emergency Coordinating Council there were many agencies involved including SATERN, Red Cross, CAP, and the county governments. New for this year was the involvement of a school district. The action was on both sides of the state line and the theme this year was a massive electrical outage. Each county did their own thing under the umbrella theme with a wide coverage repeater serving as a metro Network Control Station. Douglas, Johnson, Leavenworth, Miami and Shawnee counties were involved this year along with several in Missouri. Joe-WDØDMV operated from the state EOC. KBØWEQ is President/Chair Person of MECC Wichita ARC is in the process of scheduling antenna system work for their 146.82 repeater. At 1300 ft. it's a wide coverage machine. WARC's November meeting had a representative of the Salvation Army as the guest speaker. The Tec-Ni-Chat bunch is doing some coverage surveying and other work on their 146.94 system. Independence ARC is looking into school and youth activities for 2004. Paul Backs-KCØJCQ has been appointed EC for Zone C District 4 Leavenworth Co. Dan Reed-NØZIZ is now an Official Emergency Station in JOCO A4. Bob-KØBXF our SEC is holding up the November ARES report until January because of the low number of reports he has received. ECs, please send your net and group activity Reports to Bob-KØBXF via radio or email him at: RSUMMBXF@aol.com or 3045 N. 72 nd KCK 66109. Be thinking about a monthly ARES net time that would fit your schedule on a regular basis and let Bob know your best times so we can get the network started. QKS-SS Kansas Slow Speed Net is back in session on M & W at 7:30 PM on 3710 KHz. September Nets/Sessions/QNI/QTC/Mgr: KSBN/31/955 /73 /NØKFS KPN/24/355/38/NØKFS KMWN/31/694/557/WBØYWZ KWN/31/833 /641/WBØYWZ CSTN/27/2367/89/ AB5PA QKS/62/284/223/KØPY QKS-SS 6/17/0 KBØDTI SEC: 52 sessions QNI 258 QTC messages 12, Ks participants: KCØAUH NØBTH KØBXF KCØCIG KCØGDV WAØSRR KØUO KBØWEQ . Bob KØBXF SEC. TEN: 60 sessions, QTC 538, KS 90% with WAØLYK KØPY ABØWR WØWWR NBØZ WBØZNY. Dave WØSS/Mgr. Traffic: ABØWR 606 WØWWR 387 WAØLYK 373 KØPY 122 NBØZ 77 KIØBK 31 KBØDTI 29 WØOYH 24 KØRY 24 NØZIZ 15 KCØMRJ 12 ABØUY 9 NØENO 4 ABØRG 3 I wish you all a wonderful holiday season and an exciting new year. 73- Ron To receive Kansas Amateur Radio News E-mail News Letter contact Orlan-WØOYH-Editor See KSN on ARRL Website for detailed PSHR and more Kansas news: <http://www.arrl.org/sections/KS.html>

Missouri

DECEMBER 2003 SECTION NEWS HOLIDAY GREETING TO ALL MO SECTION ARRL MEMBERS I would like to take a minute to thank all of the ARRL members and Section Leadership for all the support they have provided to Amateur Radio and the ARRL. I seldom single out individuals for recognition but this year there are five individuals that have gone way beyond the call of duty in their support of the MO Section of the ARRL. Don Moore, KMØR, SEC, Dale Huffington, AEØS, STM, Larry Ballew, ABØHP, ASM, Keith Haye, WEØG, ACC and Mike Musick, NØQBF OOC have exhibited a dedication to serving the Amateur Radio community of Missouri that is outstanding. If you have a chance please express your

appreciation to these or the other outstanding ARRL MO Section Leaders. I don't limit my appreciation and admiration to just those that hold ARRL appointments. I feel good inside when I think about the thousands of Missouri Amateur Radio Operators that contribute so much to the success of Amateur Radio. I would like to express a heartfelt thanks to all those that have supported their local radio club, taught license courses, gave volunteer exams, helped with A.R.E.S. and skywarn, helped another amateur or would be amateur, built a project, participated in a net, gave a program on amateur radio, rag chewed with old friends, sold or bought radio gear, worked or attended a hamfest, operated ARRL Field Day, operated in a special event, participated in a radio contest, dedicated a website to amateur radio, and participate in the hundreds of other amateur radio activities, they represent the heart and soul of Amateur Radio. This Holiday Season, military servicemen and women are today all over the world putting themselves on the line for our great country and are providing the first line of defense for our liberties. It would be well to pause and remember these fine young service men and women and pray that they will be well and safe not only in this season of holiday celebration, but throughout the year to come. In this season of peace, love and joy I know that no one needs to be reminded that when we serve others we are helping make this a better world. It is my hope that all of you and your family will have a wonderful Holiday and that you enjoy the excitement and challenge of Amateur Radio as much in 2004 as you did when you first earned your license.

AFFILIATED CLUB NEWS KEITH HAYE, WEØG, ACC On December 6, 2003 the St Louis Suburban Radio Club set-up antennae, and radios to operate a special events station at the National Weather Service in Weldon Springs. It is part of an annual recognition of SKYWARN weekend. The Mississippi Valley DX and Contest Club will be holding their Christmas Party at the Ameristar Casino. Joe, KØBX reports that he recently up-loaded 35,000 QSOs to the LogBook of the World. Paul KØJPL, participated in the ARRL November CW Sweepstakes and 79 out of 80 sections is not too bad. The Mid-Missouri ARC is starting a CW theory and proficiency class and the members will be building modulated CW kits at their next club meeting. Tom, NØSS is taking orders. Once the kits are assembled, the amateurs in the area can look forward to a 2M CW net starting up. Letha Dangerfield, WØOUD, has joined the ranks Silent Keys. She was an active CW operator on the 80 meter traffic net and was one of the fastest CW operators in the Joplin, MO Area. SECTION ARES REPORT DON MOORE, KMØR SEC Dean Bickford, KØPHI, DEC reports that Stone County ARES has completed a very successful Simulated Emergency Test on September 26, 2003. There were 10 amateurs participating in this year's SET and 80% used emergency power. They handled simulated emergency communications for eight different agencies in three communities. Congratulations on a great SET. Dale Huffington, AEØS reported on the Region F emergency exercise that was held in conjunction with a required test by the hospitals in that region. No doubt about it Region F Amateur Radio Ops are at the top of their game in preparing for disaster communications. I know that there was a great many Amateurs involved with the exercise and I congratulate you all.

Nebraska

Nebraska Section News ARRL The national association for AMATEUR RADIO Updated 12/14/2003 0750 CDT It is with deep regret to inform you that Ernie Bowerman; W0CES of Omaha became a Silent Key on December. He was retired from AT&T and was an Omaha Police Chaplain and a deacon in the Episcopal Church. I want to take this opportunity to wish all the members of the Section a joyous holiday season. Thanks to all of the section appointees for your dedication and hard work. My wife and I are anxiously awaiting the birth of our granddaughter. As of this writing, I am fighting a bad cold and my wife is in Kansas City with our daughter and son-in-law. Congratulations to all of those that were elected to club offices. Don't forget to update the ARRL on changes in your clubs leadership. As I stated in a previous Section News, I have one more year to serve as your Section Manager. I have had two inquiries into the procedure of getting their names on the ballot. If you would like information on being elected Section Manager, please feel free to contact me by telephone (402-734-3316) or you can email me at ke0xq@arrl.net . This has been a difficult year for my wife and me and I feel it is time to let someone else have the reins of leadership in the Section. I will be glad to assist in any way I can. I have for the most part enjoyed serving as your Section Manager and I thank you for that privilege. Net Reports Nebraska Storm Net QNI 1246 QTC 58 30 sessions 3982 KHz 0030z Daily* Nebraska Cornhusker Net QNI 198 QTC 6 28 sessions 3980 KHz 1830z Daily * Eastern Nebraska 2 Meter ARES Net 146.76 MHz 0300z Daily Mid Nebraska 2 Meter ARES Net (Grand Island) QNI 354 QTC 4 30 sessions 146.94 0100z Daily* Midlands ARES Net Omaha QNI 202 QTC 2 5 sessions 146.94 0200z Sunday* Nebraska Morning Phone Net QNI 1597 QTC 48 30 sessions 3982 KHz 1330z Daily* Western Nebraska Net QNI 970 QTC 42 29 sessions 3950 KHz 1300z Mon-Sat* North Platte Progressive ARC Nebraska 40 Meter Net QNI 502 QTC 7 30 sessions 7282 KHz 1900z Daily* W0IRZ Memorial Net QNI 80 QTC 2 5 sessions* Saunders County ARES 145.310 0100z Wednesday Dodge County ARES Traffic Totals: K0PTK 82* KE0XQ 20* WA0ZCM 5* WA0ZCN 6* KA0O 2* WY0F 4* W0EXK 2* K0RRL 2* KA0DOC 2* K0YRL 2* K0SCG 2* W0US 4* W0UJI 4* WD0BFO 2*

New England Division

Connecticut

SM: K1EIC; assistants: NK1J, KZ1Z, K1STM, KY1F; bulletins KD1YV; Amateur Auxiliary OOC W1GC; public information W1FXQ; emergency communications W1AGP; traffic manager K1HEJ; technical coordinator N1KHB. Happy and safe holidays to you all! Clubs all over the State are taking time out to socialize as the holidays approach. Some clubs take the opportunity to give out awards at this time. The Meriden ARC recognizes among its many awards the elmer of the year and the ham op of the year. And once again, Joel N1JEO was the elected winner for both awards! Joel is truly one of our very best elmers in the State. Why not consider elmering a fellow op in 2004? Perhaps that person is a new operator or perhaps he or she wishes to learn some new aspect of the hobby! I remember for example that when I was first playing around with amtor I felt like a novice all over again—it was really exciting! We will be

losing the elmer of elmers Pete Kemp, KZ1Z in the near future, as he plans to move to Florida. Many of you know that Pete has trained about 800 hams over the years. Pete was Section Manager here twice and I had the privilege of working under him as STM. He also served as an assistant director, a Division cabinet position appointed by the director. More recently, he helped to write the Level I Amateur Radio Emergency Communications course. Drop Pete a note and thank him for his phenomenal work on behalf of Amateur Radio. (kz1z@arrl.net) The following comes from Kevin, Ka6PDG—sounds like fun! Have egg nog and good cheer at the ready, and set that big old easy chair for 10 PM, December 24th. All your friends are looking forward to hearing you on the 2003 instalment of the annual Christmas Eve Net. Be one of the hundred or more amateurs that will check in and share season's greetings or a simple thought or two for the holidays, or just say "hi". Control operators will link repeaters across the area just before the top of the hour. Echo link tie-ins are welcome, but it would be best if the net control is informed of these ahead of time. Net control will open with a few words explaining the net, which is informal in nature. Stations are then invited to transmit, without waiting for net control acknowledgement, giving their call sign, name and location, and take ten or twenty seconds to share a thought or greeting. All amateurs are warmly welcome to join in. And if you have young ones in the shack, be sure to monitor the net closely, as a very special visitor may be checking in, aeronautical mobile from somewhere over the Atlantic. Sys-ops who have not carried the net on their repeater in previous years but would like to do so should contact one of the following for linking instructions and coordination. KB1AEV - Dana KE1AI - James N1HFX - Mike N1LFE - Brian KA6PDG - Kevin The Christmas Eve Net will be carried on the TIPS-NET link system. Many of you have asked me to run the net again this year and I will be happy to oblige. Let's continue to Bring the world closer together through amateur radio!--KA6PDG Before I close for this month, please note that I will update the Section Page on the ARRL site early next week. And finally, Happy and healthy New Year to you all! The Section continues to be active—keep up the great work! My very best to you all.—73.

Eastern Massachusetts

THE FRAMINGHAM AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION HOSTED A SPECIAL PRESENTATION on December 15 featuring guest speaker Ed Hare, W1RFI. Hare is Laboratory Manager at ARRL. He presented on the threat posed to our hobby from Broadband over Power Lines (BPL). Hare gave an excellent multi-media presentation demonstrating interference to the Amateur Radio service in areas of the country that currently employ BPL systems. Such systems are known to radiate at frequencies substantially higher than the frequencies actually used intentionally within the BPL system, thus interfering with television, FM broadcast, Amateur Radio, police, fire, or any other services that use land mobile radio--including the power utilities themselves. FARA's talk was widely-advertised and well-attended. ATTENTION ARRL AFFILIATED CLUB PRESIDENTS: Would you like to have a role in helping to shape ARRL policy at the national level? New England Division Director Tom Frenaye, K1KI and Vice Director Mike Raisbeck, K1TWF invite you to attend an ARRL division cabinet meeting on Sunday, January 4, 2004 in Springfield, MA from 9:00 a.m. until

4:30 p.m., with a break for lunch at noon. A contribution of \$15 is requested to help defray the cost of breakfast and lunch. "There is an ARRL Board meeting scheduled for January 16-17—this will give us a chance to talk about issues you think the Board should be considering," Frenaye said. Additional details are available at .

A WHOLE LOTTA SORTIN' GOIN' ON: Members of the Nashoba Valley ARC spent a large portion of a recent club meeting pre-sorting cards for the first call district. Stan, KD1LE addressed the group briefly "explaining the purpose and process for the pre-sort." The group then went on to sort an amazing 12,000 cards in 1 1/2 hours! NVARC wrapped up the meeting and pre-sort with food and refreshments. —Nashoba Valley ARC Signal, November 2003

THE FALMOUTH AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION HAS SIGNED A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING with the Town of Falmouth. FARA president Bob Courtemanche, N1WAT signed the document for FARA; Fire Chief Paul Brodeur signed on behalf of the Town. The MOU designates FARA as "the official RACES organization to provide emergency and disaster communications support to the Town of Falmouth." In agreeing to the Memorandum, the Falmouth ARA will activate the Emergency Operations Center when designated club representatives have been asked to do so by the Fire Chief. According to Courtemanche, "volunteers must be sworn in by the Town to operate in any emergency situation, whether at the EOC or at an official town site. Emergency traffic will be handled over the repeater which will be closed for general use." "The Falmouth ARA has worked for over a year to reach the agreement with the Town," commented Courtemanche. "Now we must show them that we are professional, prepared, and competent communicators." —Falmouth ARA Newsletter, December, 2003

THE STURDY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL ARC HAS BEEN OFFICIALLY DESIGNATED A SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB. SMHARC joins the ranks of other "extraordinary clubs" which actively pursue all aspects of Amateur Radio: new ham development and training; public relations; emergency communications; school club support; technical advancement; operating activities; annual reports, etc. "Through the work of its members, [SMHARC] is recognized for its continued efforts on behalf of Amateur Radio and services to its community," said ARRL staff member Thomas M. Cote, KB1KOS in a December 17, 2003 letter to SMHARC secretary/treasurer Ray Cord, K2TGX, EMA Section Manager, K9HI, and New England Division Director, K1KI.

SEASONS GREETINGS to EMA ARRL members on behalf of the EMA ARRL staff. Please keep in your minds and hearts the dedicated military personnel who are serving overseas, far from their loved ones. Have a safe and enjoyable holiday season as you travel and celebrate with relatives and ham friends. 73, K9HI.

Rhode Island

Greetings Fellow RI Amateurs, Please let me initially extend to each of you, warmest wishes from my family to yours for a very happy holiday season and a very healthy and safe New Year. Don't forget to operate on New Year's Eve otherwise known as Straight Key Night. Full details may be found on the ARRL website at <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2004/skn.html> . The event runs from 7PM on New Year's Eve until 7PM on New Year's Day. Obviously, you're expected to use a straight key. You don't own one? Tsk tsk. Well, if you insist, just use one side of your paddle with your keyer turned off. It should perform similar to a straight key. While you

have the ARRL website on your Internet browser, take a look at this news concerning your RI section, <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2003/12/10/3/?nc=1#CERT> Hat's off to BVARC and Certified Instructor, Bill Ewan W1VH for seizing an opportunity to promote Amateur Radio and show that the Memo of Understanding between ARRL and the Citizen Corp is more than simply a piece of paper. Through Bill's effort, we may potentially generate dozens if not hundreds of new hams in RI coming from the Citizens Emergency Response Team. Now, that's being creative! Kudos to all concerned. Band conditions have been less than terrific but despite it all, 10 meters has shown a few occasions of remarkable strength in October and November. I saw S9 + signals from all over Europe as well as Africa during the daylight hours on 10 meters despite signals on 20 or 15 being less remarkable. Unfortunately, 10 meter conditions aren't expected to be favorable in the next month but may be exciting again in reflection of more solar radiation later in December. The sun has shown some major eruptions lately; most unusual for a period so close to the sunspot cycle bottom where we'd expect generally quiet solar conditions. I hope you're participating in and enjoying the holiday parties our clubs are sponsoring. Despite my good intentions, I couldn't attend most clubs' party this year. I apologize but some health issues took precedence. There's no progress to report in the section appointment staffing front. We still have no one to formulate and lead a RI ARES organization. It's not that I'm so particular in only approving someone with stellar credentials that we don't have an SEC. No one has even expressed interest in taking the post! My hope is that when (if) someone applies, he or she will be strongly qualified so I won't have to face turning someone down. The first special mailing aimed at explaining services was supposed to have been mailed by now, however some details prevented that. In fact, I'm going to reverse the order from originally planned. Within a few weeks, you'll be reading about how Field Card Checking is done in verifying your WAS, VUCC and DXCC QSL cards. We have dedicated and certified volunteers here in RI who will take care of this chore for you without the cards ever leaving your sight. As someone who has spent lots of time and money obtaining QSL cards, I can understand how you'd want to minimize that issue for yourself. Watch your e mail for the special mailing. You are signed up to receive e mail information from your Section Manager, aren't you? Not sure? You should check on the ARRL website, www.arrl.org under the Member Data page and be sure you've checked the correct boxes. Otherwise, you won't receive my special mailings to members. In closing, I hope each of you have a pleasant, happy and safe holiday season. Please don't forget SKN on Dec 31st. Try to fire up some old tube equipment to warm up the shack. It will go along with the straight key very nicely. 73, Bob W1YRC Section Manager

Vermont

Holiday Greetings to you, my fellow Hams. It sure is nice to see some snow on the ground here in Vermont. It's times like this that remind us to get our antenna projects completed during warmer weather. But, as we all know, Murphy may have other plans for us. For instance, my 160 Meter Carolina Windom antenna broke in half just before the 160 Meter contest season, and just before a snowstorm. Oh well, such is life when your hobby involves hanging wires in trees. Things seem kind of quiet around the state at the moment. Various clubs have been having their

annual holiday club party/meeting. These things usually require a lot of eating and socializing, which by the way, is a very important part of the hobby. I hope that you got a chance to hang out with friends, family, and Hams this month. ARES District One had an organizational meeting on November 20, 2003, hosted by Bob Brown W4YFJ, the DEC. Since I am a member of ARES in this District, I attended, and I can report that we achieved and set several goals. Bob plans to have such meetings every two months. Also in the works is an ARES net to be conducted on the St Albans repeater, starting in January. Meanwhile Fred Messer WA1LIE in District Three activated his troops to go on stand by during a recent heavy snowstorm, in case anybody needed assistance. None was needed that I know of, but it was good to see Hams at the ready. This District already has a very good Net (sponsored by CVARC) on the air every Sunday at 8 PM on the W1BD repeater in Williamstown, followed by a simplex gathering on 146.490 MHz. I am pleased to announce that Radio Amateurs of Northern Vermont (RANV) has had their Special Service Club (SSC) status renewed by the League. A Special Service Club goes the extra mile to provide on-going training and support for the benefit of their community. The other two SSCs in Vermont are Green Mountain Wireless Society, and Central Vermont Amateur Radio Club. In other news, I have renewed the appointment of Mitch Stern W1SJ as DXCC Card Checker for the Vermont Section. If you are close to getting 100 DX QSL Cards and are wondering what to do next, Mitch can be very helpful. Mitch will be checking cards at the ARRL Vermont State Convention on February 28, 2004 in Milton. I'd like to pass on my best holiday wishes to you and your family and hope that you have a safe and Happy New Year. As always, feel free to send me any Ham Radio tibits that you may have that I can pass along to the masses. Take care. November Traffic Report Submitted by Bert Morton W1DFU
NAME/SESSIONS/QNI/QTC/MINUTES/MGR VT 4/49/0/128 KA1LDS VPEN No Report
KC1YW GMN 25/594/18/1576 N1HXC VTNH 30/135/98/444 WA1JVV KWN 20/140/0/570
(Kingdom Weather Net) KA1HWB Bennington County ARES 4/21/1/72 N1SP

Northwestern Division

Eastern Washington

WRITTEN MESSAGE TRAFFIC REPORT FOR NOVEMBER: W7GB 63, K7BFL 111, KA7EKL 47, KK7T 22, K7GXZ 43. Public Service Honor Roll: W7GB 110, K7GXZ 100, K7BFL 140. Total Traffic count: 286 NTS NET ACTIVITY REPORT FOR NOVEMBER: WA State Net (WSN): QNI, 944 Traffic, 209 Sessions, 90 Noontime Net: QNI, 10456 Traffic, 409 Sessions, 60 WA Amateur Radio Traffic System (WARTS): QNI 3621, Traffic 156, 30 Sessions. We have welcomed Scott E Lasater, KJ7YX as the Public information coordinator in the section. Thanks Scott for taking this position!

Montana

Montana members have been busy with Winter preparations. A week or so of cold weather got most in the mood to "button up" the gear, check out their backup power and antennas. More are

adding some form of additional support allowing them to operate under adverse conditions. I hope to see our state represented by all stations having SOME sort of backups. Today's environment dictates attention to our ability to stay on the air.....no matter what. We've added more new stations on MTN, with some of the newer members attempting to handle NTS msgs that may come through our system. My thanks to all who participate in NTS. Montana nets show dedication and efficiency that is a standard to be followed. 73 Doug, K7YD

Oregon

Oregon SM: Randy Stimson KZ7T-ASM: WA7VTD. SEC: KK7TT. SCC: W7WZ. ACC: K7SQ. STM: W7IZ. OOC: AB7OC. PIC: W6ABM.= I was going through the December QST and noticed some results on Field Day. I noticed, as usual Portland ARC, W7LT (W7PR) is number #3 in the 4A Battery. They are always 2 or 3. They really work at it. In 1A we have Southern Oregon ARC, K7LIX and Hermiston ARC, KC7KUG. In 2A Oregon Tualatin Valley ARC, W7OTV. In 3 Battery there is Keno ARC, K7ENO. In 3A there is Central Oregon DX Club, W7MT, Umpqua Valley ARC, K7AZW (KB7WDR) and Sunset Empire ARC, W7BU. In 4A there is Salem ARC, W7SSA (W7RCK), Sisters Repeater Group, W7GLG and SCARE, W7SSA. It looks like Oregon had fair representation. We have some new officers for 20004. They are Central Oregon High Desert ARC. President Dave Stangland, KD7RTE, VP John Barton, KC7RHY, Secretary Mary Winter, N7RGD and Treasurer, Joe Berry, K7SQ. In my last article I got David Kidd's Call wrong it is KA7OZO not KC7OZO. Sorry about that. Also David Kidd, KA7OZO sent me update on AREC-EC. I have Gary Moak for EC-01 and is waiting for EC-02. Linda, KB7JQP and David Kidd, KA7OZO have completed EC0! and waiting for EC-02. Mark Green, KD7JNF has completed EC-01, 02, 03. Bill Packard, N7HOT has Completed EC-01, 02, 03 and is a mentor. David Kidd also has 12 signed up for EC-01. I received a note from Kevin Rock KD5ONS and Patricia Kusch KD5PZO will be teaching AREC-EC-01 in Banks OR. in January. If anyone is interested E-mail Kevin at kevinrock@earthlink.net. I have some results on the "The Trivial Pursuit Radiogram Games". There were some 300 messages authored and sent by Oregon ARES members. I should have a break down as to who did what next time. I am trying to talk Al, KK7XO, the man who put this on to do it again. I think that it is important to keep the message writing skills up. Traffic-W7IZ 302, KS7O 254, N7YSS 252, KK1A 172, N7CM 104, KC7SGM 101, KC7SRL 66, W7VSE 58 and N7APE12 PSHR KK1A 115, KW7DSP 113, N7YSS 100, KC7SGM 90, W7VSE 88, KL7OR 85 and W7RRC 85 I hope that every one will have a great Christmas and a super New Year

Western Washington

BPL comes to Washington I normally let SEC Jim Pace, K7CEX have this space but I think BPL (Broadband over Power Lines) is an important topic we all need to be aware of. On 4 Dec. I made a presentation to the WA State Senate Technology & Communications Committee on the interference issues associated with BPL. The purpose of the hearing was to educate the

committee on the BPL technology. The agenda was; Part I What is broadband over power lines and how does it work? Where is the technology being used? Presenters were: Christopher Britton, President and & CEO, IDACOMM. IDACOMM is the telecommunications subsidiary of IDACORP, the holding company of Idaho Power. Bill Simons, Director of Business Development, Amperion, Inc. Amperion is headquartered in Massachusetts. It develops networking hardware and software that enables the delivery of high-speed broadband data over medium-voltage power lines. Ed Bruette, American Radio Relay League, the national association for amateur radio. Part II (BPL examples in Washington): John Smith, Director of Networks, Chelan County PUD No. 1 Dale Knutson, Telecommunications Manager, Mason County PUD No. 3 As you can see I was after the industry. My presentation was done with the aid of PowerPoint and outlined the Part 15 device limitations, the interference issues both to and from Amateur Radio, BPL trials in Europe and Japan and the other users of the spectrum who will be impacted by interference by BPL. I concluded with a quote from the NTIA comment to the FCC NOI that indicates BPL is a promising technology but before deploying BPL the existing licensed users of the affected spectrum must be protected. The first 37 seconds of Ed Hare's BPL video (<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/#Video>) were included in the presentation along with a NTIA spectrum allocation chart that I modified to show the potential loss of spectrum. The committee did not ask any questions after my presentation. The non-verbal feedback I got from the committee was positive, as was the feedback from the 4 Hams in the audience. I was pleasantly surprised to hear the industry say the power line is an antenna. Equally surprising was an admission by the Chelan Co. PUD that they have gotten letters from local Hams after the deployment of BPL. Mason Co. PUD made a presentation because they are looking to deploy BPL in Dist. 3. We need to be vigilant and report all instances of interference from BPL. Those reports need to be made to the operator of the system and the FCC. Remember, BPL is susceptible to interference from Amateur Radio. If that happens in your neighborhood you may find yourself face to face with an angry BPL user who does not understand Part 15 device regulations. They just know you are a Ham and are a potential source of interference. If that happens, diplomacy is the best response. Support for my presentation was provided by DEC Ken, K7TAG and SGL Lee, KI7SS. Attending the hearing were Lee, KI7SS; Dan, KB7DFL; Bob, N7JHJ and Bill, WA7NWP. Thank you all. Thank you also to Ed Hare, W1RFI the ARRL Lab Manager who shared his knowledge and a previous presentation. Anyone interested in more information on BPL is invited to visit the web page Ed put together at <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/> Safe and Happy Holidays to all; from Connie, N7NVQ and I. Ed, N7NVP

Pacific Division

East Bay

Season's Greetings ASM: KE6QJV, K6HEW, K6USW; SEC: KO6JR; STM: W6DOB; STC: K6USW The Benicia Amateur Radio Club, in cooperation with the Benicia Fire Department and the Benicia Emergency Response Team's Amateur Radio Auxiliary, recently held a Ham Radio

Class culminating in an exam session on Nov 1st. Nine new Hams resulted from this class. Jean Colomy KG6SYJ, Russ Clifton KG6SYK, Colette Downey KG6SYL, Marion McKnow KGSYM, Leonard Corbaley KG6SYN, Bob Molina KG6SYO, Andy Gutierrez KG6SYP, Dave Beemon KG6SYR; James Harlander KG6SYS. Congrats to all. EBARC announced that the following officers have been elected to serve in 2004: Randy, KA6BQF- President; Peter, KB6WC, - 1st VP; Texx, KG6ATH- 2nd VP; Sharon, AA6XZ, - 3rd VP; Gordy, NU6W,- Treasurer; Bob, WB6VEX,- Secretary; Peter, W6DEI and John, KF6HFA- Members at large. ACSCT members Steve Hawes, WB6UZX; Michael Borkon, KF6CRZ; Varon Smith, WS6V; Denis Franklin, W6EW and Bob Vallio, W6RGG staffed the AlCo EOC for the statewide EMSA exercise. ACSCT also named Marcus Bell, KE6LEV Acting Asst. Chief Radio Officer; Tony Malone, KE6NEZ, Asst. Operations Officer; And Ti-Michelle Connelly, NJ6T, Operations Officer. Marsha Williams, KF6NBO becomes LARK's newest Ham. Earl, KD6EWA, upgraded to General Class. Roy, AA6IS has been named Editor of the Klubs newsletter "LARK" November 2003 Traffic (National Traffic System): Joe Lee, W6DOB-Org/0, Rec/183, Sent/500, Del/28, Total/711 Chuck Bridges, AK6DV-Org/0, Rec/250, Sent/257, Del/8 Total 515 Steve Hawes, WB6UZX - Org/2 Rec/66, Sent/25, Del/20 Total 113 Gary Gross, KE6QR - Org/0, Rec/16, Sent/1, Del/12 Total 29 Brass Pounders League (BPL): W6DOB, AK6DV PSHR Steve Hawes, WB6UZX :1/30 2/40 3/10 4/30 Total 110 Traffic Nets: NCN1: 3630 7PM NCN2-SLOW SESSION: 3705 9PM NCN-VHF: 145.21 7:30PM RN6: 3655 7:45pm & 9:30PM PAN: 3651 7052 8:30PM. Your check-ins are always welcome.

Nevada

Greetings to everyone in the Nevada Section! Assistant Section Manager (ASM) Gary Hartman KK7LV reports the Las Vegas Repeater Association (LVRA) put on a communications demonstration for the City of Boulder City. This was part of their annual Homeland Security show they put on for the community. They had several local officials and one State Assemblyman attend. Gary Hartman also reports there is continuing activity toward new amateur radio clubs in the Moapa Valley. In addition to the new club getting started in Logandale, it appears we may have another one springing up in Mesquite. Gary is reporting a high level of enthusiasm throughout the area and he will be following up to provide whatever assistance he and ARRL can. The Frontier Amateur Radio Society (FARS) is putting together a new Special Interest Group (SIG) for High Frequency radio usage. Hal Waite K3AB proposed the concept of more advocacy of HF operation. This would be for further education of their club members and other interested persons and clubs in basic and advanced principles of HF radio. Southern District Emergency Coordinator Glenn Hale KB7REO visited and met Lincoln County Emergency Coordinator Lee Hone K7NKH for the first time. They discussed Lee's interest in finding a repeater site in the Caliente area to help improve coverage. Lee needs to use a mobile base station to reach the Highland Peak repeater from Pioche. The Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society (SNARS) continues to lead the northern half of the state when it comes to levels of activity: licensing exams, code classes, SKYWARN activities, off-road races and a terrific new "Town Hall" idea where the entire amateur community, old and new, gets together to

discuss ideas, problems and solutions. The Elko Amateur Radio Club (EARC) is another club with a lot of recent activity reported regarding the recent Simulated Emergency Test (SET) and the September VHF QSO Contest. A long-time supporter of ARRL, this Special Service Club's newsletter can always be counted on to contain a prominent ARRL membership application! The Carson Valley Radio Club (CVRC) is planning to hold a free limited-enrollment Amateur Extra upgrade class starting January 22. The three month evening class will culminated in a public VE session. Two years ago a similar class resulted in 13 of 15 students receiving their Extra Class licenses. The first 15 amateurs to apply are welcome to attend. Congratulations go out to two brand new Official Emergency Stations (OES): Scott Sproul KD7SIX and Jack Cook N8RRL . OES appointments are for the best of the best and all ARES members are encouraged to work towards an appointment. Information on the OES appointment can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/org/oes.html>. For a current list of all ARRL Nevada Section Field Appointments, you can always check <http://www.pdarrrl.org/nevsec/officers.html>. Please send me your concerns, opinions, questions and newsletters. Until next month, 73, Dick K7VC
Nevada Section Manager

Pacific

Pacific Section Managers Report for November 2003. This was written November 25, 2003. Warren Munro, KH6WM, announced there will be a swap meet April 3rd from 8AM to 11AM At Aiea Elementary School Cafeteria and Parking Lot. Contact him at 487-1863 for more information. He also announced there will try to start Amateur Radio License classes near the end of January at Waipahu High School campus. Again contact him for details. There will be a Swap Meet in Kamuela on the Big Island on the Second Saturday in October 2004. Big Island ARC (BIARC) will have their Christmas party on December 13th. Marianas Amateur Radio Club (MARC) is having their party on December 2nd. BIARC will be participation in the Christmas Parade in Hilo November 29th. Emergency Amateur Radio Club (EARC) will be assisting communications for the Honolulu Christmas parade December 4th. EARC visited OCDA Wednesday November 19th which is a week early because the Thanksgiving Holiday falls on their regular meeting night. Super Typhoon Lupit made a near miss to Guam but fortunately passed 300+ miles south. They are still being hit with heavy rain and high surf. The State of Hawaii was hit by High Surf last week with damage reported throughout the state. Members of BIARC could see the high surf during their regular Friday lunch and also saw a barge aground in Hilo Bay. Koolau ARC has donated \$100 to the BPL defense fund sponsored by ARRL. Other clubs and individuals are encouraged to help out too. Chuck McConnell, W6DPD, SJV SM and former Pacific Division Director visited the Big Island and attended the BIARC monthly meeting November 8th. He was at the SM Training in September with me and his insight into ARRL goings on is perceptive. The South Carolina SM has put up quite a few pictures of the SM conference. They can be found at <http://www.qsl.net/arrl-sc/> On the left side scroll the bar to "Pictures Gallery" then scroll the main page to Section Managers Conference at ARRL HEADQUARTERS. 73, Bob, AH6J

Sacramento Valley

As this is the last Section News for the year I want to wish every one Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year. I want to thank those members who have volunteered for a Field appointment and especially those involved in Emergency Communications who have put in many hours for the good of the community. Our ARES groups continue to grow with increased training. We are thankful that we had a rather calm fire season and hope the winter floods pass us by, but be prepared just in case. Several of the section clubs have made donations to the ARRL for defense against the high speed Broadband over the power lines. The League is having a private company make measurements of noise and possible interference from amateur transmitters, so it can be submitted to the FCC. BERRYESSA ARK: BARK had successful camp-out at Lake Berryessa and made many contacts with stations throughout the world. Long time club member Nancy Bruss, KF6IMT, became a silent key. They have a need for further lightning protection for the repeater system and possibility of putting up a 6 meter repeater. ARC of ANDERSON: The club put on a successful display of amateur radio at the Whiskeytown Dam Dedication celebration. They had display tables set up with radio equipment and code keys. Their Special Event Station made 75 contacts. The club holds VE tests on 2nd Saturday/Mo at 8:30 am on even months, SCARS on odd months. Contact Mac, W6MAC, at w6mac@arrrl.net . SIERRA FOOTHILLS ARC: SFARC will sponsor a Technician licensing class in January. If you know of anyone looking for a class, contact Casey, W7IB, at w7ib@arrrl.net. They also give exams in Folsom on 1st Saturday of the month, contact Rob, WW6G, at ww6g@arrrl.net. George, KG6LSB, won the contest for a new name for the club's bulletin. He proposed "Sierra Signals" and now a new Masthead will have to be designed. The original masthead was designed by Russ Ahlberg (SK) back about 1988. The club donated \$100 to the BPL fund. NEVADA COUNTY ARC: The club did a complete overhaul of the radio room at the Salvation Army Hall. They now have HF, VHF and UHF capabilities. A multiband inverted VEE was installed at 60 ft. The radio room will be shared with SATERN that provide support for the SA. The club meets the 2nd Monday, in GrassValley at the SA. RIVER CITY ARCS: Dale, AD6CT, is coordinating the clubs efforts in providing communications for the annual California International Marathon on Dec. 7. About 30 operators will be used. Dale is also looking for new members for RACES LAKE OROVILLE VISTA ENDURANCE RIDE: A 50 and 30 mile horse ride around Lake Oroville. Hams from the Yuba Sutter ARC and the Sweep Riders of the Sierras, (SOS), provided support for this annual event. The SOS members are hams who are also horse enthusiasts and they combine their two loves into one exciting hobby. SOS has provided communications for the past 4 years. The Yuba Sutter repeater was used along with a simplex frequency. There were 20 hams and 2 non hams. Helping. Over 100 riders were tracked by numbers and time. (Thanks to Mary Anne, KE6EST for information). CLUBS: As the New Year approaches, please go to the ARRL web page for clubs and update the information there on the new officers, meeting time and especially the URL for the club web pages. I am finding many errors in the clubs information. Also PLEASE send me your newsletter, by mail or email, or if it is on the club's web page, the URL. I am getting only about 7 out of over 20 club bulletins – this is where I gather most of the information for the Section News! Also members, if you have email and internet, please register with the ARRL, on line, and check to receive the Section News by email. Remember the Section

Nets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. VHF at 7 pm on 146.085 MHz, PL 127.3. HF at 7:30 pm on 3987 KHz. The Northern California Net meets each evening at 7 pm on 3630 KHz and the slow speed training net at 9 pm on 3710 KHz. Learn traffic handling on CW. Again Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. 73, Jettie, W6RFF.

San Francisco

San Francisco Section News December 2003 Clubs this month are holding their holiday parties in observance of the end of the year and the celebration of the Holiday Season. Most clubs have held elections for the 2004 officers and directors. Congratulations to the following new club presidents: Del Norte ARC - Lori Bennett-Tetrack KF6VFI; Humboldt ARC - Marci Campbell KE6IAU; Sonoma County ARC - Brian Torr N6IY; Redwood Empire DX Assoc. - Fred Leone N6YEU; Valley of the Moon ARC - Jim Hill K6UW; San Francisco ARC - George Hughes W0WEB. It's the Holiday Season and I'm going shopping. No, I'm not heading down to HRO to buy the latest and greatest radio toy, although that Yaesu FT-897 looks pretty interesting. What I am doing is putting together the list of things that I give to others. What I have been doing the past few years is picking up a number of gift cards from giving trees in the area. You know, the trees in your local bank or department store that have cards listing a child, adult or senior who might not have a Christmas present if someone wasn't there to help. The cards generally have the person's first name, age and gift suggestion. You take the card, shop for that person and return the card with the present to the merchant to wrap and pass on. Sometimes I add a little extra something, a small extra gift or a five dollar bill to the package. Yeah, I don't get to see the look on their face when they open their gift, but I know that I might have brought some sparkle in someone's eyes who might not have such a happy holiday otherwise. Besides, it gives me an excuse to go shopping and play, I mean evaluate, the latest toys (we didn't have a lot of these goodies when I was a kid). If you have a few bucks to spare and a little time, pick up a card from a giving tree and go shopping. Make a stranger smile on Christmas morning. I wish everyone a joyous and safe Holiday Season. May God bless! 73, Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV

San Joaquin Valley

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY SECTION Report for the month of November, 2003: SM Charles McConnell, W6DPD- ASM K6YK, ACC W6DPD, SEC K6IN, OOC N1VM, STM K6RAU, PIC KE6IGJ, TC W6TE. Greetings from the ARRL San Joaquin Valley Section. If your club would like news of their activities and events listed here, please send the information to your SM, w6dpd@arrl.org. Emergency Coordinators are needed in Mono and Calaveras Counties. Contact K6IN, k6sec@mercednet.com, or W6DPD (w6dpd@arrl.org) if you can help. Please write your congressional representative and urge support and co-sponsorship of HR 713, the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act and HR 1478, which would apply PRB-1 to CC&Rs. Also contact your Senators and urge support and co-sponsorship of S 537, the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act. The International DX Convention will be April 23-25, 2004 at the Holiday Inn at Visalia. Check scdxc.org/visalia2004 for information. The 2004 Fresno Hamfest

will be May 1, 2004, at the Ramada Inn in Fresno. This will also be the San Joaquin Valley Section Convention. As plans are completed, announcements will be placed on websites. The ARRL invites nominations of exceptional young Amateur Radio operators for the ARRL Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Award. Nominations are due to ARRL section managers by March 31, 2004. The HPM Award goes each year to an enthusiastic and active amateur licensee aged 21 or younger whose contributions to Amateur Radio and to the community are of the most exemplary nature. An ideal nominee may be involved in recruiting new hams through demonstrations as well as by example to his or her peers; on the air and/or public service activities; employing technical ingenuity to further Amateur Radio; public relations activities; and organizations on a local, state or national level. The HPM Award winner receives an engraved plaque and a check for \$1500. Details are available on the ARRL Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Award Web page , which includes a link to the nomination form. Those nominating HPM Award candidates should include their contact information and forward the form to their ARRL Section Manager (w6dpd@arrl.org). Section managers also may nominate young hams for this award. For additional information, contact Jean Wolfgang, WB3IOS (jwolfgang@arrl.org). The fifth annual SKYWARN Recognition Day (SRD) will take place this year on Saturday, December 6, 2003. SKYWARN Recognition Day this year will be held from 0000 UTC to 2400 UTC on December 6, 2003. Scott Mentzer, the creator and promoter of the event, strives to involve more NWS offices and Amateur Radio operators each year. In 2002, participants logged nearly 23,000 QSOs during the 24-hour event. Last year nearly 70 countries were contacted. To learn more about this year's event, check out the NOAA Web site: <http://hamradio.noaa.gov/>. This site includes a link to a list of participating National Weather Service offices and their call signs. The following have completed ARECC courses: Level One WA6BEF and KG6OIX; Level Two KC5LUB and W6RFR; and Level Three W6PAJ. W6RFL qualified for 5BWAS. K6SSN achieved sixth place in the Pacific Division in the 2003 June VHF QSO Party. AA6ID is working DX. TCARES officers for 2004 are Pres. KG6FEY; VP WB6WFF; Sec. KE6RGP; and Treas WA7MOB. The club meets the third Saturday in Sonora. Stockton-Delta ARC 2004 officers are Pres. KB6NVB; VP. KG6EYC; Sec, KE6EFD; and Treas. N6LHL. The club meets the second Thursday in Stockton. The Kern County Central Valley ARC operates a road and weather net during the Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years travel days as a service to travelers on the 145.15- PL 100 HZ. The net reports road conditions on the roads over the mountains and valleys of Kern County. The 2004 officers are Pres. N6ZFN; first VP KC6ZRF; second VP KG6OPR; Sec. KD6UQZ; and Treas. KG6PTF; and Past Pres. WA6ALB. The club meets the fourth Tuesday in Bakersfield. Fresno ARC officers for 2004 are Pres. KF6ZSW; VP K6QI; Sec. AE6GE; and Treas. KF6FIG. The club meets the second Friday in Fresno. Links to SJV club web pages are located on the sjv portion of the pdarrl.org web site. I hope that you find the new gear you want under the tree this holiday season. I wish you all the best in 2004.

Roanoke Division

North Carolina

NORTH CAROLINA: SM, John Covington, W4CC - SEC: WA4MOK. STM: K4HA. TC: K4ITL. BM: KD4YTU. PIC: N2COP. OOC: W4ZRA. SGL: AB4W. ACC: N4JCK. Slight e-mail address change - all e-mail to me should now be sent to w4cc@arrl.org. I'm phasing out the old address by February 1st. 2004 will be upon us very soon, and the start of a new year is always a good time to make sure things are up to date. Here's a few things I'd like for you to check: Look at your radio license. Make sure it has not expired, and that the address is current. I've talked to quite a few people this year that did not realize their licenses needed attention. ARRL/VEC can help you with correcting either situation. If you are an ARES member, make sure your county EC knows your most current phone numbers, e-mail address, operating capabilities, and in what ways you are willing to serve. Even if this information hasn't changed in a while, it won't hurt to make sure. If you are an officer of an ARRL-affiliated club, make sure the annual report has been filed. This can now be done online very easily (<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/forms/fsd2/>). If you need assistance, contact Jason Kay, N4JCK (n4jck@arrl.net) or myself and we will be glad to help you. We can also help you become an affiliated club if you are not already. If you want to help out with radio communications during disasters, make sure you and your family are personally prepared for disaster. This is good advice even for non-hams, but for us it's critical since you can't help out during disasters if you are busy recovering yourself. Some good web sites include www.ready.gov and www.redcross.org. Finally, plan to do something this year to help others enjoy Amateur Radio. Some ideas for you: conduct a program at a club meeting. Invite a new ham to operate your station during a contest. Offer someone who does not drive a ride to a club meeting or hamfest. Teach one night of a ham class. Help someone get their antenna working. Write an article for a newsletter about your favorite ham experience. Help scouts participate in Jamboree On The Air. Show off some DX QSLs at a club meeting. Answer the new callsign you just heard on a repeater. Help someone get started in ham radio. Be someone's most memorable QSO. I enjoyed attending the many hamfests across the state again this year. If you are on a hamfest committee, keep me posted when you pick a date for 2004 so I can put it on my calendar (and mention it here also). Sad to report some silent keys in recent months: Bill Johnson, K4NLK of Trinity become a silent key in November. Many of you remember Bill as our Section Traffic Manager about ten years ago. Joseph Morris, WA4OFA passed away in September. He was the Hertford County EC. November Traffic: W4EAT 1854 (BPL), K4RLD 270, K4IWW 256, W4DAC 252, AA4YW 198, KE4JHJ 87, N4AF 78, WA4OBR 75, K7UGT 74, KF4OCU 65, AB4E 58, WD4LSS 57, KD4WAX 54, KG4OQA 44, AD4XV 41, W3HL 38, KE4AHC 36, W4LN 33, W4EHF 25, WA2EDN 22, WA4SRD 19, N4TAB 12, W4IRE 7, N4NTO 5, KB8VCZ 4. November Public Service Honor Roll: K4RLD 160, KE4JHJ 150, K4IWW 120, W4EAT 120, N4TAB 112, K7UGT 105, W4LN 103, KF4OCU 100, KG4OQA 89, AA4YW 80, WA2EDN 72.

South Carolina

Greetings to all Amateur Radio Operators. This is Dr. Jim, N2ZZ with the December South Carolina Section Manager's Report! Please remember that the SC Section website can be found

at www.qsl.net/arrl-sc/ where my full SM report will be listed as well as up-to-the-date information on Amateur Radio in South Carolina!***There have been no South Carolina Hamfests since my last report, but quite a bit has been going on, both at the Section and National levels. Our new ACC, Brian KR4SP has been very active, attending several club meetings. He has also revitalized our "Monthly Club Activities Summary" on the Section Website. This is an excellent way to have an idea what clubs are doing in South Carolina, and perhaps encourage an active dialog among clubs to enhance monthly programs. I noticed the Greer Club had a Foxhunt-How about asking someone from that club to discuss organizing a Foxhunt at your club? There are many possibilities. Brian will be your contact, and he can be reached at his e-mail of kr4sp-1@juno.com or by phone at (864)-231-8732. Speaking of foxhunts, has anyone seen "Insomniac" starring Dave Attel on Comedy Central? He visited Arizona, and became involved in a Foxhunt by one of the Amateur Radio groups there. Do you believe that Amateur Radio or Ham Radio was not mentioned once during that entire show? This could have been a fantastic Public Relations opportunity!***Now speaking of Public Relations, we have a new addition to the ARRL-SC cabinet. Mike Duff KG4SLH has been named Assistant Public Information Coordinator, and will be assisting Dan Donovan KF4VIS PIC to coordinate public information activities throughout the South Carolina Section. Mike is the PIO for the Florence ARC, and has done an excellent job. Mike will continue his work with FARC in addition to his new activities. Thanks to Mike for offering his time and efforts to the SC Amateur Radio Community!***Reported by Charlie AE4UX, Section Emergency Coordinator: On November 7th, Marc Tarplee N4UFP, Technical Coordinator led a team of South Carolina Amateur Radio Operators in an analysis of the roof mounted State Emergency Operation Center antenna farm installation. They documented the physical configuration of the antenna farm and took readings using antenna analyzers. On-the-air contacts were made with several stations around the state. Subsequently, Marc performed an analysis on the data collected. The draft report has been submitted for review by myself and Jim N2ZZ, Section Manager. Additionally, the Memorandum of Understanding between the South Carolina Emergency Management Division (SCEMD) and SC ARES has been signed by South Carolina Section Manager Jim Boehner, N2ZZ and has been delivered to SCEMD for their signature.*****On the National Front, Please check out the www.qsl.net/arrl-sc/ website for important information***And that will bring an end to the December 2003 South Carolina Section Manager's report. I have asked the entire ARRL-SC cabinet to submit reports of all their activities for 2003, and I hope to compile all that has happened in 2003 either in my January report or on the www.qsl.net/arrl-sc/ SC Section website! I have a feeling this will be a long report, since I feel that amateur radio activity has picked up 1000% in the last year! Congratulations and thanks to everyone for their contributions! ***South Carolina November 2003 NTS Reports per Adam AF4QZ, STM: *Station Activity Reports (Call/Received/Sent/Originated/Delivered/Total): KA4UIV/133/124/0/10/267; KG4VDR/10/18/0/13/41; WA4UGD/30/0/0/30; AF4QZ/16/0/0/0/16; WB4PCS/7/5/0/3/15; K4RKC/7/7/0/0/14; KA4LRM/9/4/0/0/13; N4VVX/3/4/0/0/7; Note: KA4UIV's 267 total was an all time high for her. Congratulations Barbara! *Public Service Honor Roll Reports: KA4UIV 100; N4VVX 77; KA4LRM 73 *Net Reports (Net Name/Checkins/Traffic/Sessions/Reported By): Blue Ridge 2 Meter Net/1917/34/30/K4SUG;

Carolina Slow Net/133/39/30/W4EAT; Columbia ARC 2 Meter Net/189/9/9/K4RKC; Greater Pee Dee 2 Meter Net/713/41/30/K4DTT; Lancaster County 2 Meter Net/212/20/12/N4WMB; South Carolina 6 Meter SSB Net/60/0/4/K4IRT; South Carolina SSB Net/1316/115/30/WA4UGD ***Again, THANKS TO EVERYONE FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO AMATEUR RADIO!*** '73 de Dr. Jim N2ZZ, ARRL Section Manager, South Carolina Section, www.qsl.net/arrl-sc/

Southeastern Division

Georgia

SM: Susan Swiderski, AF4FO; ASM/South GA: Marshall Thigpen, W4IS; ASM/Legal: Jim Altman, W4UCK; ASM/Webmaster: Robert Tyler, KF4VBR; SEC: Mike Boatright, KO4WX; STM: Jim Hanna, AF4NS; BM: Eddy Kosobucki, K4JNL; OOC: Mike Swiderski, K4HBI; TC: Fred Runkle, K4KAZ; PIC: Kevin Martin, W4SJR; SGL: Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN; ACC: Robin Cutshaw, AA4RC. www.arrl-ga.org www.gaares.org Holiday Greetings, fellow hams-sters. December traditionally is the time of year when many ham clubs have a party of some sort, rather than a standard club meeting. Some name a Ham of the Year, in recognition of the contributions of that Someone Special who has given much to the hobby and to that club. One such person was honored by the Gwinnett ARS, and that is Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV, one of our PIOs and an all-around good guy. Congratulations, Norm, on the well-deserved award. (And I'm looking forward to hearing who was honored by some of the other clubs around the state.) There have been a number of elections for club officers lately, too. Congratulations to these newly elected officers for the following clubs: ARC of Augusta: Jay Samples, KG4LEY; Dale Keener, KG4SSY; Al Menges, KF4NXL; and Tom Brown, KF4ITM. Cherokee Capital ARC: Felton Floyd, AF4DN; Woodrow Davis, K4WTD; Edna Wright, KF4SDF; and Franklin Hollis, KF4FGH. Kenneshooshee ARC: Paul Manno, KG4UVU; David Pearce, AB0NG; and Keith Chafin, NE4O. QCWA Chapter 49: Mike Swiderski, K4HBI; Jerry Lofstead, W3CDE, and Bob Lear, K4SZ. Best wishes to all of these fine folks as they work together leading their clubs into the new year. Congratulations to Walt Rowe, K4MJ, who was bestowed with an honorary Lifetime Membership to the Alford Memorial ARC. Walt has been a ham since long before the FCC even thought about entering the scene, and he delights in telling other hams about the early history of the hobby. (And we all delight in hearing it!) And a great big thank you to the club for bestowing the same honor on my better half and me. It was a most unexpected surprise, and we are humbly grateful and honored to join other club members, like Walt, who have been so designated over the years. There's no good time to be sick, but this time of the year is especially rough on those who are struggling with medical challenges and tough recoveries. To all of you in this situation, we wish you the strength of spirit to recover. Notably, get well wishes go out to Bob Butler, W4RBB, Teresa Lowe, KG4CRD, Edna Anthony, KF4TZZ, and "Kip" Turner, W4KIP. Do you hear the clink of champagne glasses? I do, and it isn't just to usher in the new year. It's in tribute to a special milestone for Jean Sager, KA4BNG, and her hubby Jay, WB4BXA, who will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary this month. Congratulations

to this special couple, and may they celebrate many more. Sadly, a few SKs to report this month: Marvin Ollendorf, W4HAH, Andy Thompson, W4PP, and Jimmy Walker, W4VX, Sincere condolences to their families and friends. Well, that's about it for this month. Happy Hanukkah. Merry Christmas. Happy Holidays. "And whether I've known you for many years or a few, in some way, you've had a part in shaping things I do. So every year when Christmas comes, I realize anew the wonderful blessing of knowing folks like you." Thanks for another terrific year. Until next time, this is AF4FO, signing clear. Take care of yourselves. And each other. 73, Susan QTC: K4FUM-365; WB4GGS-328; W4WXA-159; AF4NS-101; K1FP-65; W9NXC-51; K4WKT-38; K4BEH-38; KG4FXG-33; K4BG-31; WB4BIK-27; K4GA-2; N4UJ-3

Puerto Rico

ARRL - P.R. Section News Date: 11/01/2003 PUERTO RICO: SM, Víctor Madera, KP4PQ – El mes de noviembre ha mantenido a todos los radioaficionados alerta debido a peligrosas inundaciones en toda la isla. El Jamboree-on-the-Air se celebró en varios lugares. El PRARL opero la estación KP4ES desde la playa de Manatí. Más de 250 Scouts se reunieron allí y tuvieron la oportunidad de recibir charlas sobre comunicaciones y comunicar con amigos de otros países. La FRA celebró su Asamblea 2003 eligiendo la nueva directiva de la Federación. Aunque la temporada de huracanes terminó oficialmente, todavía hay grandes posibilidades de lluvias torrenciales y una leve probabilidad de huracanes que aun puedan formarse en el Caribe. El PRARL anuncia su Asamblea Anual para el mes de enero de 2004 en el Albergue Olímpico de Puerto Rico. Pronto se comenzará a reorganizar el programa de ARES en toda la isla. Habrá redes en HF y VHF. Los interesados comuníquense con sus respectivos clubes para más detalles. El ARRL/VEC PR VET está ofreciendo pruebas de telegrafía a alta velocidad después de sus sesiones ordinarias. El PRARL ofrece un vistoso certificado a los participantes exitosos. Una buena forma de fomentar la telegrafía. ¡Felicitaciones! ¿Les interesa saber como se transmite el popular simbolo de "@" que se usa en las direcciones electronicas? La ITU aprobo la combinación de la "A" y la "C" para transmitir el simbolo de arroba. ¿Le interesa el programa de emergencias de ARES? Los interesados deben comunicarse con su SM por kp4pq@arrrl.org o escribiéndole al PO Box 191917, San Juan, PR 00919-1917. Tel.: (787)789-4998.

Southern Florida

This is the last monthly news summary you will receive in 2003. I want to thank all of the appointees who worked long and hard to make ARRL visible in the Southern Florida section. I appreciate your efforts. You make my job easier and you're a great team to work with. The members also appreciate you, because you help provide a better amateur radio experience for everyone. Keep up the good work and 2004 will be even better. Happy holiday season to all. I've enjoyed meeting many of you at hamfests and club meetings and via e-mail and I hope to meet more of you next year. In 2004 I and the cabinet members hope to visit clubs that we missed in 2003. We also would like a conference of ECs and DEC's during the year. Plans are

contingent upon budget money from ARRL HQ and our work schedules. We'll give you lead time and schedule visits and conferences when most members can attend. There's a new look at www.sflarrl.org. Check it out & participate in monthly surveys. Click on the ARES logo for the section emergency plan and the listing of ECs. VE teams and instructors please notify the webmaster of changes. The section news will be updated later in the month since work sent me out of town for a week. There will be news of clubs, net activities, new photos, and hints for eliminating spam from your @arrl.net address. Please have your club publicity person send a list of your 2004 incoming/continuing officers to Jeff, WA4AW and myself and I'll post all that I receive. (No publicity person designated? Contact your president and volunteer or suggest someone who might be interested – it's YOUR club). I'll send an e-mail when the page is updated. The fifth annual SKYWARN Recognition Day (SRD) took place on December 6 to recognize Amateur Radio operators for the vital public service they perform during times of severe weather, and to strengthen the bond between radio amateurs and their local National Weather Service office. Thanks to all who participated. I visited the Melbourne site and was pleased to see a large group there. It was great meeting the folks from Osceola and connecting faces to calls and e-mails. Members of Treasure Coast Skywarn and Osceola Skywarn participated from Melbourne NWS. WX4NHC was active from NWS in Miami. Photos will be posted soon. Has your club elected new officers for 2004? That's a quick and easy news release to your local newspaper that gains some exposure for your club but also calls attention to the people who make your club active, vibrant and visible to the community. At this time of year, many small community newspapers are looking for local news entries. Send them a release with the name, city of residence and office held by your club's new slate of leaders — From Jeff Reinhardt AA6JR, Chairman - ARRL Public Relations Committee TS reports: N4TZH, W4KPG, N4GKI, K4AW, WB2QLP, N4BG, KF4DQY, K2UGH & KF4KDO. PIO reports: K4SWF EC reports: N4LEM, KT4XK, N4KFR, WA4ASJ, KC4UCN, N3PYQ, KA4HLO, AD4RZ, and KE4DUJ OES reports: KG4KCB, AF4NR, and N3HOE Remember, if your are an appointee your job description includes regular reports (most are monthly) to a cabinet member and the SM. NOVEMBER SAR: KA4FZI 456, WA9VND 319, K4FQU 256, WA4EIC 153, WA2YL 148, KD4GR 139, K4PG 134, KE4UOF 104, AA4BN 66, WB4PAM 41, KG4MLC 41, KN4JN 41, KT4XK 34, KG4ILJ 34, KG4MLD 32, KG4CHW 24, K4VMC 22, W4WYR 17, KG4EQY 15, AF4NR 13, WY4F 11, KE4WBI 1 NOVEMBER PSHR: WA2YL 130, KE4UOF 130, KA4FZI 117, KD4GR 115, WA4EIC 100, KG4CHW 94, K4FQU 92, WB4PAM 90, AA4BN 83, KG4MLC 76, KG4MLD 60, WY4F17

West Gulf Division

Oklahoma

December 6 was a great day for Amateur Radio in OK! It was Skywarn Appreciation Day with Amateur Radio activity at both the Tulsa and Norman National Weather Service Offices and beyond. Great activities to promote Amateur Radio as the OK NWS stations were a part of around 100 similar stations throughout the land. But, we had a real bonus in Amateur Radio

activities in that the AD5GT and KC5TRB balloons had successful launches on the morning of December 6. Balloons were launched on site from the Norman and Tulsa offices of the NWS and quite near respective American Red Cross offices. Achieved during the course of the balloon flights were the first, on record, earth-balloon-balloon-earth Amateur Radio contacts! Both sites had abundant Amateur Radio operators to assist in the launch, chase, recovery and post flight eye-ball qso's. SM visits to both sites was most enjoyable as the opportunity to meet with American Red Cross and National Weather Service staff was quite productive. Thanks to Steve- KA9MLL Meteorologist in Charge, Tulsa NWS office for his hospitality and support of the whole day's activity. Congratulations to Harry-KC5TRB and John-AD5GT for a job well done and receipt of written commendation from the OK Section. Other recently receiving recognition include Chris-KD5BQS and Dave-NE5S. Chris has received national kudos for his public service and as a youth. Most recently Chris got considerable mention in the Youth column in League publications. Dave is now a member of the A-1 Operators Club! Congratulations to both and thanks to Eileen Sapko of League HQ for her help with Dave's A-1 certificate. These awards, were given out, at the OKC Autopatch festive Christmas gathering. Tom-WA9AFM was also given his Assistant Section Manager certificate. Appreciate the presence and support of Coy Day-N5OK West Gulf Division Director. On the same evening, the Tulsa Repeater Organization had a similar large gathering of club members. Both clubs are very active Special Service Clubs. TRO has had a yearlong member recruitment project. Their December meeting culminated the project with a great number of nice prizes given to recognize the successful recruiters. The Tri-State Amateur Radio Group continues to be very active and spirited. New officers include Dave-N7HRT President, Robert-KD5MGL VP, Betty-KA5QGU Sec/Tr and Jim-NW5OK Bulletin Manager. With this group of officers a productive and fun filled year is ahead! A Ham-Cramm licensing class is planned for early January. Also in the works is to use the monthly ARES meetings as a way to work in class materials on the Emergency Comm Level I class. Nice idea gang! Club visits this month were to Ardmore, Altus, Choctaw, Edmond and OKC Autopatch. Sure had a great time meeting these clubs. Thanks to Section ACC Jim Richardson-N5OHL for his participation. Jim is supporting Section clubs to become League affiliated. He can be contacted at N5OHL@arrl.net. Contact remains active with the OK Chapter of Volunteer Organization Active in Disasters (www.okvoad.org) and the OK Department of Emergency Management (www.odcem.state.ok.us) Thanks to both entities for their support of Amateur Radio in OK. The next meeting of the OK VOAD chapter will be on Friday January 9, 10:30 am, at the Tulsa American Red Cross office. Several Section licensing classes have recently successfully concluded with particulars to follow. Public Service Honor Roll: O.C. Elfers-WA5OUV, Tom Johnson-N5IKN, Pat Murphy- NJ5M & Sam Sitton-W5CU. Station Activity Reports: Cecil Carter-KI5LQ 77, O.C. Elfers-WA5OUV 75, Tom Johnson-N5IKN 256, Pat Murphy-NJ5M 274, Arlyn Seidel-KK5GY 251 & Sam Sitton-W5CU 155 Merry Christmas! 73, John-WB5SYT OK Section Manager