

Section News for December 2003

Atlantic Division

Southern New Jersey

SECTION NEWS SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY JANUARY 2004 JEAN PRIESTLEY - KA2YKN HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EVERYONE. This year promises to be an interesting year one... We have a new hamfest in town, the BPL issue to deal with and the question "What will happen with Morse Code"? The new hamfest this year is sponsored by the East Coast Long Wire Assoc. and ARRL approved. It will be held in North Wildwood, NJ on June 20, 2004. Contact point at this time is Tony Cipollono, N2RKX On Friday evening Jan. 9, K2GW, Gary and AB2IO, Mike set up a panel and literature displays for the Super Science Weekend Amateur Radio Exhibit at the State Museum in Trenton, NJ complete with a straight key, code oscillator, message forms for traffic messages, HF and VHF equipment in preparation for the Exhibit on Jan 10 and 11. The station included handi-talkies, Yaesu FT-897 and FT-817 transceivers, and internal VHF/UHF LOG PERIODIC BEAM and a Buddipole HF dipole antenna erected outside. Many hams were signed up to take a shift. The weekend saw 10,000 children and parents. Visitors were shown the "Amateur Radio Today" video and given literature about Amateur radio and information on upcoming classes. Contacts using W2ZQ were made across the country and overseas on PSK-31 and via phone. Working with DVRA were hams from the Warminster Amateur Radio Club and the David Sarnoff radio club. Everyone enjoyed themselves and agreed it could be an annual event. The most important cause we can fight for in 2004 is the BPL issue. If BPL is allowed, we lose everything we have worked so hard to accomplish and maintain over the years. There is something we can do. We can learn and understand what BPL is all about. We cannot fight an enemy we do not know. We need to read and research the subject and then we can write those who can influence the FCC to not allow BPL use. Austrian Amateurs have opposed deployment of all BPL experiments as neither legal nor compatible with "vital, worldwide short-wave radio communication". Other countries are also against BPL. Two organizations have filed comments with the FCC that augment previously expressed worries about potential interference from BPL. FEMA expressed "grave concerns" and DERA called on the FCC to require impartial BPL field testing as well as additional public comment and full and open public hearings. If you are planning a trip to the Battleship New Jersey, plan a weekend trip. Except for school trips the Battleship will be closed to the public on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays until sometime in April. This just makes good business sense because last year there were days that less than 15 people came to visit the Battleship in the middle of the week. The Homeport regrets any inconvenience. For special arrangements during those days, the same rules still apply in that you can come as a group but need to make arrangements for a control operator to be in the shack. If you are pondering membership in the Battleship's Amateur Radio Club, the best way is to come to the ship some Saturday and ask at the pier to have someone from the radio club on board escort you onto the

ship and there you can fill out your paperwork for membership and your ID badge. With the system in place for ID badges, this will work best. TRAFFIC REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2003...QNI REPORTS ... NJM 72 N2GJ NJPN 229 W2CC NJSN 172 K2PB NJN(E) 199 AG2R NJN(L) 140 AG2R above nets dual section nets of both SNJ and NNJ. Liaisons with 2RN. JSARS (no report) KC2JBZ SJTN 56 KB2RTZ SJVN 285 WB2UVB SJVN training net (not sessions) WB2UVB SAR REPORTS... KB2RTZ 266 WA2CUW 194 K2UL 105 WB2UVB 88 W2QOB 79 KC2IYC 62 WA2YL 40 AA2SV 35 KC2LWR 24 N2VQA 23 WA2NDA 14 PSHR REPORTS.. WB2UVB 130 KB2RTZ 125 K2UL 110 WA2YL 110 KC2IYC 90 WA2CUW 90 W2QOB 85 N2HQL 78 AA2SV 75 N2VQA 71 KA2YKN 65 KB2RTZ 126 O+D KEEP WARM

Western Pennsylvania

Happy 2004 to all! Hopefully the holiday season treated all well and Santa was extra special. With the New Year comes the usual "New Years Resolutions". You know what I'm talking about, its those little promises we make each year to ourselves to maybe loose weight, quit smoking, exercise more, etc. Well whatever yours may be it's not to late to make one for our hobby. Maybe devote more time to your radio club. Maybe volunteer for a Net Control, How about joining in on a Public Service function? The best part of these resolutions you don't have to spend money on the price of a diet or even a home gym. Chances are you have everything you need right now to do any or all of those items I mentioned. Give it some thought it can be fun and it helps promote our hobby and keep it alive! Reminder to all clubs and groups. Get your Hamfest requests into League Headquarters. Many are already scheduled and you can't beat the goodies you get when you have your Hamfest sanctioned through the League. I still have some openings for the coming year for club and ARES group visits. Please keep in mind that the WPA Section has a lot to offer you. We're here at your service. Update from last month. Our numbers are starting to creep up there on the graduate list of Ecomm classes. Good job to all who have graduated this past month. I have received numerous emails about having some "Local" classes and yes I can tell you they are in the works. I'm looking for a volunteer who may want to coordinate the local Ecomm courses for our section. Only requirement is this person has to be a graduate of all 3 Ecomm courses. This person would also work with all the instructor's and mentors in our section. We have the people all we need is the organization. Drop me an E-mail @ n3srj@arrl.org if you are interested! additional role. Larry KA3HUK our SEC still has some openings in some our counties. Feel free to contact him @ ka3huk@nauticom.net if you are interested in any of the opening or any ARES items or questions. The Best of the new year each and all! 73 Rich N3SRJ SM WPA

Central Division

Illinois

Happy New Year! I hope that everyone had a very good holiday season. The Plainfield Radio

League will host its' third Technician level Amateur Radio class starting Monday, February 9th. Class sessions will be held at the Plainfield EMA EOC, 1116 Mill street, Plainfield, 18:30-21:00 every Monday for ten weeks. Students must supply their own copy of "Now You're Talking" and the "ARRL FCC Rule Book." Both books are available on the ARRL web site. Also ASM Brad Piovesen, W9FX, and Kent Mandrell, K9MGN, will be offering a Technician class to be held at Rend Lake College and will begin January 27th. There will be ten 2 hour class sessions, one per week. The final session will be a VE testing session compliments of the Mt. Vernon ARC VE crew. Three ARRL Illinois section appointees, Deb Craig, N9SJ, Emergency Coordinator of Peoria County, Larry Keeran, K9ORP, Official Emergency Station and SEC Staff member, and Don Begolka, N9EZJ, Emergency Coordinator of Logan County were given Special Recognition Awards from the National Weather Service during the Logan County ESDA Christmas dinner on December 21st. These awards were from Ernest Goetsch, Meteorologist-in-Charge and Chris Miller, Warning Coordination Meteorologist, of the NWS weather forecasting office in Lincoln, IL (NWS ILX), and were presented to these three ARRL members for "outstanding efforts during record-breaking tornado outbreaks of 2003 in central Illinois." Other members of the "NWS ILX Communicators:" Steve Craig, WD9CIR, Gerald Hubrich, Jenna Hubrich, Rich Kempf, WD9HRU, and Devin Vannay, KB9ZQS received awards as well. New officers of the Western Illinois ARC are President, NA9Q, Vice-President NB9Q, Secretary K0RL, Treasurer W9BC, Member at Large KC9PPT. Repeater board, NB9Q and NG9R. New officers for the Fox River Radio League are W9AX, President, AH6EZ, Vice-President, KLB9YYX, Secretary, W9OKI Treasurer. Directors K9JE, N9XU, and K9EUI. R.A.D.I.O. held their election of officers at the December 17th meeting. WB9UDJ, Gary Auerswald was re-elected as President, KA0JUW, Tim Tribble was elected as Vice-President and N9WCC, Robert Carwile was re-elected as Secretary/ Treasurer. R.A.D.I.O. has had a very good year. They put a 70cm machine on the air and had many radio events that were successful. Their club membership has climbed to 52 as of the date of the December meeting. Congratulations to John Nebl, N9MYC. He was presented the Schaumburg ARC Member of the Year award at the club's holiday party. This is the second year in a row that John was given this award. Congratulations to Larry Snyder, K0HNM, who was awarded the Radio Amateur of the Year award at the Rockford ARA holiday dinner. Condolances go to Illinois Section ACC, Eric Rademacher, KC9AVP, and his family. Eric's father, Frank Rademacher, K9KQB, passed away on January 9th. Frank's funeral will be on Friday the 16th at Paulson's Funeral Home and interment will be at Antioch Cemetery 1 1/2 miles east of Macedonia. The Wheaton Hamfest is fast approaching. This year's event will be Sunday, January 25th at the Pheasant Run Megacenter in St. Charles. See you there. December traffic: WB9TVD, 35; WD9F 24, PSHR 76; W9FIF 7; W9HLX 49; NC9T 22; ISN Report for December QNI 188, QTC 59, Sessions 31.

Wisconsin

WISCONSIN: SM: Don Michalski, W9IXG. BWN 3985 0500-0715 W9IXG. BEN 3985 1200 KE9VU. WSBN 3985 1715-1800 K9FHI. WNN 3723 1800 KB9ROB. WSSN 3645 1830 WA9ZTY. WIN-E 3662 1900 WB9ICH. WIN-L 3662 2200 W9UW. (All times are Central) **

With regret, I am informing you the passing of the following Amateurs: Ronald Hooker, K9WTF, 69. Ronald was a member of WARAC for 44 years and past president. Also, Frank Brown, 89, KA9KAB, became a Silent Key. He was a member of ECARC and Chippewa Valley ARES/RACES. Robert Kitzinger, N9CFL, 80, passed away in Tucson, AZ. **

Representatives from the Milwaukee-Sullivan and Green Bay National Weather Service (NWS) offices recently presented their distinguished "Public Service Awards" to area individuals this past week in recognition of their superb and long term volunteer contributions to the NWS mission of saving lives and preventing property damage. Congratulations to KA9EWJ, KC0ARF, WD9HAS, WD9HAS, N9TPY, K9PAK, and, N9SZF for their contributions to the Wisconsin NWS! ** Phil, KC9IS, has decided to retire as coordinator for the Communication Technology Net after 3 successful years. We all thank him for his contribution to advancing the knowledge of amateur radio through this innovative net. To quote Phil: "The Net served a purpose by getting us thinking about our hobby from a technical perspective and the sharing of information. Many of you are experts in communications, electronics and Ham Radio. Share your knowledge. The CTN is registered with the ARRL Net directory. I would be happy to help you with the CTN. You would have the option to change the frequency, the date and the time." We hope the net can continue under the hands of a new coordinator. If you have an interest, please contact W9IXG or KC9IS, kc9is@arrl.net! **

The Wisconsin Valley Radio Association was recently awarded with a \$250 grant from the Mid-Wisconsin Bank Foundation. WVRA President Mark Rasmussen, N9MEA, states: "The grant was a great addition to the WVRA's ongoing feedline and antenna project at the club's repeater site." Here is a good example of approaching organizations willing to provide funds to non-profit groups. Take some time to find sources of support in your community! **

If you have a strong opinion on the issue of Morse Code proficiency testing for amateur licenses, I recommend you email Dick Isely, W9GIG, Central Division Director, w9gig@arrl.net, and let him know what you think, ASAP, so he can carry your vote to the upcoming ARRL Board meeting. The six petitions presented to the FCC are found on this site: <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2003/08/29/2/> **

Here is the December report from Denny, K9LGU, STM: The end of the year brings the old end-of-the-year stats and comparisons. 2003 was a good year. There were 42,010 check-ins to our traffic nets, and 23,597 pieces of traffic were handled. We spent 68,082 minutes during 2,548 sessions, and it was time well spent. Compared to last year, the check-ins have increased by 2,661 and traffic was up a whopping 1,788 pieces! That makes this the best year in the last five. The BWN accounted for 72% of the total check-ins and 83% of the traffic, but every net served a real purpose. It's true that 75% of our check-ins were to SSB nets, but that 25% on CW served as an important part of the system as well. Not only did we practice the handling of messages, thus sharpening our skills for use in an emergency, but we tested our procedures, picked up traffic-handling tips by listening, and became familiar with the patterns of other operators with whom we would be working if necessitated by a disaster. If we can measure success by improvement, it was indeed a very good year. – K9LGU/STM **

I am proud to announce the following new appointees to the Wisconsin Section staff: Bill Niemuth, KB9ENO- Section Emergency Coordinator; Daniel Gomez Ibanez, W9DGI- State Government Liaison; Bob Durfee, III, K9XB- Affiliated Club Coordinator. **

The Wisconsin Section Cabinet wishes everyone a Happy New Year! 73, Don, W9IXG w9ixg@arrl.org

Dakota Division

North Dakota

NORTH DAKOTA: SM, Kent Olson, KAØLDG -As the new year is now upon us, it's time to make those resolutions again. Here are some ham goals that I challenge you to take on. Take one of the great ARRL Emergency Communications courses, update/build your emergency go kit, and generally be more involved with your local ARES group. There are all kinds of new modes out there that you could also spend some time having fun with. To sum it all up, lets be more involved in ham radio this year than last. Most clubs are having their elections about this time, and could use your help in a leadership position. 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 13th. Technician classes in Bismarck, Dickinson, and Fargo are starting up again. Time to get a new person involved in ham radio. 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, 4/57/0; WX Net 45/764/9; Data Net 31/775/20.

South Dakota

Well I hope the new year has gotten off to a great start for everyone. I am sure that as I am most of you are settling back into a regular routine. I hope that this new routine will include a large serving of amateur radio this year. Lots of new things coming along. Exploring the idea of a State Convention in 2005 is looking very good, but it will be a lot of work. If you would like to help out with the planning or have some ideas for forms etc. please email me and I will get you on the mailing list so you can keep up with the committee. We have appointed many more OES, ECs, DECs, PIOs and other through out the section. Many of you folks are already doing these jobs or know someone that is and we'd like to make that official, so please let myself or one of the other cabinet members know. Did you also know that we have several authorized card checkers in the section? Bob, W0UD is a DXCC Card Checker, and we also have a WAS and VUCC card checkers in our section. All who would be available to attend and check cards at the events. Please take advantage of this great resource! Please contact Bob direct if you would like to have your DXCC cards Checked. Aberdeen: The club did some work on the link to the west. Jim Rappe provided, a bearing map with prefixes centered on Aberdeen, to those present at the last meeting. George Cross showed a dissected balun with which he was having problems and the program from SDPTV was shown featuring hams in Vermillion and Rapid City. Pierre: PARC will start another membership drive very soon for the 2004 year. WSØV Lon reports that recent repairs to the WØBLK/R 146.850 MHz repeater near Custer, SD. The PARC 2 Meter Net meets regularly on the local repeater 145.350 MHz. Day: Wednesday, Time: 9:00 PM. WBØRWH, Rob is Net Control. The club has purchased QSL cards in quantity for it members to use. Prairie Dogs (Yankton/Vermillion): The PDARC Annual Christmas party was held this

Saturday evening January 10th at JoDean's Steak House and Lounge in Yankton SD SEARC: Elected new officers and they include President Howard, KG0R - Vice President Ray, WB0HHM - Secretary Dan, AB0RE and Treasure Jim, WJ0S. Two or the 4 board members were also elected Mike, KC0MAZ and Rich, N0PV fill out those positions. Congratulations to all and a HUGE Thank you to past president Will, KE0Z for 6 years of outstanding service The SEARC Technician Licensing Class starts on January 17th at 10am at the Emergency Management Building. Please contact KE0Z, Will for more information. Deuel County: It is with great sadness that we must report the passing of one of our own. Gary Carlson - W0GC The funeral will be in Sioux Falls on January 17 2004. Memorial services will be at 1pm at East Side Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls, SD. Black Hills Area Clubs: Al Bergman hosted a special presentation and demonstration of 10 GHz equipment on 5 December. At the December 19 club meeting, Bob Henriksen gave a tutorial on regenerative receiver design and demonstrated several vintage tube radios as well as his new FET design. We remain committed to our goal of having a technical presentation at each monthly club meeting. Seven club members participated in the Skywarn Recognition Day special event sponsored by the National Weather Service on 5 & 6 December. The annual auction and flea market will be held on Saturday, February 21, 2004. This event will be an official ARRL hamfest. The Auction will be held at the Canyon Lake Senior Citizens Center in Rapid City (location change from prior years). The possibility of starting a new club in the Sturgis area is being investigated. Several members checked into the New Year's Eve South Dakota QSO party. We appreciate the efforts of the net control stations who organized this event again this year. Frank Shaw is organizing the QCWA Dakota Chapter annual special event which will be held on 28 February. BHARC will be sponsoring a regenerative receiver design contest see the BHARC web site at www.w0blk.org

Delta Division

Arkansas

The January ARES/RACES DEC meeting at ADEM in Conway was attended by almost 30 ARES and RACES officials from all over the state. ASEC N5XFW reported that installation is complete for the SW Arkansas hospital packet system. Standardized software is being used and there is now an operations manual. www.arkansashams.org now has a new feature – Arkansas ham web-cams. Also, check the Newsletter Articles section for a good item by W5RXU about ID cards, served agencies, and call-up procedures. The web site crashed due to a problem at the host, but webmaster KB5FJX was able to get things restored. Our nets are very active, with the Razorback Net approaching 100 participants many nights. OZK is now a slow-speed net and net controls are being recruited. STM WB5HIL and Net Manager WA5KQU are in the planning stage for a new digital traffic net. KD5NFX is the new president of the ARKAN Club, AC5YG is the new president of ARVARF. Please let our ACC K5BKT know about your change in officers and also be sure and take care of your yearly re-registration of ARRL affiliated clubs on www.arrl.org Polk County EC KD5PVH and other local hams recently assisted in search and recovery operations for a plane crash. The 7 person search party had two hams. One of them was

Amy, AG4HH, who recently completed the ARECC Level 2 course. Congratulations to W5WEC, who completed WAS on 75 meters. KB5IRC teaches at Bismarck Middle School and is working on having a ham radio class. He is also working on getting a Big Project grant. The Diamond club (Morrilton) newsletter featured Al, KG5J, in its January issue. Al has worked all counties in the US. That's quite an accomplishment, but Al has done it 7 times – all on CW! Al has received a lot of assistance in logging and moral support from his wife, Evelyn. Net reports for December: Arkansas Mockingbird Net: QNI 542, Traffic 20. Manager WB5YLI. Arkansas Razorback Net: QNI 2042, Traffic 90. Manager K5BOC. December Traffic: WA5KQU 47, K5BOC 32, AB5AU 28, WB5HIL 17, K7ZQR 11, KB5ILY 5, KA5RRK 4. Public Service Honor Roll: KB5ILY 185, WA5KQU 103.

Louisiana

LOUISIANA SECTION NEWS – DECEMBER 2003 The Shreveport Amateur Radio Association (SARA) now has EchoLink installed on its 146.82 repeater (K5SL/R), thanks to the efforts of K5SL, K5VXT, VK2ACM, and others. Hams outside the range of K5SL/R can link to it via K5BMO/L using Echolink. The 2004 officers of the Delta DX Association are K5RSG, President; W5FKX, Vice President; W5ZE, Secretary; N5VN, Treasurer; and K1DW, Director. New officers for the Southwest LA Amateur Repeater Club (SWLARC) are KC5JBJ, President; N5MKX, Vice President; KD5KSR, Secretary; and KD5GHQ, Treasurer. Congratulations and good luck to all! KC5FGO (Calcasieu Parish EC) reports that the SWLARC was active for Skywarn Appreciation Day from the National Weather Service Office in Lake Charles (K5LCW). During the special event, club members contacted 49 other NWS stations and made a total of 176 contacts. The LA Section ARES Emergency Operations Plan is now posted on the section's website at www.laarrl.org. Alan WA5LQZ (LA SEC) has done a great job updating our ARES plan and everyone interested in emergency communications should read the document carefully. By the way, if you have not visited our section's website lately, Al K5DPG (LA Section Webmaster) has added a lot of useful information and links in recent months, along with a new site address that is very easy to remember! Looking back over this past year, I believe our section has made significant progress in all areas. We are indeed fortunate to have an outstanding Section Cabinet composed of WA5LQZ, W4DLZ, W5EW, KC5LFB, WB5CXJ, KD5KNZ, K5DPG, AC5VN, and W5PY. In addition to the leadership provided by the Section Cabinet, LA has many outstanding volunteers working in the section's Field Organization at the parish and district levels. Of course, there's always room for improvement and I hope we can continue to move the section forward in 2004. WA5LQZ, W4DLZ, and I have decided that one of the items we will focus on this year is the continuing need to tie our ARES and NTS folks closer together. ARES members, for example, will be strongly encouraged to participate more in formal written traffic activities to complement their tactical communications skills. To provide extra incentive, we are planning to establish an awards program to recognize the outstanding ARES group in LA. Details on this program will be announced in the near future. Traffic totals: AE5V 172, W4DLZ 140, K5MC 140, AC5VN 111, NF5B 105, W5NK 130, W5PY 24, K5DPG 17, N5KWB 2. Public Service Honor Roll: WA5LQZ 196, AC5VN 110, K5MC 110, W5PY

109, NF5B 100, K5DPG 97, W4DLZ 90, K5ER 79, N5KWB 72, W5NK 70, KB5UHH 24. Section net reports: sessions/check-ins/messages handled. Louisiana Traffic Net: 31/453/113. Louisiana CW Net: 31/163/68. Louisiana ARES Net: 4/70/0. Local/district net reports: sessions/check-ins/messages handled. Ouachita Parish ARES Net: 5/85/2. Northeast LA ARES Net: 5/55/0. Union Parish ARES Net: 4/42/0. 73, Mickey Cox K5MC LA Section Manager Email: k5mc@arrl.org LA Section Website: www.laarrrl.org

Great Lakes Division

Michigan

1-16-04 Your Section Staff just kicked off the New Year with a key meeting in Lansing. In the planning stages for the last few weeks, it brought together all of those individuals reporting to the Section Manager. We devoted time so all could outline their current activities, plans and goals for the coming year. The Staff was introduced to a Leadership Training Program presented by Dick W8FQT. It is our plan to offer similar training to all Section Leadership Officials. Following this session, we then moved on to a program to develop a Vision Statement for the Section. John N8ZE presented an overview of a proposed revision for the Section Web Page. The plan is to improve the general appearance, group the material according to areas of interest, and provide more information about what is happening with our nets and ARES/RACES groups. The real needs of the Field Organization were discussed at length, and this discussion will result in a continuous program to monitor and improve several key areas. Included are plans to identify and publish all EOC Stations and callsigns, improve VHF Net liaison, update all rosters and records, set a goal for expanding the PIO Program 25%, and grow the Affiliated Club program of 80 clubs and 18 SSC Clubs. Specific items for the ARPSC Program were detailed and will be expanded in the coming weeks. Plans for the Michigan Section Summer Campout to be held at Lupton, MI are now in place. The dates are July 8 through July 11, 2004. This year's theme is "Margaritaville" and there will be family activities, contests, great food, and some informative fun meetings. More info will follow in the next few weeks, but please make your plans to attend this great family activity. The selection of a Key Station for Michigan for 2004 is in process. The Key Station will serve as a focal point for incoming emergency messages in a major disaster in accordance with the State Emergency Plan. Licensed Club Stations are eligible to request this appointment, and we will have the full criteria distributed to all Michigan clubs in early January. Selection of the Key Station will be made by the ARPSC leadership after reviewing the qualifications of each applicant organization. Congratulations to "The People Who Make it Happen" the new club officers for the following Michigan clubs: Genesee County ARC, Pres KB8ZP, VP K8VW, Sec K8LJG, Membership Dir WB8R JW, Rptr Trustee KF8Y, Editor KA8NOG. Michigan Amateur Radio Alliance, Pres KB8VOZ, VP KC8KVR, Sec KC8NKA, Trustee W8MSK. Muskegon Amateur Radio Alliance, Pres, KB8P, VP AB8SC, Sec AB8RD, Treas N8IU, Dirs AB8QB & KC8LLN, Club Mgr K8ROH. December Traffic Totals: N8EIZ 316, KB8ZYY 311, K8AE 185, K8LJG 159, W8RTN 103, VE3EUI 92, K8KHZ 52, KC8TLJ 49, AA8SN 43, W8RNQ 39, K8ZJU 38, WI8K 38, WB8RCR 32, K8UPE 29, N8UN

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 Happy New Year! 2003, seemed to be a year when many NNJ clubs scheduled a wide variety of activities to encourage member as well as public participation. And, it seems the enthusiasm will continue into 2004. Don't forget to publish your club's activities on our Section web page which is listed at the top of the page. Webmaster N2WZB is developing a simple form to make the postings easier. The Irvington-Roseland ARC used its club call, K2GQ, to operate a Special Event Station from the Sandy Hook Lighthouse. In spite of the cold weather they made many QSOs including one with me! As one of its several community activities the New Providence ARC sponsors a youth softball team as well as starting a radio club at one of the middle schools. Welcome back to the Fair Lawn ARC as an ARRL Affiliated Club. We hope to hear from them soon. Also, congratulations to The Raritan Bay Radio Amateurs who will be celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2004! The club keeps interest up with a number of operating activities as well as being an ARRL Special Service Club. New club officers for the Tri County RA are: K2SO President, N2PSU Vice President, KY2MMM as Secretary and N2ZU as Treasurer. 2004 Officers for the North Jersey DX Association are K2WR President, KF2TI as VP, KB2ENF Secretary and N2BIM Treasurer for Life. As a reminder, the NJDXA serves as the W2 call area QSL Bureau. Bureau subscription info as well as DX news is on the NJDXA web page. The County Line ARA returned its slate of Officers for another year with K2AF President, N2KGW VP, KB2YWZ as Treasurer and KC2INX Secretary. The Chatham RACES group held a successful SET (Simulated Emergency Test) when it met the challenge of providing back-up communications for the local police repeater system. Chatham RACES meets the first Monday of each month. Contact W2UH for more information. One way to check out the new 60 Meter Band is to listen to the Mid-Atlantic Emergency Net which meets at 8 PM on 5330.5 khz alternate Wednesday nights. (Thanks to Paul, W2UH for the net times.) Many NNJ hams took part in Skywarn Recognition Day by contacting various NWS special event stations. The National Weather Service is one government agency that actively recruits amateurs to act as local severe weather observers. Bergen Skywarn's link on our webpage lists training sessions as well as other SKYWARN news. Also, the ARRL is continuing its very successful on-line Emergency Communications Course. It's a great way to learn net procedures which come in handy for participation in the above directed nets. Don't forget that our webpage has a list of various NNJ traffic nets as well as ARES news. By the way, the section is always looking for more ARRL appointees. Appointment descriptions can be found on the Section web page as well. Let's keep the momentum going for 2004! As pointed out, there are enough areas of activity to interest just about everyone. 73, Bill Hudzik W2UDT

Midwest Division

Kansas

Kansas Section News Summary-December 2003 SM, Ron Cowan, KB0DTI-- SEC/OOC: Robert Summers, K0BXF ASM: Orlan Cook, W0OYH PIC: Scott Slocum, KC0DYA SGL: Steve Hamilton, KB0JYL This was a full year for us with the public service activities and WX related events. We worked parades, bike rides and Special Events. Numerous hams in Eastern Kansas helped out in May with the storms that caused a great deal of destruction. Let us take advantage of all these events and learn from them. A big thanks to everyone that went to a club meeting, attended our hamfests, took part in the S.E.T., worked Public Service events, helped at Field Day, participated with their local ARES group, checked into our Kansas nets, sent me their club's newsletter, accepted an appointment in the Field Organization or sent a news release for their club to the local media. You make it happen. Silent Keys: WØHLU-Roger Medlin of Manhattan and WØNI- Stan Skwarlo of Prairie Village . Stan previously held the call of KØEON when he lived in Shawnee. At Douglas County ARC Dinner several radio amateurs received recognition. Jim-N6YR, Bob-NØTFU and Earl-NØKYS for putting on license classes the last 8 years. EC Matt-KC4WCG received the foxhunt award. In Leavenworth, Pilot Knob ARC presented Paul Backs-KCØJCQ with Leavenworth County Amateur of the Year award for 2003. Rick Reichert-KF4LM, received the annual "Buffalo Chip" award. Marshall County ARC has re-discovered Packet. There are several members on that mode using 145.05 with a Node at Blue Rapids (BRK). Wichita (Park City) has a 1.2GHz repeater up and running ! Its frequency is 1288 MHz with an input of 1276 MHz. The RX antenna is at 48 feet, the TX antenna is at 41 feet, 10 Watts out. KØPY/R will be moved later to a location that offers better coverage. Mine Creek Hamfest February 7 in LaCygne contact KBØDTI. W9BSP was put on the air Dec. 6th with the Marshall Ensor Memorial Organization Club. The station, located in the original bay window, was the backdrop for this historical event that included contacts with W1AW and several of Marshall's students from 5 decades ago. Larry-WØHXS is the museum director who along with many others put the event together. Still attempting to get in touch with and get monthly reports from each DEC and EC. If your area is not represented below please get in touch with Bob and give him the name of an interested individual that might be interested in becoming an Emergency Coordinator. Don't know what your zone is ???? Contact Bob Summers K0BXF ARRL Kansas Section Emergency Coordinator via radio or email him at: RSUMMBXF@aol.com or 3045 N. 72 nd KCK 66109. Or contact Me. November Nets/Sessions/QNI/QTC/Mgr: KSBN/31/1212 /98 N0KFS KPN/22/300/27/N0KFS KMWN/31/924/565/WB0YWZ KWN/31/956 /737/WB0YWZ CSTN/25/2187/110/ AB5PA QKS/59/351/232/KOPY QKS-SS 9/30/1 KB0DTI SEC: 58 sessions QNI 587 QTC messages 51, Ks participants: K0BXF-4B, N0CAB-6F, KC0CIG-4C, KC0CFL-5A, AA0IQ-2B, K0UO-5E, KB0WEQ-4A. Bob K0BXF SEC. TEN: 59 sessions, QTC 587, KS 90 % with WA0LYK KOPY AB0WR W0WWR NB0Z WB0ZNY. Dave W0SS/Mgr.(CW Net) Traffic: AB0WR 696 W0WWR 508 WA0LYK 413 NB0Z 85 W0OYH 43 KI0BK 39 KB0DTI 34 K0RY 24 AB0UY 20 N0ENO 17 N0ZIZ 14 KC0MRJ 8 73- Ron See KSN on ARRL Website for detailed PSHR and more Kansas news:

<http://www.arrl.org/sections/KS.html>

Missouri

I want to remind those that receive this Summary of the Section News that it is a summary and significantly more information can be found on the ARRL Website. We are limited here to a specific number of lines and therefore much editing has to be done before the Summary can be sent. Hope everyone had a nice holiday. ITEMS OF INTEREST Cliff Ahrens, KØCA reported that Riley Morawitz WØRTY, of Center, died Jan 7, 2004 at Kindred Hospital in St. Louis, at the age of 68. Riley was one of Northeast Missouri's most active hams. Riley was a great guy. Mike McCrann Amateur Communications Coordinator for the Road Rally is looking for Amateur Radio Operators for this performance rally, being held Feb 20, and Feb 21, 2004 in and around Salem, mo. Last year 68 hams from around Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Illinois, and Texas showed up to provide the necessary communications. Interested hams need to email Mike McCrann at Mike@100aw.org HAMFEST JANUARY 04 On January 17, 2004 the Northwest Missouri Winter Hamfest sponsored by the Missouri Valley ARC and the Ray-Clay ARC will be held at the Ramada INN of St. Joseph, MO. The Ramada is located at Exit 47 on I-29. Always a great hamfest. St. Louis-Suburban Radio Club is sponsoring Winterfest 2004 in the One Gateway Center in Collinsville, IL. Take Exit #11 on Hwy 55/70 to get to the Hamfest. Open from 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. If your Radio Club is going to sponsor a Hamfest and want to be ARRL Sanctioned you need to go to the on-line registration page (<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/hamfests/regform.html>) AFFILIATED CLUB NEWS KEITH HAYE, WEØG, ACC Gary, WØGOM, is stepping down from position of B.E.A.R.S. Newsletter Editor after four great years. John, KAØLDB has volunteered to take on the Newsletter Editorial duties for a while. The St. Charles ARC has elected new leadership for 2004. Danny, NØRJY, will be the new President, Ed, NØWNV will serve as V-P, Bill, KCØNLG will be the treasurer and Mike, WDØGSY, will be the club Secretary. Merle, WØEWM, did an excellent job explaining the ARRL Logbook of the World to the Mississippi Valley DX and Contest Club. Kimberling ARC is pleased to announce the re-election of their club officers for 2004. The President is Harvey, WBØQKE, Tom, KCØIBT, V-P, Mimi, NØIZY, Treasurer, Bob, AAØHE Secretary and Robert, K9JAO will serve as board member. The Mid MO ARC is having its annual Chilli Cook-off Saturday January 31st. at the QTH of Tom Hammond, NØSS. Contact Tom or Jeri at nØss@earthlink.net to coordinate who's bringing what to the tasty annual club event. SECTION ARES REPORT DON MOORE, KMØR SEC Total number of ARES operations this month: 133 Total Man hours: 748.55 To view this and other Monthly Section ARES report 2003 & 2004, go to <http://www.ares-mo.org/currentsec.asp> SECTION TRAFFIC REPORTS FOR DECEMBER 2003 DALE HUFFINGTON, AEØS, STM MON - CW Sessions 30 QNI 46 QTC 59 NM K9ZTV MO Phone Sessions 31 QNI 630 QTC 82 NM KØDAT MESN Sessions 4 QNI 1 54 QTC 0 NM NØXG 10th Reg Sessions 62 MO 40% with K9ZTV QNI 488 NM WØSS

New England Division

Connecticut

SM's Cabinet.—ASMs KZ1Z, K1STM, KY1F, NK1j; BM KD1YV; OOC W1GC; PIC W1FXQ; SEC W1AGP; SGL W1UTQ; STM K1HEJ; TC N1KHB. Happy New Year! I hope that you all enjoyed pleasant holidays. I spent time networking my computers, cooking, visiting and of course operating. The New Year started off with a busy calendar. The first weekend, I attended the Division cabinet meeting hosted by our director Tom, K1KI and Vice Director Mike, K1TWF then a surprise ARES drill, and an ARES leadership meeting the next weekend hosted by SEC Allen, W1AGP. It was good to see The BEARS of Manchester, ICRC, CQ Radio Club, The Berkshire ARS and The Bloomfield ARC represented at the Division cabinet meeting in Springfield. Please write me if you wish a copy of the topics discussed. Among other topics, District Emergency Coordinators at the ARES meeting gave reports and discussed the one-hour surprise drill that occurred on Tuesday, January 6. Dave, WB1COB was reassigned as a DEC for special projects since the Conn. Hospital Association plans to use other modes of communication. In this role, Dave will be working with organizations who wish to have MOUs with CT ARES. Then once finalized a DEC for that project may be needed. In other words, Dave will be doing the preliminary work which involves acquainting the organization with our role and capability in an emergency. Many thanks to Mac, W1FYM for the following report of the very successful Office of Emergency Management exercise held on January 6 and 7. This was a major exercise scripted by the CT Military Department, hosted by CT OEM at the Armory, and involving all major Departments, the Red Cross, FBI, Coast Guard, and officials of selected towns. ARES was represented at the Armory by Allen Pitts W1AGP, Mac Harper W1FYM, Dan Miller K3UFG, Dean Stoner KB1FUA, Bob Stanwood KB1EYZ, and Harry Aberly AB1ER. Brian Fernandez K1BRF and Steve Ewald WV1X (ARRL) joined us on Wednesday morning. ARES provided snow depth information, emergency message traffic, road condition information, and shelter communications for the Red Cross. Thanks to all for making the ARES effort productive. The surprise one-hour ARES activation on Tuesday night logged 62 towns with 104 stations reporting. We presented the results with graphics during one of the formal briefings, and the data was actually used by the exercise weather group. I want to especially thank all who checked in and made this so effective! We were invited to speak on various aspects of ARES. Students from the Connecticut School of Broadcasting interviewed Dan, K3UFG and Mac, W1FYM. The Red Cross specifically credited ARES Operators during their reports, and we were again recognized for our contribution during closing remarks. I believe we made some good contacts and surprised many with the capabilities of ARES. Thank you all for your help, and let's continue the good work! The Insurance City Repeater Club is looking for four or five volunteers to assist with communications at the Boy Scout Klondike Derby to be held on February 6 and 7 at The Shooting Club in Tolland, MA. GPS equipment is needed. If you can help, please contact Chuck, K1DFS motesc@southington.org or Rick, N1JGR n1jgr@hotmail.com. Frank, N8WXQ, President of CARA has prepared a brochure that can be used to solicit new members and introduce amateur radio to local government and the general public. The brochure is a PDF file formatted for two-sided printing. Contact Frank if your club would like to see a copy—n8wxq@arrl.net. Congrats to Pete, KZ1Z on the article he

wrote for WA1LOU's column explaining the proper way to use echo link when working DX. Don't miss the article at <http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2004/01/16/1/?nc=1>. Did you know that both KZ1Z and Stan, WA1LOU are former Section Managers? I had the pleasure of working as a leader under both! But the sad news is that Pete will be moving to Florida very soon. Words can't even begin to explain how much he has done for Amateur Radio and for this Section. Ah, but we won't let him off the hook—we all know how to communicate so you bet, we'll always be in touch and look for his counsel and watch for his timely news items that relate to our hobby. If you are so inclined, drop Pete a note and say thank you because his work is a big part of our Section history and success—kz1z@arrl.net.

Eastern Massachusetts

MEMBERS OF THE FALMOUTH ARA ushered in 2004 in fine fashion with a "First Day" breakfast at "Percy's Place." THE MARCONI SPECIAL EVENTS STATION KM1CC will be on the air Saturday through Sunday, January 17-18, 2004 in Eastham. NASHOBA VALLEY ARC MEMBERS TREKKED to the Marconi Museum in Bedford NH on December 13 for a special group tour. Museum curator W1BC described the early equipment. Much of it was manufactured by the Marconi Company. The museum is located in a Town-owned building in Bedford, NH. Part of the lease arrangement requires improvements to the building and exterior painting. NVARC members discussed a possible work party to help with improvements in the spring. A BOSTON-AREA PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER MAY BE FEATURED on a late-night talk show to promote Amateur Radio. Bill McIninch, KA1MOM phoned in to Jordan Rich's show on WBZ radio to "put in a plug" for ham radio. "I received back two e-mails. The first was a 'thanks' for the information. The second was this invitation to spend 1-2 hours as an in-studio guest talking and answering questions about ham radio," McIninch said. KA1MOM plans to come well-armed with materials he's prepared. "Some of the topics I plan to discuss include, 'Isn't ham radio outdated?', 'Interference', 'Ham radio and national security' and, 'Legislation that impacts ham radio.'" McIninch says the show might air during the early morning hours of January 24. The clear channel station on 1030 kHz can be heard as far as Indiana and Florida. McIninch invites any advice, suggestions or comments that others might have at: ka1mom@aol.com. THE HARVARD WIRELESS CLUB in collaboration with Peg LeGendre, Science Mentor Teacher for the Cambridge Public Schools, received word that the John Tobin Elementary School has been awarded a Project Grant under the League's Amateur Radio Education & Technology Program (a.k.a. "Big Project"). The grant application was authored by Dr. Peg LeGendre. "On behalf of the ARRL, the Executive Committee, ARRL President Jim Haynie, and the ARRL Headquarters Staff I have the pleasure to inform you that a Project Grant has been awarded to John Tobin Elementary School," wrote Mark Spencer, WA8SME, "Big Project" Coordinator. "The ARRL is happy to have the opportunity to assist you with your instructional goals. We recognize that the hard work in that regard has just begun." EMA Section Manager Phil Temples, K9HI commented, "My hat is off to Tim McBride, N1QZY and company [at HWC] for their efforts in promoting Amateur Radio in the local Cambridge schools. This appears to be the start of an excellent collaboration." MEMBERS

OF THE USS SALEM ARC have periodically requested assistance from the Amateur Radio community for volunteers to help staff the radio rooms on board the museum-ship. A recent session, scheduled for January 10, had to be cancelled due to the poor response. "I thought that I should make a comment here about the apparent end of the Scouting Program onboard the USS Salem in Quincy," stated USS Salem ARC member "Pi" Pugh, K1RV. "The current volunteer coordinator, W1AI has done a valiant job trying to keep this program alive during the past 18 months. He has continually sought help from individuals and clubs [...] with limited success." Pugh noted that the scouting program has been "limping along" for quite some time now. "[It's been] begging for support. It has become evident to me that the MA ham community has failed to recognize this 'golden opportunity.'" K1RV goes on to say that most of the kids had never heard about ham radio until they visited the K1USN station and made on-air contacts. "A recent survey shows that we have approximately 15,449 hams living in Massachusetts, but we can't seem to get any of them interested in saving this fine program. Please prove me wrong!" PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT and visit <http://ema.arrl.org> and answer our new survey that asks, "How do you spend your ham radio time?" 73 de K9HI

Rhode Island

Greetings Fellow RI Amateurs, Welcome to the New Year. I surely hope the holiday season was pleasant for all our RI ham radio families. Our available daytime is gaining two minutes a day so spring can't be far, right? Better start planning those spring projects. I'm pleased to report that the CERT experience I reported last month was picked up by ARRL's "In Brief" news. Check it out on the ARRL website at: <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2003/12/10/3/?nc=1#CERT>. Very likely prompted to some extent by this report from RI, ARRL HQ sent an "all hands" e mail to all Section Managers and Club Coordinators in the country suggesting that they consider similar efforts in support of their local Citizens Corp groups. A CERT program has been included in a No Texas VHF meeting. <http://www.wintercom.org> Another CERT training session in Tiverton under W1VH's instruction is starting as you read this report. The Newport County VE team under the leadership of Jack, N1JK will provide the testing services for this group when they're ready in the middle of February. Following that will be another group in East Providence and more every couple of months until every community in the state has been covered. I'm trying to coordinate local club VE teams to supply testing services in the last session of every class. Thanks in advance, teams. I know you are as excited by the scope of this Amateur building project as I am. The potential exists to produce a hundred or more new hams a year and possibly a large proportion of new ARRL members with this state-wide program. Our Pawtuxet Valley ARC has taken on the status of being RI's only Special Service Club. Their focus is on public service and even now in the cold of winter, they focus their energy on what programs they're planning for summer. Their members KB1AWV, KF1O (ex-N1IKJF) and Nancy (Mrs. KF1O) manned the Diabetes Association booth at the annual RI Boat Show in preparation for their annual club communications support to the Diabetes fund raising run, the Ocean State 150 later in the year. Good luck folks and thanks. PVARC's newsletter, "Valley View Ham Chatter" topped all

newsletters in a statewide competition as the most improved club newsletter in 2003. Congratulations to editor, Ray Cotoia N1VDF. We lost another of our old timers this month. Austin Chadwick, W1GTS became a Silent Key on January 4th. Austin was first licensed more than 60 years ago and his friends will miss him. The special e mail I sent to all of you on the subject of the Official Observer program resulted in two candidates coming forward to become OOs. Thank you for your support. The next special letter will cover Card Checkers and will be sent about Jan. 15th to all who have signed up to receive e mail bulletins from your SM or Director. BVARC is scheduling Technician classes to start later in January. Pawtuxet Valley is running code classes this winter. The ARRL Board of Directors will be meeting in January. One of the major concerns they will vote on concerns what position ARRL will officially take regarding whether new hams must be required to pass code testing as part of their qualifications to become licensed to operate below 30 MHz. About a dozen member countries of the IARU have dropped all code from their testing as of this date. Polls taken of many groups of hams show about an equal split of hams between those who want to retain code and those who want to drop it from the testing criteria. There seems to be substantial misconception about this however. There appear to be some who think that a vote for dropping code testing means that cw won't be a permitted mode any longer on our bands. THAT IS ABSOLUTELY WRONG! I fully expect to be authorized to operate my beloved cw as long as I remain here on earth with you and many years later. CW is the basic mode authorized on every Amateur band we have. Other modes are overlaid on cw space as sub-bands. CW DOES NOT HAVE A SUB BAND. Keep the rig warm and see you at your club meetings, Bob Beudet, W1YRC Section Manager

Vermont

The Vermont QSO Party will take place during the first weekend of February 2004. It will begin at 7 pm Friday on February 6th and end at 7 PM Sunday February 8th. This is a GREAT opportunity for Vermont stations to get on and be in the spotlight. There will be enough activity to make it interesting, but not so much to make the bands too crowded. It's simple to operate in the VT QSO Party. Just give your RS(T) and Vermont County. Other stations will give their state and/or country. Your score is the number of contacts times the total number of states, countries, VT Club stations and New England Counties (40 of them!). There is plenty to search for! Start by tuning around the middle of each band, looking for other Vermont stations. Multiop stations WB1GQR and W2DMC should be around. After you have worked a few stations, try calling CQ. You will be surprised how many stations will answer! Full details on the Vermont QSO Party can be found at www.ranv.org/vtqso.html. Breaking News: Vermont now has PRB-1 Legislation working its way through the Legislature! For those of you unfamiliar with this term, it is a 1985 FCC ruling that states local governments are required to reasonably accommodate Amateur Radio installations. Even though it is a Federal ruling, individual states such as ours, need to pass a statewide version of the law so that local towns have a point of reference. Over the next few weeks, I will be contacting you via e-mail as to how you can help us get this very important document passed into law. Rep Ira Trombley of Grand Isle was nice enough to introduce it, but it is now up to us to help push it through! As of today, it has no co-sponsors.

The proposed legislation can be viewed at <http://www.leg.state.vt.us/database/status/status.cfm>. Type H.602 in the box and hit enter. It is a nice piece of work, and I want to thank Trevor Lewis KD1YT for drafting it. Trevor is Vermont's ARRL Volunteer Counsel. I am announcing a 2 Meter Vermont Simplex Frequency that I want everyone to be aware of. It is 146.490 MHz. The Central Vermont Amateur Radio Club has been using this frequency to meet on after their Sunday evening net on the local repeater. They have had great luck with it. The importance of having a standard simplex frequency is to have a place to go to in the event that your local repeater is off the air during an emergency. I would like you to program it into all your 2 Meter radios and maybe even QSY to it once in a while if you are in a QSO with someone that is within range of you. If you have a priority watch feature in your rig, this would be a good frequency to program in there too. In other news, I am looking to fill the position of Public Information Officer in my Field Organization. A PIO kind of acts as a liaison between Hams and the news media. If this sounds interesting to you, you can get a full appointment description at: <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/org/>. December Traffic Report Submitted by Bert Morton W1DFU NAME/SESSIONS/QNI/QTC/MINUTES/MGR VT YL NET 4/43/0/137 KA1LDS VPEN No Report KC1YW GMN 27/695/21/2038 N1HXC VTNH 31/157/112/432 WA1JVV KWN 23/132/0/526 (Kingdom Weather Net) KB1HWB Bennington County ARES 5/20/3/65 N1SP

Northwestern Division

Eastern Washington

WRITTEN MESSAGE TRAFFIC REPORT FOR DECEMBER: W7GB 95, K7BFL 151, KA7EKL 73, KK7T 15, K7GXZ 35 Public Service Honor Roll: W7GB 110, K7GXZ 100, K7BFL 140. Total Traffic count: 369 NTS NET ACTIVITY REPORT FOR DECEMBER: WA State Net (WSN): QNI, 895 Traffic, 290 Sessions, 93 Noontime Net: QNI, 11061 Traffic, 582 Sessions, 62 WA Amateur Radio Traffic System (WARTS): QNI 3244, Traffic 127, Sessions, 31. Congratulations to EC Welch, WA7E of Yakima as being selected as "Ham of the year" by the Yakima ARC. EC has been a fixture in the club, holding a board position for more years than this SM can remember. He is always available to help others, and offer time to club projects. In fact, the group holds it's board of directors meetings at his home. Thanks for all you do for Amateur Radio EC, and again, congratulations. Hamfests in 2004 FEB 21 Rickreall, OR MAR 6 Puyallup, WA APR 17 Idaho Falls, ID APR 17 Yakima, WA APR 24 Caldwell, ID JUN 19-29 Seaside, OR (NW Division Convention) AUG 14 Tacoma area, WA SEP 25 Chehalis, WA SEP 25 Spokane, WA (See www.arrl.org/hamfests for details) 73.. Mark KB7HDX

Idaho

RN7/c4 REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2003 SESSIONS 60 TRAFFIC 361 AVERAGE 6.02 TOTAL TIME 312 RATE 1,16 QNI 232 % REPRESENT .93 SECTIONS REPRESENTED SECTION TIMES SESSIONS CALLS REPRESENTED 1 2 AB 45 21 24 CHK ANG OK

DWG XLH TRM BC 56 29 29 OM XLH DWG BCL TRM ID & MT 60 30 30 GZU GHT
DWG UYH VYH ZOH YQQ OR 60 30 30 IZ SRL W VSE WA 58 29 29 BFL JG EIE ZIW
QM GB NCS AND LIAISONS NCS/1 NCS/2 TX RX SUNDAY W7GHT W7GHT VE7XLH
W7IZ MONDAY W7GB W7GB K7BFL W5UYH TUESDAY VE7DWG VE7DWG W7JG
VE7TRM WEDNESDAY W7LG W7LG W7ZIW VE7ANG THURSDAY K7GXZ K7GXZ
W7IZ K7BFL FRIDAY VE7OM VE7OM W7JG KB7GZU SATURDAY W7VSE W7VSE
VE7ANG W7LG

Montana

New opportunity to enroll in ARRL's CED courses for Emergency Communications. See the League Website for further info. These are great courses and provide training for newcomers and OT's alike. Give them some consideration. At some point in the future, we'd like to see certification for ARES membership and RACES. Please read the Section News and provide your SM with feelings on the future of NTS. Changes are in the wind and some states are taking a hard line on "book traffic" in an effort to reduce or eliminate it. New members on MTN have become proficient traffic handlers and some have also braved IMN. We'd always like to see more participate in our CW nets. Try 3647 at 0200Z, you might just enjoy it. 73 Doug, K7YD

Oregon

Oregon SM: Randy Stimson KZ7T-ASM: WA7VTD. SEC: KK7TT. SCC: W7WZ. ACC: K7SQ. STM: W7IZ. OOC: AB7OC. PIC: W6ABM.= We finally got our bad winter. According to the weather people it is one of the ten worst winters in 100 years. Where I live we had 4 inches of snow and then 3/4 inch of freezing rain on top. From what I have heard around the area we didn't have it that bad. Some had ice up to 2+ inches of ice and feet of snow under it. When I am home we have helped our elderly neighbors get to the Hospital, get food and what ever else they needed. Having an all wheel drive with studded tires get us around rather well. When I was going through the clubs for Field Day I missed a very important one. The Valley Radio Club of Oregon with 4,344 Points, were first in North America Class 3F they were 4th over all in Oregon and 270 over all. A great job and thanks for letting me know. Hoodview ARC sent their Field Day information in and for some reason it didn't get published. They had 6,600 points, 1st in Oregon and 8th in 5A category. The new officers for Hoodview ARC are President Cory Schoch, KA7IUG, Vice President Rich Morgan, KD7GIE, Secretary Mary Jo Chatelain W7OGO and Treasure Cindy Hopkins N7PFY. The Salem ARC has been officially designated a Special Service Club. That is good news as they are active in many areas. Pat Roberson KG7HT has completed AREC EC-002 and EC-003. Rodney Kraft KC7CJO has completed AREC EC-001. Tom Hyers W7TCH has completed AREC-EC 003 Oregon Tualatin Valley ARC's new officers are Don Stettler KK7TN President, Jeff Mathia KF6CXD Vice President, Everett Curry W6ABM Secretary and Alvin Carlson KB7VHI Treasurer. I would like more information from other clubs in Oregon. This doesn't mean that I can always put the information in my article but I would just like to hear from you, especially your meeting dates, times and location. Time

permitting I could come to your club meeting. Traffic W7IZ 345, N7YSS 170, N7CM 123, KS7O 76, W7VSE 59, KK1A 58, KC7SGM 53, W7RRC 52 and N7APE 13 PSHR November KK7TN 100- December KW7DSP 176, KK1A 135, N7YSS 110, W7RRC 101, N7CM 100, KC7SGM 90, W7VSE 87, KD7ONS 80 and KK7TN 73

Western Washington

Kirkland ARES is setting up packet in its EOC and 6 fire stations; all PCs will be running FNPack. Several of the Eastside teams - Kirkland, Bellevue, Mercer Island, Renton - are planning to hold a joint exercise in May. Bellevue EC Mark Whitaker, KD7KUN, is on the mend following foot surgery. He had the right foot operated on in July, and the left one worked on last month. Mark started back to work this week, and should be off crutches by the end of the month. The 444.525 repeater was off the air for a bit in mid-Dec. The repeater is located at a county-owned tower on Squak Mountain. Issaquah uses it to talk to the county EOC, and SAR and public-service folks also make regular use of it. With the help of EM Eric Holdeman and the King County radio shop the repeater is back on the air. Mason General Hospital received their Amateur Radio equipment last week, and will be installing and testing it in the next month. Kevin, KD7TMN, and Ron, K9RKI, have been instrumental in moving this forward. Marina Zutel N7NSL, District M DEC, traveled to Bellingham to meet with St. Joseph's Hospital staff and local members of the ARES/RACES team to develop a plan for their equipment acquisition and getting a medical services team started there. Pat, N7WGR, is putting together an ambitious training program for the Pierce Co team for 2004. He may soon be assigned back into the Pierce Co area, which will make it a lot easier for him to get things accomplished. He's been working with the Multicare and Franciscan Hospital groups to get their radio equipment ordered and installed. In King Co, the VA hospital system conducted a regional exercise involving VA hospitals in a 4-state area which the WWa MST participated in. Marina has also met with the VA facility engineering staff to identify locations and specifications for their Amateur Radio equipment, including HF, for their regional communications King Co team had a joint meeting with Seattle ACS team and reviewed current events and each team's repeater systems. Island Co. EC K7ACT, John reports: Weekly net includes 2m repeater, 2m simplex and HF check ins, being held on Sunday at 8 PM. starting on 145.250 repeater. San Juan Co. Snohomish Co. EC WA7ETH Ed reports: Two new inquiries for medical facility support. Will be following up after the holidays. Skagit Co. AEC WB7WOW Bob reports: A team meeting was held on 13 Dec 2003. There were 26 members in attendance!!! Monthly meetings of the Skagit County Search and Rescue council continue with Skagit ARES/RACES staff in attendance. Silent Key Report: Nan Mulkey, KD7AKA, passed away about 6:00 New years day after fighting lung and liver cancer. Our prayers and sympathies are with DEC Owen Mulkey, N0WO. SEC Jim Pace reports that a District 3 "call up drill" was held on December 7, and suggests that a Section wide "call up drill" might happen in January. NET REPORTS NET QNI QTC SESSIONS NOON TIME NET 11061 582 62 WARTS 3244 127 31 WSN 895 290 93 WCN 234 38 30 CCAIN 152 0 5 NWSSB 582 33 31 PSTS 24 0 24

Pacific Division

East Bay

Happy New Year ASM: KE6QJV, K6HEW, K6USW; SEC: KO6JR; STM: W6DOB; STC: K6USW Congratulations Bob. Bob Cooley, KF6VSE, of Pleasanton, struck gold twice at the Fifth International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Region 3 Championships of Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) in Australia the competition took place November 28 through December 3 near Ballarat--a historic gold mining town in northwestern Victoria province. NALCO reports the new Officers for 2004 are President George Nace KD6WZY, Vice-President Fred Toth K6KX, Secretary Jim Johnston K6APW Treasurer Dan Thornton KF6JRM. Hayward Radio Club new Officers are President John Buckham, KE6PID, VP Chris Musselman, W6ATV, Treasurer David McBrayer, N6OJJ, Secretary Tim Kyle, KC6QLV, Parliamentarian Carl Costa, K6CMC and Sgt. at Arms Richard Sauneuf, W6XLR. New Officers for the Red Oak Victory ARC President Gary Elliot, WA6KCP, 1st VP Vicki Cero, KF6ZCT Secretary Dave Jackson, KC6SSF, Treasurer Peter Hoffman, W6DEI. MDARC Officers are President Trevor Hall, WA6JAU, VP Bob Bend, KG6FPZ, Secretary Dick Shulze, AA6DL and Treasurer Harold Johnsen, AE6FC. ACSCT Presented a Certificates of Appreciation to Larry Eker, WA0YQM, Jim Latham, KE6QJV, and Gene Alga, KA6FIY for their participation in the ACSCT. Their Support of call-outs, meetings, training and public service events contributed to the success of the team. LARK Officers are President Matt Dion, KF6NBO, VP Doug Jones, N6LMX, Secretary Betsey Zalaznik, KB6DLT Treasurer Gary Giberson. December 2003 Traffic (National Traffic System): Joe Lee, W6DOB-Org/2, Rec/129, Sent/389, Del/35, Total 555 Chuck Bridges, AK6DV-Org/0, Rec/263, Sent/220, Del/7 Total 490 Steve Hawes, WB6UZX - Org/4 Rec/49, Sent/23, Del/28 Total 104 Gary Gross, KE6QR - Org/0, Rec/8, Sent/1, Del/7 Total 16 Brass Pounders League (BPL): W6DOB, AK6DV PSHR Steve Hawes, WB6UZX : 1/36 2/40 3/10 Total 86 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! December was a pretty slow month for most of us with the holidays, parties, traveling and houses full of in-laws we haven't seen since last year! Assistant Section Manager (ASM) Gary Hartman KK7LV reports that he managed to attend most of the local southern club Christmas parties with the exception of the Las Vegas Repeater Association (LVRA) . The LVRA got even with him, however, by electing him club Secretary. I'll bet he makes their party next year! The Frontier Amateur Radio Society (FARS) reports progress is being made on their long-anticipated web site and they are already making plans to cooperate with other area clubs to put together a combined ARRL Field Day 2004. FARS President Al Olcott K7ICW has an enthusiastic crew of members and officers as their rebuilding efforts continue. Southern District Emergency Coordinator Glenn Hale KB7REO reports that

much effort continues toward the goal of linking the Nevada Section on IRLP and Echolink. Glenn and Technical Coordinator Kent Johnson W7AOR have been working with Section Traffic Manager Matt Parker N7TOD to improve ways of conferencing Echolink and IRLP nodes to the NARRI system. Clark County Emergency Coordinator Charlie Kunz AA5QJ reports that members of ARES/RACES participated in SKYWARN Recognition Day on Saturday, December 6th. The Las Vegas Radio Amateur Club (LVRAC) communications trailer was deployed to the National Weather Service Office. The Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society (SNARS) presented its annual Bob Davis K7IY Memorial Award to Washoe County Emergency Coordinator Doug Abramson KA7FOO for his outstanding service to the club during the past year. The award is named after Bob Davis K7IY (SK) who was a long-time SNARS member and ARRL Nevada Section Manager from 1997-1999. 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. As we enter the New Year, clubs all around the section are welcoming new officers to lead them through 2004. The next time you see one of your club officers, walk up to them and thank them for making amateur radio a better place for all of us. It is always distressing to learn when some of our own are not doing well, but I have recently learned that Sue Pfeiffer N7PRF is in poor health. Both Sue and her OM Bruce N7CPP are ARRL Life Members and long-time local club supporters. Please keep both of them in your thoughts and prayers. 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. 73, Dick K7VC Nevada Section Manager

Pacific

Pacific Section Managers Report for December 2003. This was written Late December, 2003. John M. Cummings III, Public Information Officer for Oahu CD has released guidelines for the Orange Alert. See the alert section above. Kevin Bogan, AH6QO, will become Pacific Section Manager April 1, 2004. Kevin Bogan, Dennis Carvalho, KH7H, and I, AH6J, attended a two day FEMA seminar on long term recovery Dec 4th and 5th. Hope everyone enjoyed Christmas Parties. BIARC was successful with 39 attending. Koolau ARC has donated \$100 to the BPL defense fund sponsored by ARRL. Other clubs and individuals are encouraged to help out too. 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. Don Pigg, KH7V and his wife Sandy, AH6U, ex KH7HC, left their USAF assignment at Hickam AFB for reassignment to Missouri. Both Don and Sandy were members of the Honolulu A.R.C., the Battle Ship Missouri A.R.C, and the Honolulu DX club during their assignment in Hawaii. Thanks to Lee, KH6BZF, for this info. Lee also reports that Honolulu ARC director, Tom Seale, ex-KH6JCY, received vanity call sign, KH6AAA. The Battleship USS Missouri, BB-63; KH6BB had a membership of 63 last year and is still growing. Ron Hashiro, AH6RH, reports

their group passed 9 out of 11 during their December 10 testing. Congratulations to Jan Mitchell, WH7Y, on passing the EC-002 Emergency Communications course. Warren, KH6WM, reports we are having another ham swap meet and get-together on Saturday April 3, 2004. It is an expanded format (indoor/outdoor) similar to the Foster Village event. It will be at Aiea Elementary School, across Moanalua Road from Aloha Stadium. It will run from 8AM to 11AM, Non-hams FREE and there is no extra seller charge as before. Entrance for Hams is \$3 a head. Site and date is FIRM. Warren also reports registration for the introductory (Tech prep) and intermediate (General prep) ham classes will be from January 6 through January 16 at the Waipahu Community School (Waipahu High campus). The classes themselves are scheduled to start at the end of January. Please call the school at 675-0254 or Warren at 487-1863 (or via e-mail) for further information. Please pass the word. In order to meet the minimum enrollment Warren will be sending out another reminder after the holiday season. Respectfully submitted, 73, Bob, AH6J

Sacramento Valley

HAPPY NEW YEAR! to all of the Sacramento Valley Members. As the New Year begins, let us be thankful that we can continue to enjoy amateur radio, in its many modes. I hope that many more of you will take advantage of the ARRL Emergency Communication courses, and those of you that have taken the courses will spread your knowledge to others in the ARES organization. As your Section Manager, I am in the process of making out my schedule for the year. I want to visit as many of the section clubs as time permits. If your club would like me to visit one of your meetings or give a talk to your members, then, please contact me and we can work out a schedule. The ARES groups should be commended for their time and effort that they put into drills and actual emergencies, especially Dave Thorne, K6SOJ, the Section Emergency Coordinator. He has put in many, many hours of volunteer time during the year. EMCOMM: Michael Colvin, W6CUJ, was chosen to receive Red Cross training on their new Communications Response Vehicle (CRV). A vehicle is designated for the Sacramento area and will be driven from Austin, Texas to Sacramento. They will operate, during the trip, as "ARC Excursion West" – the call to be announce. Ford Motors donated 8 of these vehicles to ARC. They are loaded with all kinds of communication equipment and systems, including ham HF and VHF. For more information and pictures, go to www.emcomm.org/red_cross/index.html. VE EXAMS: The WT6G exam team gives exams in El Dorado Hills every Thursday at 6:30 pm. See www.wt6g.com for more information. They also have code practice transmissions on WT6G repeater, daily, 5-13 wpm at 7:30 am, 8:30 am, Noon, 5:30 pm, 6:30 pm, and 4-40 wpm at 9 pm on 147.150 MHz from EDH. Text and info at www.wt6g.com. Also ARRL news, RSGB news, This Week in Amateur Radio and Amateur Radio Newline is transmitted every night at 8 pm on 145.370, except Thursdays when the Northern California Swap Net is carried. Yuba Sutter ARC's next VE session is January 10th at the Cornerstone Evangelical Free Church in Yuba City, starting at 9 am. Preregister with Clara, KC6JPP. Contact Herb, W6HBU at 530-674-3648 or firtree1@pacbell.com. The club also will have a Technician Class in January and February at the American Red Cross Center, 2125 East Onstott Road, Yuba City. Contact Ron

Murdock, W6KJ, at 530-674 8533, or w6kj@arrl.net. Sierra Foothills ARC will present a Technician Radio Class in January, in the Auburn area, no date or time as yet. Contact Casey, W7IB, at w7ib@arrl.net with your name, phone number and email address. SFARC also sponsors VE tests in Folsom on the first Saturday of the month. For more info check with Rob WW6G at ww6g@arrl.net. River City ARCS holds VE tests on the 3rd Saturday of the month at the Carmichael Elks Lodge, corner of Cypress and Hackberry in Carmichael, 916-492-6115 for more information. WEB PAGES: I just spent an hour checking most of the known club web pages. Some I was unable to access, others had information 1 to 3 years old. New club officers please try to have your web pages updated. I do refer members to them when they are looking for information on clubs in a certain area. Also the 2004 officers should update the clubs information on the ARRL club pages, so that we know who the officers are and how to contact the club. Members, please check the ARRL home page often for new news. There are changes on it every day. Also check the Sacramento Valley section news for latest news. Information on nearly every subject is available on the Leagues web pages. NEWSLETTERS: I am still receiving only a few newsletters from clubs. Some come by mail, by email, others send an email saying the newsletter is on their web page. The newsletters and individual emails give me information to pass along by this Section News Summary. Everyone has been busy with the holidays and information has been scarce. Hope all the clubs enjoyed their Christmas and Holiday parties, and elected the officers for the year 2004. ARRL: Please promote the ARRL , Your Club, and Amateur Radio. 73, Happy New Year de W6RFF

San Joaquin Valley

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY SECTION Report for the month of December, 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. I hope that every one had a great holiday season and a Happy New Year. 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 sdcxc.org/visalia2004 for information. The 2004 Fresno Hamfest will be April 30 to May 2, 2004, at the Ramada Inn University 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. 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). Thanks to the volunteers who hold leadership and field organization appointments for the job done in 2003. Keep up the good work. Officers of the Central California DX Club for 2004 are Pres W6FRH; first VP KN6YD; second VP WA6YEE; Sec/Treas W6DPD; Past Pres W6PSQ. W5NH qualified for WAS. The following became Silent Keys in December: KF6LGQ and ex K6GTI. The Fresno ARC ham of the year for 2003 was WS6X. WB6VRJ won the Boner Award and N6DBH got the Alligator Award. AC6WS won the ICOM handheld radio. AD6W built an 80-160 meter vertical and is having fun with it. WO6T operated W6S for "Santa". APRS is alive and well in the Indian Wells Valley. Fresno ARC conducted "Operation Santa" so patients at Children's Hospital of Central California could talk to Santa by Amateur Radio. K6IXA arrived in Israel after 51 days at sea. W5VWN/6 was first in the SJV section in the 2002 ARRL 10 meter contest using QRP. The Kern County Central Valley ARC operated the Road and Weather Net on both Christmas and New Years travel times. Traffic for November: W6MSU 7. PSHR K6RAU 47. Traffic for December: Zero. PSHR K6RAU 40

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. Another reminder - 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. FYI, my mailing address is PO Box 1604, Belmont NC 28012; my phone number is 704-577-9405. Broadband over Power Lines (BPL) continues to be a topic of much interest, and North Carolina seems to be drawing a good bit of attention to this topic lately. We are fortunate that the power companies in our state have been very willing to discuss their plans and are listening to our concerns about interference. On January 15th Gary Pearce, KN4AQ and Frank Lynch, W4FAL addressed a BPL seminar sponsored by the Cary ARC to discuss the results of such discussions with Progress Energy. I'm greatly appreciative of their efforts (along with others) with regard to BPL in the Triangle area. On Tuesday, January 27th, Dave Masters of Duke Power will address the Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society in Charlotte on Duke's plans to test BPL in early 2004. This should be an interesting discussion, and the meeting is open to all. The meeting starts at 7:30 PM and is held at East Baptist Church, 6850 Monroe Road in Charlotte. If you need talk-in, try the 146.94 repeater. Many thanks to members of the Johnston Amateur Radio Society, who recently voted to send \$300 to the ARRL's 2004 Fund for the Defense of Amateur Radio Frequencies. BPL and other competitors for spectrum will challenge us in the next few years, and this will help greatly. I understand that the motion was approved unanimously by the club members attending the meeting. On the Tarheel Emergency Net (3923 kHz, 7:30 PM nightly) I've recently discussed some things to consider regarding personal disaster preparedness. If you want to help out with Amateur Radio disaster communications, it is essential that you and your family be personally

prepared for disasters, otherwise, you'll be too preoccupied with personal matters to help out (and if this happens we understand that family comes first). My notes and observations are now on the NC ARRL web site (www.ncarrl.org) and I encourage you to read them. There is no such thing as a "one-size-fits-all" disaster preparedness plan, you'll have to decide for yourself the best way for you to be prepared, but I hope my discussion will make you think about a few things that may not have occurred to you. The North Carolina QSO Party is sponsored by the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club and will take place between 1700 UTC February 29th and 0300 UTC March 1st (10 hours total). The Elkin Hamfest is on again, with new sponsors. It will take place Sunday February 22, 2004 at the Elkin recreation center gym located on Hwy 268 west. Contact Drew Poindexter, AD4T at ad4t@triad.rr.net for more information. The Charlotte Hamfest and Computerfair will be the ARRL NC Section Convention, and will take place Saturday and Sunday March 13th-14th. December Traffic: W4EAT 1407 (BPL), W4DAC 488, K4RLD 382, K4IWW 340, AA4YW 201, WB4TOP 190, W4FMN 175, AB4E 153, N4FHM 151, KF4OCU 120, K7UGT 118, W3HL 88, WA4OBR 79, KE4JHJ 75, AD4XV 63, KD4WAX 55, WD4LSS 53, KG4OQA 48, KE4AHC 39, W4LK 28, WA4SRD 19, N4NTO 12, WA2EDN 12, AG4ZB 11, W4IRE 5. December Public Service Honor Roll: W4EAT 140, K4RLD 125, K4IWW 120, WD4LSS 112, KE4JHJ 110, KG4OQA 100, K7UGT 95, W4LN 88, KF4OCU 85, AA4YW 80. November PSHR: WD4LSS 101.

South Carolina

Greetings to all Amateur Radio Operators. This is Dr. Jim, N2ZZ with the January 2004 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! Well, as I write this report on January 15th, I am very proud to report that the SC Section website was featured in the February issue of QST in the "ARRL in ACTION" column by Dave Hassler, K7CCC! Dan Donovan KF4VIS, PIC took the opportunity to contact the administrator of the SCIWAY (State of SC Information Highway) website, and informed them about the ARRL-SC website. The ARRL-SC website was featured as "Website of the Day", and now is linked from SCIWAY: <http://sciway.net/org/radio.html>. SCIWAY is seen by thousands of South Carolinians daily! Congratulations to Dan for his excellent idea! On this date, the ARRL Board of Directors is meeting. One of the topics will involve whether the ARRL will recommend to the FCC that code testing be eliminated or continue to be a requirement for amateur radio licensure. Since this is quite a controversial topic in Amateur Radio today, I recently asked ALL ARRL members in South Carolina e-mail our Director of the Roanoke Division, Dennis W4PWF, with their comments and opinions. Our Vice Director, Les K4NK, has tabulated the results and will discuss them with Dennis in Newington prior to any board vote. This past Saturday, the 2004 Greenwood Hamfest was held, with fun and fellowship for all. The hamfest was a success, and I thank all that attended! There were several vendors and a lot of hams selling their old equipment. From the ARRL-SC team, Bob K4NJN ASM6, Adam AF4QZ STM, Sue N4ENX OOC, Dan KF4VIS PIC and Les K4NK, Vice Director attended. I have to stop and add a

personal note; I am a very proud Father! My younger Son Philip, 14, has just passed his first Amateur Radio exam, and is licensed as KI4DKW. He received his first radio at the hamfest, an ICOM T-90. It is indeed a special time when a Father and Son attend their first hamfest together! On the ARES/RACES front, Charlie AE4UX SEC just appointed two more Emergency Coordinators (EC's), and may be adding a third one soon. We now have 25 counties covered, with 19 vacancies. Those counties still in need of an EC follow: McCormick, Oconee, Lancaster, Union, Richland, Chesterfield, Darlington, Lee, Clarendon, Georgetown, Orangeburg, Williamsburg, Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Colleton, Hampton, and Jasper. If you reside in one of these counties and are interested in the EC position, please contact Charlie, AE4UX@arrl.net . Charlie has also forwarded to me what I hope will be the final draft of the Memorandum of Understanding between South Carolina ARES/RACES and the South Carolina Emergency Management Division. In regards to the State EOC, Marc Tarplee N4UFP, TC has performed an evaluation on the current antenna system and his recommendations for improvement. Further information on the MOU and the proposed changes of the SCEOC antenna system will be reported soon. Please keep tuned! Well, that's it for the January Section Manager's report! I wish everyone a happy New Year! South Carolina Section December 2003- Submitted by Adam AF4QZ, STM: *****Station Activity Reports: Call (Received/Sent/Delivered/Total), KA4UIV (11166/155/1/319), KG4VDR (17/21/23/68), W4NVO (12/1/11/24); KA4LRM (4/15/7/26), WA4UGD (36/0/2/38) Public Service Honor Roll: KA4UIV 1/40 2/40 3/20 100, KA4LRM 1/40 2/26 3/20 100 Net Reports: (Net Name / Checkins / Traffic / Sessions / Reported By); Blue Ridge ARS 2 Meter Net 2018 / 53 / 31 / K4SUG; Carolina's Slow Net 131 / 28 / 31 / W4EAT; Carolina's Net 548 / 214 / 62 / K4IWW; Columbia ARC 2 Meter Net 125 / 8 / 31 / K4RKC; Greater Pee Dee 2 Meter Net 748 / 41 / 30 / K4DTT; South Carolina 6 Meter Sandlapper Net 50 / 0 / 4 / K4IRT; South Carolina SSB Net 1352 / 118 / 30 / WA4UGD ***Again, Thanks to EVERYONE for making 2003 the great year it was! ***'73 de Dr. Jim N2ZZ, ARRL Section Manager, South Carolina Section

Rocky Mountain Division

New Mexico

Section News For The Months Of November and December, 2003 New Mexico Bill Weatherford, KM5FT ASM: K5BIS, N5ART, W5PDY; SEC, W5YEJ; STM, N7IOM. NM's: WA5UNO & W5UWY; TC, W8GY; ACC, N5ART. The annual Winter Tailgate will be January 24th in the North student parking lot at Del Norte High School in Albuquerque. Mind the weather and dress accordingly. From the intersection of San Mateo and Montgomery, go North on San Mateo to McCloud. Turn East (right) on McCloud to San Mateo Lane. Turn South (right) on San Mateo Lane and follow it into the parking lot. Festivities start around sun up and usually wind up around noon. Tom Ellis, K5TEE, does a good job setting up this event. Thanks, Tom. The ARRL Board of Directors recently concluded their meeting at League Headquarters in Newington. A number of proposals for the future of Amateur Radio had been mentioned as possible items for discussion, including the matter of CW retention as a testing element, but no

information is available yet about what was on their agenda. The League usually sends out bulletins containing items of special interest after these meetings, so watch your e-mail. As most of you know, Amateur Radio in New Mexico lost its biggest supporter when Joe Knight, W5PDY, passed away December 28, 2003. Joe had served for almost 27 years as New Mexico Section Manager, the longest serving SM in ARRL history. It's not going to be the same around here without him. On a lighter note, there is good news for hams in Bernalillo County. On January 13, 2004, the Bernalillo County Commission approved, on a four to one vote, permissive use of 65 feet for amateur radio towers, with conditional use to 100 feet. Anything above 100 feet requires a variance. This will, we hope, put an end to almost ten years of arguments and hearings. A heartfelt "Well Done!" to Dave Fuller, WD7Z, who assembled an excellent package of material which was presented to each Commissioner to explain the technical reasons behind the need for 65 feet. Dave also met with three of the five Commissioners to personally discuss the matter with them. Scheduling problems kept him from meeting with the other two. His work, and the presentations at the County Commission meeting by Jim Hanlon, W8KGI, Mark Brueggemann, K5LXP, and Mike Stuart, AC5ZO, won the day. To everyone who worked on this project, Thank You. Newsletters from around the state keep getting better. Thanks to the Gila Amateur Radio Society, Pecos Valley Amateur Radio Club, Albuquerque DX Association, Valencia County Amateur Radio Association, Mesilla Valley Radio Club, and the Albuquerque Amateur Radio Club. Keep them coming. Net counts: Breakfast Club - Nov, 1131/76; Dec, 1230/180; Roadrunner Net - Nov 1325/88; Dec 1313/101; Rusty's Raiders - Nov, 718/88; Dec, 775/95; SCAT Net - Nov, 467/6; Dec, 325/6; Caravan Club - Nov, 56/5; Dec, 45/4; Yucca Net - Nov, 455/23; Dec, 422/27; Valencia County ARA - Nov, 53/14; Dec, 69/22; Deming ARC - Nov, 96/11; Dec, 100/13; Four Corners - Nov, 431/26; Dec 484/40. 73, de KM5FT

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 Greetings. Hope the new year has been treating you all well so far. My better half Mike, K4HBI, and I had the pleasure of kicking off the year by presenting our ARRL program for the Atlanta ARC meeting this month. President Robin Cutshaw, AA4RC, assured us that it was the "best doggoned program this year"! How 'bout that...hmmmm. Anyhow, this club has been an ARRL affiliate since way back in 1921, and it's great to see that they're still going strong and growing. Thanks for the hospitality, guys. We enjoyed ourselves. The only bad thing about being at the Atlanta club meeting is that we missed seeing the looks on the faces of that Dynamic Duo, Jay Sager, WA4BXA, and his bride Jean, KA4BNG, who were named as Hams of the Year by the Alford Memorial ARC that same night.

Jay and Jean have been long-time amateur radio "activists" and members of Army MARS. Congratulations to both of them on a well-deserved award. Congratulations also go out to another Ham of the Year, Felton Floyd, AF4DN, who was so honored by the Cherokee Capital ARC. Felton, a former president of the club, was recently re-elected to that post, and he also serves as our NW District DEC, and is an active part of the GA Baptists Disaster Relief organization. A very hard-working and well-deserving individual. Thanks and congratulations go out to Philip Crocco, KF4ZQV, who was recently appointed as the EC for Habersham county. Hope to see him and a bunch of our ARES folks from all over the state at the upcoming statewide meeting on the 31st. (See www.arrl-ga.org for directions) And the deadline for nominations for our ARES Ham of the Year is drawing near, too.... the 21st. So, get those nominations to ko4wx@arrl-ga.org ASAP. A couple more clubs announced newly elected officers: Congratulations to the following officers for the NE GA ARC: Darrel Presley, KG4MVD; Bob Moore, K3ZF; Fred Lubbers, KG4PPQ; and Joe Tiller, KD4VHX; and for the Ellijay ARC: Dave Meadows, K4LDI; Joe Frack, AD4NH; Bill Campbell, WB4HAT; and Sam Underhill, K4SWU. Best wishes to all of these fellas as they lead their clubs this next year. If you're working on WAS or are looking to work some new grids, there are a couple of operating events coming up for you: NA QSO Party and the VHF Sweepstakes. To access an "applet" to create and submit your log in Cabrillo format, check out <http://www.b4h.net/cabforms/> The CW Whiz Kid has done it again! Sid Hutchinson, AKA "Hutch", WB4GGS, has proven that his fist is as good as ever, as he ditted and dahed his way to an amazing QTC of 578 for the month of December to earn another Brass Pounder League award, topping his last BPL score of 534 for the month of August. Wow! On a sad note, a couple of Silent Keys to report: Joe Batchelor, W4EGK, and Walt Miller, K4KS. Sincere condolences to their families and friends. That's about it for now. Don't forget the Tech Fest, coming up on the 24th of this month. (see www.gars.org for more info) Until next time, this is AF4FO, signing clear. Take care of yourselves. And each other. 73, Susan QTC Dec: WB4GGS-578; K4FUM-246; W4WXA-126; AF4NS-113; K1FP-75; K4BEH-52; K4WKT-47; W9NXC-42; K4BG-26; K4GA-25; WB4BIK-20; KE4R-18; KG4FXG-10; K4JNL-8

Southern Florida

Assistant Section Mgrs. –WA4AW, KD4GR, KA4FZI, W4WYR, N4LEM, K9SHT; Section Traffic Mgr. K4PG; Affiliated Club Coordinator & Technical Coordinator WA4AW; Section Emergency Coordinator KD4GR; Official Observer Coordinator W4WLR; District Emergency Coordinators N4LEM, K9SHT, AA4BN, N4QPM, KG5QD January is National Mentoring Month. We know mentors as Elmers and we have a long tradition of mentoring. If you have not been an Elmer to someone, or maybe not been an Elmer for a few years, try it. You will find it rewarding in many ways. And speaking of mentoring, we have another school in the section that has received an ARRL Project Grant. It is St. Joseph Parish School in Palm Bay and Bob Harvey K4FSS is the local sponsoring ham. By the time you read this we will know what the League's BOD has decided to recommend about retaining the CW requirement for General and Extra Class licenses. Thank you to all who sent messages to Director Frank Butler, W4RH

expressing your opinion on the matter. And a big thank you to Vice Director Sandy Donahue, W4RU for personally answering over 100 e-mail messages. If you are a member of a CERT group please ask an officer of the group to send me an e-mail (W4STB@ARRL.ORG) by 1/25 stating the name of the group, whether it is an Amateur only group, and the number of licensed amateurs in the group. ARRL president Haynie would like this information for an upcoming visit to Washington about Homeland Defense matters. ECs Reporting: KT4XK, N5KFR, WA4ASJ, KC4UCN, N3PYQ, AD4RZ, and N4QPM. Lee County added 3 members & Palm Beach County added 6 members. OESs reporting: N3HOE, AF4NR, & KG4KCB PIOs reporting: KF4UTH TSs reporting: KF4KDO, N4TZH, W4KPG, KR4GQ, WB2QLP & K2UGH. SAR, December 2003 WA9VND 803, KA4FZI 581, K4FQU 414, KD4GR 222, WA4EIC 204, K4PG 162, KE4UOF 147, AA4BN 79, KG4MLD 59, KG4MLC 46, KT4XK 37, WB4PAM 37, K4VMC 35, KN4JN 29, KG4ILJ 24, KG4CHW 23, AF4NR 23, W4WYR 15, KG4EQY 13, WY4F 9, KF4OMB 8, WA2YL 5, W3JI 4, KØTIW 4, KBØDKD 1 BPL K4FQU FOR 100 OR MORE ORIGINATIONS (171), WA9VND FOR TOTAL SAR OF 803, KA4FZI FOR TOTAL SAR OF 581 PSHR K4FQU 145, KE4UOF 140, KA4FZI 120, KD4GR 110, WA4EIC 100, KG4CHW 93, AA4BN 92, WB4PAM 87, KG4MLC 80, KG4MLD 76, WY4F 16 That's all for now. News from around the section and lots of photos are updated on the section page at www.arrl.org/sections/SFL.html 73 Sherri W4STB

Southwestern Division

Arizona

It is time for a New Year (a new beginning) of activity and we have two (2) big events this year. The Arizona State Hamfest, normally located at Fort Tuthill in Flagstaff, is now going to be at the Williams, Arizona Rodeo Grounds, and the date will be the first weekend in July the 2nd through the 4th. The city of Williams is located 33 miles west of Flagstaff on Highway 40. The reason for this move is for financial cost only. The Coconino county fairgrounds were becoming too expensive and ARCA would have been required to increase fees to cover the additional cost. As you have seen over the past years, the grounds have not changed (they are getting worst) but the cost of putting on the Hamfest has risen very fast. The ARCA web site, "www.arca-az.org/arca", has a financial chart showing increased cost of the last 10 years. Many people have complained about the high cost of a selling space and if had we stayed at Flagstaff this cost would have increase again. The city of Williams has offered ARCA the use of their Rodeo Grounds at a lower cost and is willing to give other incentives to the people who attend the Hamfest. This means that ARCA will be able to maintain the present cost of selling spaces (maybe lower the cost) and each selling space will be larger in size because there is more room available. ARCA is presently talking with the city officials about discount cost for motel rooms, RV parting spots, and Grand Canyon Railroad tickets. The RV part is located next door to the ground and has full hook-ups and there are several motels close by (Fairfield, Holiday Inn, etc). The next order of business is the 2004 ARRL Southwestern Convention that will take place at the Sheraton Wild Horse Pass Resort located near Chandler on 27-29 august 2004. The Central

Arizona DX Club is putting on this event and they do everything first class. There will be many presentations on almost every subject of amateur radio plus many top companies showing you their new products. This event will have everything in-doors (except Saturday morning swap meet) so you need not go outside for anything except the boat ride to the casino for other entertainment or go swimming in the large pool. All presentations and vendor areas will be in air-conditioned comfort. The hotel has many rooms available for \$91.00 a night and this rate is good for the week prior to the event and the week after the event. Where else can you get resort treatment for standard motel prices. Make your plans ahead of time to be at this event. The convention web site is "www.hamradio2004.com/swdc2004". The next Big Issue is that Pima County is in the process of changing its amateur radio tower height ordinance, that is presently at 100 feet, to a lower height of just 34 feet. Bill Jorden K7KI, Ken Hirschberg, K6HPX, and myself, have been part of the civilian committee and we are fighting this issue. When it comes time to appear before the Planning and Zoning Committee, I will inform, as many amateur radio operators in Pima County as possible on the date and time of the meetings so we can come together and let the committee know that any change is unacceptable. Thanks to Dick Jernigan, W7DXJ, of HavaComm in Lake Havasu, Arizona, I now have my CommTrak APRS tracker working. It has been mounted in my truck so if you want to know where my present location is, just check KD6XH-12, on www.wulfden.com. The next Hamfest will be at the Glendale Community College on January 10th. Bring a flashlight for the early morning treasures. The Spring Hamfest will be at the Scottsdale Community College on the 13th of March, the Cochise Amateur radio association will hold its Hamfest on 01 May 2004 in Sierra Vista, and Kachina ARC will have its Hamfest on 5-6 June 2004 in Show Low. There is talk of trying to plan a new Hamfest for Yuma; I will keep you informed of the developments and progress. If I miss returning your telephone call or did not respond to your e-mail, please call or re-send. I do try and respond to all telephone calls and e-mails as required but I do miss a few so if that has happened please have patience and call/resent again. Several people who requested an e-mail copy of this article have had their e-mail address changed and I do not have the new address. Please provide new address so the article will arrive at the correct location. Clifford Hauser, KD6XH; E-mail is kd6xh@arrl.org.

West Gulf Division

Oklahoma

Spotter training by the National Weather Service is underway in the OK Section. Many sites and training opportunities exist. Please visit the Section web site, <http://www.qsl.net/wb5syt/> for training dates which are sponsored by the Tulsa and Norman NWS offices. Also, on March 4-6 a National Severe Weather Workshop is planned for Norman. The workshop will feature the nation's premier severe wx experts. <http://www.norman.noaa.gov/nsww2004/workshop.html> Saturday, February 21 there will be an Amateur Radio Emergency Communication seminar. The seminar will be facilitated by Dan Miller-K3UGF of League HQ and will be held in OKC at the Salvation Army Citadel, 2808 SE 44th. The Ada Hamfest is set for February 14. Hope to see

many of you there. The ARRL W5 incoming QSL bureau: The bureau is here in OK and coordinated by Jerry Chouinard-K5YAA of Claremore. Sponsoring club is the OKDX Association. The W5 bureau handles all incoming QSL cards for the 5th call area, MS, AR, TX, OK and NM. What a splendid job they do! The 5 land bureau is highly regarded for efficiency, accessibility, and communication. Martin Cook-N1FOC, League HQ QSL Service Manager, describes the W5 bureau as a well oiled machine and is staffed by hard working skilled volunteers. The W5 bureau web site is: <http://www.okdxa.org/buro/> and has many useful DX tools. You can check your status and track materials you send to the bureau. Jerry advises that the W5 buro handled 221,000 incoming cards in calendar year 2003. When boxes of cards arrive from DX bureaus they undergo a presorting process. Presorting is handled by OKDXA members Dave-W5ATV, Pete-KF5RD, Bruce-K5PX, Mark-K5YAC, Dave-NB5N and Jerry. There are also 23 field sorters. These volunteers handle different letters of the alphabet. A mailing from bureau central occurs once each month to the letter handlers. They complete the task of moving cards along to users. Sorters in OK include: Gene-N5CE (Letter G), Mike-W5VXU (Letters S & T), Pete-KF5RD(Letter B) and Jerry who is temporarily handling the letter M. Email Jerry your interest in helping: k5yaa@okdxa.org Ham-Cram, a one-day licensing class, was recently held by the Tri-State ARG in the Woodward-Mooreland area. A 100% pass rate with 5 new technicians and 2 upgrades from novice. Several emergency managers were students as was an 11 year old. Thanks to N7HRT, W5AOK, NW5OK, KA5QGU, KA5QGV, & W5HGH for their effort. The Southern OK ARES group will be having a licensing class which begins on January 27. Appreciation to Kevin-N0IRW for his recent Amateur Radio presentation to an Ardmore Rotary Club. The following is from Bob-W5KCB, ASM: The Lawton-Ft. Sill ARC conducts a Technician class twice a year to assist future Hams in pursuit of an amateur license. These classes are conducted at The Great Plains Technological Center in Lawton. The instructors come from the local radio club. This program generates operators available to support the growing need for Homeland Security and the emergency needs of our country. Section commendation recently given to Dave-K5FOZ and Ed-KA8NBG. This to recognize their vy successful effort in several licensing classes. Club visit of late include the Central OK VHF, Mid-OK Repeater Inc and Ada ARC. Section Traffic Manager, Arlyn-KK5GY shares the following traffic report: Public Service Honor Roll: O.C. Elfers- WA5OUV, Tom Johnson-N5IKN, Pat Murphy-NJ5M and Sam Sitton-W5CU. Station Activity Report: Cecil Carter-KI5LQ, O.C. Elfers-WA5OUV, Arley Garvin-WB5NKC, Pat Garvin-WB5NKD, Tom Johnson-N5IKN, Pat Murphy-NJ5M, Arlyn-KK5GY and Sam Sitton-W5CU. Please send your net reports to Arlyn-KK5GY@arrl.net 2003 yearly totals for all OK Section reporting nets are: Sessions- 1268, Stations-13,778 and Traffic-5440 73, John Thomason-WB5SYT OK Section Manager