

# Section News for March 2004

## Atlantic Division

### Delaware

Section Update The deadline for filing comments on two series of NPRM's before the FCC are coming up. The first is the FCC is requesting comments on a series of petitions pertaining to amateur restructuring plans. There are 4 petitions in this group including the plan submitted by ARRL. Comments are due by April 24 on all for proposals. See the news item on the ARRL web page, for a full list of the NPRM's by Number. The second series is of course the NPEM on BPL. Its important that before you comment that you read Dave Sumner's editorial on the important points of the NPRM and how best to respond. The editorial is located on the web site at [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org) and is available to members and non-members. Dave goes through some important points about the NPRM and how best to respond. Its important to keep in mind that the NPRM is not to allow BPL, that already is allowed under current regulations, and if nothing else happened, the power companies could go forward with the technology as is. What is being proposed is new rules on how to deal with the interference, etc. Its very important to keep that in mind when filing comments. In both proceedings its important to keep your comments on a professional level and to keep them as constructive as possible. BPL comments are due May 3. The following is an announcement of an upcoming skywarn class From N3LUD. Contact John for any additional details, or if you plan to attend.

\*\*\*\*\*

On Wed April 21 from 7:00 pm - 9:00 at Christiana Hospital the Christiana Amateur Radio Emergency Service (CARES) group will be sponsoring a class about severe weather spotting called Skywarn. A meteorologist from the National Weather Service Mt. Holly office will be teaching the class. If anyone is interested in attending, please let me know so that I can add you to the list. All are welcome to attend. Feel free to pass this information on but please have anyone interested in attending contact me so that we can get an accurate head count. +-----

-----+ | John DiGiovanni, N3LUD (O) 302-327-5788 ||  
Christiana ARES (H) 302-475-5536 || US Army Military Affiliate Radio System || 9th Army  
Signal Command, NETCOM || Army MARS Call Sign AAT3KG || Delaware State Admin  
Officer AAM3ADE || e-mail: [n3lud@arrl.net](mailto:n3lud@arrl.net) || MARS Digital: [AAT3KG@AT3TFC](mailto:AAT3KG@AT3TFC) | +-----  
-----+

\*\*\*\*\* If your club is having a special event, a good speaker that you feel others might enjoy or a special training class that you wish to get the word out about, I will be happy to include it in the section updates.

### Southern New Jersey

SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY NEWSLETTER FOR APRIL 2004 On May 1 & 2, 2004 the Annual Millville Airshow will take place. There is a new element to the Wheels and Wings Millville Airshow 2004 this year. AmExpo debuts this year and will feature live broadcasts between ham radio operators, wide web communications, a technical display center and a short range broadcast within the confines of the airport. The air show's hours for both days are 9am to 5pm. The event call sign N2M or November-two-Millville is ARRL approved exclusively for the AmExpo. This event will appeal to everyone. For more info on AmExpo, visit the Museum's website at [www.p47millville.org](http://www.p47millville.org) or contact: Theodore Coyle at (856) 297-8026 or e-mail [aa4az@arrl.net](mailto:aa4az@arrl.net). Bring the family or the entire club and have a great time. April is traditionally March of Dimes WALKAMERICA and many counties have walks. There are many ways to support WALKAMERICA such as a donation directly to the March of Dimes, operating with your county for health and welfare, walking or walking with a talkie or supporting who is walking. On the Battleship New Jersey, the video docent in the radio room is now operating full time. This eliminates the need for a station docent to explain the workings of the room. Many times station docents are not available because of a manpower shortage. If you would like to be a docent, contact the Battleship's main number. If you want to be a member of the radio club BNJARS, contact Margaret Burgess at [freddie@cybercomm.net](mailto:freddie@cybercomm.net). The Battleship is now back to regular hours and individual and family members are available. They are a one-year membership. There are always changes being made and additions being finished. Mark your contest calendars for May 8th and 9th 2004 for the First Annual Mid Atlantic QSO Party. It is geared toward good old-fashioned fun and is focused on Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia and DC. It will run from May 8th at 1600 UTC until May 9th at 2400 on all HF bands except WARC and on VHF/UHF from 50 to 450 MHz. The committee will offer certificates and plaques, including TOP SCORER in each Mid-Atlantic state, the entire Mid-Atlantic region, each DX country, state, or VE province from which an entry is received and more. ALL STATIONS WELCOME. The MAQP website is <http://www.qsl.net/maqso> for full details, rules, maps and forms available for downloading. On March 20 and 21, 2004, Ocean County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, ARRL affiliated club, in cooperation with Ocean County OEM sponsored a Tech level course. At pre-registration 32 students signed up. While 28 actually showed for the 2-day course. Immediately after the Sunday session, the Old Barney ARC held a VE session on location. All but 3 students passed Element 2, Technician. The lead instructor was Frank, K2IYE and the ARRL Tech License CD was used to present the majority of the material. The students were very upbeat and expressed interest in RACES and ARES. The course was presented to encourage the growth of Amateur Radio in Ocean County and adjacent communities. A lot of credit and kudos goes to everyone involved in organizing and carrying out this endeavor. A lot of hard work goes into a project like that. Just a quick reminder of the East Coast Hamfest By the Sea will be June 20th in North Wildwood, NJ at 2nd and New Jersey Aves. Talkin freqs 147.120+ PL 203.5. There is a indoor air conditioned Hall and outdoor tailgating. RAIN OR SHINE [www.qsl.net/eclwa](http://www.qsl.net/eclwa) or [tonycipoll@yahoo.com](mailto:tonycipoll@yahoo.com). Section Traffic Manager Report for March 2004 QNI reports... NJM 54 N2GJ NJPN 237 W2CC NJSN 185 K2PB NJN(E) 181 AG2R NJN(L) 185 AG2R above nets are dual nets of both SNJ and NNJ. Liaisons with 2RN SNJ local net reports JSARS 302 KC2JBZ SJTN 56 KB2RTZ SJVN 340 WB2UVB SJVN staining net QNI 9 in 30 mins 2 sessions

WB2UVB station reports (SAR) WA2CUW 116 K2UL 100 WB2UVB 56 AA2SV 47 W2QOB 47 W2YYY 31 KC2IYC 16 N2VQA 13 KB2RTZ 12 W2KRW 8 WA2NDA 6 KB2VYZ 4 AB2LF 2 N2YIR 2 N2ZMI 1 PSHR N2HQL 135 WB2UVB 130 K2GW 128 KB2RTZ 122 K2UL 120 KA2YKN 112 W2QOB 110 KC2IYC 106 WA2CUW 90 AB2LF 60 WA2NDA 53 N2VQA 47 N2YIR 40

## Central Division

### Illinois

Illinois ASM Brad Pioveson, W9FX writes that he and Kent, K9NX (ex-K9MGN), have graduated 3 students from their Rend Lake College Tech class. They have tentatively agreed to teach a beginning level (whatever license class that may be) ham radio class next fall at Rend Lake College. Additionally Brad has opened a dialogue with Rick Robinson, N9ITW, an instructor at the college toward establishing a radio club at Rend Lake College. Good going, Brad. WB9MMM and I taught a tech class at Rock Valley College in February. We had eight students take the test and all of them passed their test. This was a two Saturday cram class. On March 8th and 20 we taught a general class with four students, all four of these students passed their general exam. On March 28th I attended the North Shore Radio Club Hamfest. This hamfest was very well attended and I enjoyed talking with the many hams there. I mentioned to several people to please send me their club's newsletter either USPS or via email. Even a link to your newsletter site is helpful. I get the news for this monthly summary from the different club newsletters. I really would like to include your club news. On March 19, a federally mandated drill was held for the Exelon LaSalle Nuclear Generating Station. These drills are held biannually as required by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and are monitored by both the NRC and FEMA. The LaSalle County ARES has participated in this drill the last four times, but this year they had two new matters. First, a new Emergency Manager was appointed at the first of this year, and they had to establish a relationship with him from scratch. The EM was very receptive to their offer to take part in this drill, and they quickly smoothed out the worst of the rough spots and got a good working relationship going before the actual March date. Nuclear worker training was scheduled for the ham operators at an evening hour. The second new item was the close cooperation between LaSalle County ARES and Grundy County ARES, Bob Cockream AB9EE, EC. LaSalle station is less than two miles from the Grundy County line, so their county EOC is activated along with the LaSalle County EOC. In the past drills there was no amateur radio participation in Grundy County, but AB9EE has organized Grundy hams in the past two years, and LaSalle hams participated in last year's drill for Dresden Nuclear Station in Grundy County. Nineteen hams took part in the operation. They were able to staff both county EOCs, as well as those of eight villages and townships located in the Emergency Planning Zone. They used both 2 meter voice and 2 meter 1200 baud packet to communicate. Outlying EOCs which they were able to equip with portable packet stations that had printers were able to provide hard copy to the local center staff. At least five of the hams who participated took time off from work, or took a vacation day to help out. Now that's dedication! The Lewis and Clark

Radio Club Hamfest is April 24th at the Lewis and Clark College on Godfrey, IL. Doors open at 7:00 AM. The 43 annual MARK Hamfest will be April 25th. This hamfest is located at the Moultrie-Douglas County Fairgrounds, Arthur, Il. Doors open at 8:00 AM. Also on April 25th the AARO Hamfest at Galva High School, Galva IL. Doors open at 8:00 AM. March traffic: N9DT-32, KA9IMX-60, KA9MZJ-27, WB9TVD-10, W9HLX-58. North Central Fone Net Report for March 27 sessions, QNI 256, QTC 32

## Indiana

Indiana Section News for March 2004 Condolances to the Family and Friends of these amateurs who became a Silent Key during March: James A. Norton W9KFT, Fort Wayne, March 6; Stephen A. Loeschner WA9RJN, New Haven, March 17; Mary Jo Seitz KB9ICD, Pleasant Lake, March 22; Frank R. Dixon Sr. K9UBG, Bloomfield, March 30. They will be missed. Each year at this time, the Indiana Radio Club Council (IRCC) begins looking for nominees for the IRCC Technical Excellence Award. This prestigious award is presented to one deserving Hoosier Amateur Radio Operator at the Indianapolis Hamfest in July. This award is for the unsung heroes that continue to give of their time, talents and technical expertise to make a difference in amateur radio. Please send a one page description of how this individual uses their technical abilities to help their club, community, or other amateur radio operators. The deadline for entries is Midnight Friday June 12, 2004. The award will be presented on July 10th at the Indianapolis Hamfest. Please E-mail your one-page nomination to: Jack Parker W8ISH, IRCC Vice-Chairman, at < w8ish@arrl.net > It's time for a reminder to all VHF Net Managers: One year ago, 16 VHF Net Reports were sent to our Section Traffic Manager, Frank WA9JWL. Since that time the number of monthly reports has gradually dwindled down to 5 this month. VHF Net Managers: Have you forgotten to report your net's activity?? Our Section Emergency Coordinator, Dave Pifer N9YNF would like to compile a list of ARES nets that exist in the Indiana Section. This information will be posted on the INARRL website for people to look up their local net day/time meeting. Please take a moment and send Dave the Name, day(s), time(s), and frequencies of your local ARES net. Remember that the Indiana Section ARES/Emergency Net meets on the 4th Sunday of each month on 3910 KHz, at 1300Z. Dave N9YNF, our SEC, received 24 appointee reports this month. Many reports had comments which pleased him greatly. The EC reports received this month indicate a total of 682 active ARES members in the Indiana Section. Congratulations to all who reported their county's ARES activity. John KC9BHJ reports that he participated in the Central U.S. Earthquake Consortium Exercise on March 21. He received a big "Thank You" from net control for relaying checkins. Over 100 stations checked in according to John. Please note in the Section Net Activity for March that the Indiana Section CW Traffic Net(QIN) handled 5 more pieces of traffic than the Indiana Traffic Net(ITN) in 150 minutes less time. Both nets had the same number of sessions during the month. MARCH Section Net Activity: NET FREQ DAILY TIMES (UTC) QNI QTC QTR SESS ITN 3910 KHZ 1330/2130 2111 144 1229 57 QIN 3656 KHZ 1430/0000 238 149 1079 57 ARES 3910 KHZ 4TH SUN/MO @1300 17 0 25 1 HOOSIER VHF NETS 5 REPORTING 382 68 468 26 HOOSIER DIGITAL NETS (2) 23 58 ?? 61 MARCH ORS Traffic Reports: K9PUI 232, K9GBR 99, KO9D 93, WA9JWL 55, KB9TUI 44, AB9AA 11, WB9NCE 6, NZ9S 5.

## Wisconsin

WISCONSIN: SM: Don Michalski, W9IXG, SEC: KB9ENO, STM: K9LGU, ACC: K9XB, SGL: W9DGI, OOC: N9VE, PIC: W9UQ. TC: K9GDF, BM: WB9NRK ASM: K9UTQ, W9RCW, W9CBE, W9DGI. \*\* With regret I inform you of the passing of N9NNA, Jim Raasch, age 53. Jim was a member of the Ozaukee Radio Club. Ray Hill, ex-W9JQK, 83, passed away. William Littlewood, W9HE, 86, is a Silent Key. WA9IMF, Leo Rogers, 80, passed away this month. Leo was active in Army MARS. Also, W9FJE, Allois Geiersbach, 91, became a Silent Key. Eddie Degner, 35, KB9QJN, passed away. Eddie was a member of WVRA and RMRA. Ivan Fry, N9PUR, 80, and Clifford Sprague, W9CFS, 85, are Silent Keys. \*\* The ARRL proposed band plan is now available in an easy to read bar graph format (similar to the standard ARRL Amateur Band chart). If you wish a pdf copy, send me an email to [w9ixg@arrl.org](mailto:w9ixg@arrl.org) and I will forward it to you. \*\* The Tri-State ARC recently received the Points of Light award for their volunteer work! The Points of Light award are designed to honor those who have made a commitment to connect Americans through service to help the critical needs of their community. More information and the nomination form can be found at this site: <http://www.pointsoflight.org/pdfs/DPOLNomForm03.pdf> \*\* It was a pleasure to attend the Wisconsin Valley Radio Association Award Banquet and present Lew Sheerar, K9JPS, with a Certificate of Merit for his outstanding achievements. Lew, also, received the WVRA Ham of the Year Award! Congratulations, Lew! \*\* The M&M ARC membership continues to grow. Recent additions are KC9FSE, Becky and KC9FSF, PJ. PJ is 13 years old and joins three other young Amateurs, ages 10, 11 and 16. M&M ARC continues to attract youngsters to the hobby. Well done! \*\* Past issues, dating back to 1969, of Wisconsin's unique Badger State Smoke Signals newspaper, Wisconsin amateur radio history, and much more is now available on three CDs for a nominal price!! Contact Ken Ebner, K9EN, at [k9en@arrl.net](mailto:k9en@arrl.net) for details. Read about it, also, in BSSS! \*\* Congratulations to Ernie, K9LO, and Omro Alderman, Jim, K9GI, for convincing the Omro City Council to enact reasonable accommodations for antennas and towers! They used the ARRL video with Walter Cronkite, Wisconsin Act 50, recent emergencies where local Hams were involved and other selling points to convince them of the need for a reasonable ordinance. After the vote, the Omro Mayor thanked the Amateurs for the service they provide. \*\* The West Allis Radio Amateur Club enjoyed the WIQP using the fine W0AIH contest station <http://www.qth.com/w0aih/>. We expect big scores from them! \*\* We'd like to thank the National Weather Service for recognizing the value of the Badger Weather Net to their Co-op program by dedicating a website to the BWN! <http://www.crh.noaa.gov/mkx/badgernet.php>. We appreciate the contributions of W9IHW and K9JPS in their assistance to make this site possible and invite others to become BWN members. Contact W9IXG. \*\* Here is the monthly STM news from Denny, K9LGU: The section nets in Wisconsin are tops. We have reliable checkins; both phone and CW nets are growing; there's support from packet operations; operators are learning and practicing traffic handling regularly. We have good representation at the next level, 9th Region Net, both during the day and night sessions. I know Wisconsin stations have often been frustrated on the Ninth Region Net when

other member sections are not represented, and sometimes traffic destined for other sections is not delivered due to lack of participants. Some sections have even taken to rejecting book traffic that they deem inappropriate. That's up to them, although it hardly seems in the spirit of practicing our skills and exercising the system. In Wisconsin, we do our best with any traffic we get. After all, the operative word in the NTS is system. And our part of that system is alive and well. Please encourage other operators to check in to the section nets; send, receive, and deliver traffic; try being net control; volunteer to go to another part of the NTS such as WIN or 9RN. I hope we can serve as an example for those sections where the system is struggling. \*\* - - - 73, Don, W9IXG w9ixg@arrl.org

## **Dakota Division**

### **North Dakota**

NORTH DAKOTA: SM, Kent Olson, KAØLDG -SKYWARN season is upon us, and it's time to dust off the equipment. Check with your local club to find out when they are hosting a SKYWARN training session. Also as spring and summer approach, there is the time for projects of all sorts; please accomplish them safely and smart. Most clubs are getting ready for numerous charity functions as well as Field Day. Please send in participation numbers to your EC, so they can send in the data to the League. This data is used when we present our case to the FCC and Congress as to the value of the Amateur Service. If you haven't got involved in the BPL fight, now is the time, and time is running short. GET INVOLVED and write your Congressman and the FCC! Check out the ARRL web site for specifics. Ham radio is at a great junction with BPL, and with your help, we can continue down the path that we want. If not, ham radio will face grave times. 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 Mar: Goose River Net, 4/54/1; WX Net 52/1020/11; Data Net 31/939/16.

### **South Dakota**

Mobridge: The Mobridge Area ARC is planning a special event station in October for the Lewis & Clark celebration in Mobridge. Lake Area: The repeater had malfunctioned and after testing was determined to have no output. Repairs would be made as early as possible. WD4RDR, K0JLR and W0LPG were guests for about 20 minutes on KSDR radio talk show. Initial planning was done on the Little House / Laura Wilder Pagent Special Event station. A demonstration at the middle school was planned for April 22nd by KB0UJZ and his committee. Huron: Weather Spotter Training April 29, 2003 at 7:00PM Public Service Building on Market Road, Huron, SD Pierre: Computer at fire station #4 has been hooked up to echo link. A tower for the club emergency trailer has been located and arrangements are being made for pickup. Coordination with the Red Cross was discussed with chapter manager. Prairie Dogs (Yankton/Vermillion): It is with sadness to report that Myron Schultz KD0YL on March 16th. An avid ham radio operator, Myron was licensed in the early 1980s by the Federal

Communications Commission. He was a 16 year member of the Watertown-based Lake Area Radio Klub (LARK) and served as club president in 1986 and 1987. PDARC was asked by the Boy Scouts to assist in communications support during the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial in conjunction with a large Boy Scout event at the same place. Please contact one of the PD members for further information on this. Trailer Report given by Nelson KAØWTZ. Painting has been done inside the trailer. SEARC: The business meeting time has been changed to 7:30pm now on the 1st Tuesday of the month. This is 30 minutes earlier than it has been in the past. In addition the ARES meeting has been moved to the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm as well. At the business meetings SEARC has started presenting programs. At each meeting there will be a short program on something of interest. The program for May will be BPL (Broadband over Power Lines) and everyone is urged to stop in for this discussion on the major threat to our spectrum. Sunday April 18th is the MS Walk - operators are always welcome - we can pair you with an experienced operator if you want to ease into it. It is always a blast and plenty of food! Extra radios will be available for those needing to borrow one. Stewart Center at 12pm Sunday April 18th = talk-in 146.895 Testing session for SEARC will now be held 2nd Tuesday 7pm at the Emergency Management Building. Deuel County: Net on 28.400 SSB and 29.600 FM on Thursdays at about 830pm. Black Hills AREA: John also reported that he and NHARC's Station Manager Don WØKTL had recently removed the temporary UHF repeater from Crusher Hill for modifications and the addition of the new 146.58 base station. The technical committee hopes to get the modifications done soon so that the club is ready for fire season. Gene NØMHJ discussed his proposal which was presented at the last meeting regarding the new EmComm net, and efforts to identify those in the Hills area that are interested in participating in this effort. Discussions were initiated by the Technical Committee with the Hot Springs and Northern Hills clubs on the subject of transfer of control of two of BHARC's VHF repeaters. The Northern Hills club has agreed to take full responsibility for the Terry Peak system.

## **Delta Division**

### **Arkansas**

The Fort Smith hamfest was very successful with good attendance at the ARRL Forum. I also traveled to Nashville for their swapmeet. I got to meet and visit with many hams from Southwest Arkansas. Next hamfest is Little Rock: April 23/24. [www.aristotle.net/~hamfest](http://www.aristotle.net/~hamfest) Welcome to new OO Coordinator KE4W. Congratulations to Kevin Manzer, AC5DK, on his nomination for the ARRL's Technical Service Award. The Blytheville packet node is back on line. ASEC N5XFW is working on getting a node in the Malvern area. J.M. has installed hospital packet stations at Fordyce, Camden, El Dorado, Murfreesboro, Ashdown, and Nashville. KB5ROZ is doing the installation at Magnolia. Several Arkansas hams participated in the CUSEC earthquake net on March 21. Cross County ARC participated, as well as SEC W5ARS, KB5WBH/W5AUU, and W5RZ. Hams in the Fort Smith area recently participated in a WMD exercise. EC KC5YAF reports that hams were recognized by public service agencies for their

effectiveness. Frank Stockton, W5ZY, recently became a Silent Key. Frank is a former ASM and served as president of OARA from 1996 until 2002. His friend Jack, W5DQ, said "He was great to be around. I know his family will miss him terribly, and Ham Radio has lost an outstanding ham." Former SM Bob Ideker said "I will always be appreciative to Frank for serving as an ASM for the SW District, but mostly, I'll remember him as being the nice person and ham that he always was and how well he worked with others." Russellville hams will also miss John Brown, N5ZY, who passed away recently. The subject for discussion on the April Section Net was BPL and the meaning of the recent NPRM issued by the FCC. The NPRM imposes new restrictions which should help hams. However, there is still room for improvement and hams are encouraged to submit thoughtful, positive comments to the FCC. WB5VUH, our PIC, gave a talk about Ham Radio to the Coast Guard Auxiliary in Little Rock. He did a good job - I heard it first hand from one of their members. As a result, Bob is helping them organize a licensing class. The Sharp County club has a fish fry and a program on traffic handling by K7ZQR. The Pine Bluff ARC operated a special event station at the Railroadiana Show. They operated out of a caboose inside the Arkansas Railroad Museum. ARCUA and ARKAN clubs helped with the American Heart Association's Heart Walk. The Lawrence County ARC is planning a Skywarn Class and a spring picnic. The Greer's Ferry ARC plans to participate in Field Day this year, and the Morrilton club plans to participate for the very first time. I enjoyed visiting the Morrilton club this month and gave a program about Field Day. AA5QY, OWS president, wrote a very good article about becoming licensed in the 1950's and how he was helped by his "Elmer", W5AAJ. K5DWY gave a program on the inner workings of repeater systems for the ARKAN club. ADXA held its quarterly meeting at the new home of N5ZM. Congratulations of N4ILQ on completion of EC Course I and to AG4HH on completion of course 3. Participation in OZK is up and I appreciate the efforts of all the NCS's and participants as well as STM WB5HIL and NM WA5KQU. March Net Reports: Arkansas Phone Net - QNI 460, Traffic 24 Manager: W5SXV. Arkansas Mockingbird Net - QNI 567, Traffic 17 Manager WB5YLI. Razorback Net - QNI 2181, Traffic 99 Manager K5BOC. OZK - QNI 126, Traffic 8 Manager WA5KQU. March Traffic: K7ZQR 35, W9YCE 30, AB5AU 28, K5BOC 28, WB5HIL 18, KC5TMU 14, KB5ILY 3. Public Service Honor Roll: KB5ILY 163.

## **Louisiana**

LOUISIANA SECTION NEWS - MARCH 2004 I regret to report that K5IQZ and KB5RQK are now Silent Keys. Dan, one of our best known and respected traffic handlers, was active many years on LTN and LCW, along with various other public service nets. For the past three years David served as the Emergency Coordinator (EC) for Concordia Parish. Both of these gentlemen will be missed very much. KN5LSU is the new EC for Lafayette Parish and NF5B has agreed to once again be the LTN Manager. I really appreciate Chester and Richard volunteering to serve our section in these leadership positions. 2004-05 officers for the Acadiana Amateur Radio Association (AARA) are KA5BSE, President; KN5GRK, Vice President; KD5JSM, Secretary; and N5YCS, Treasurer. New officers for the Thibodaux ARC are N5THI, President; WA5LIS, Vice President; KD5WDY, Secretary; KC5PBN, Treasurer; KD5KWQ, Activity; and WA5PRI, W5YL Officer. Congratulations to all! There are many possible changes

to our hobby on the horizon. Most of you probably already know about the April 23 deadline for comments on the various restructuring plans submitted by the ARRL and others. The deadline for comments on the Broadband over Power Line (BPL) Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) is May 3. In addition, the FCC recently announced an "omnibus" NPRM that seeks comments on a wide range of proposed Amateur Service (Part 97) rule changes. The deadline for filing comments on this latest NPRM is June 15. Everyone is encouraged to submit thoughtful comments to the FCC on each of these petitions. In particular, I believe it is important that we all file comments on the BPL NPRM. K1ZZ has some very good suggestions on page 9 in May QST for us to keep in mind before submitting our comments to the FCC on BPL. Be sure to check the ARRL website at [www.arrl.org/](http://www.arrl.org/) for the latest news on these NPRMs. You can read the NTS-ARES reorganization proposal on our section's website at [www.laarrrl.org/aresproposal.htm](http://www.laarrrl.org/aresproposal.htm) The Ad-Hoc committee has been working very hard on this report and I hope everyone active in public service will take some time to study the committee's proposal. Traffic totals: K5MC 168, K5DPG 165, AC5VN 109, AE5V 79, W4DLZ 56, N5KWB 48, W5NK 48, NF5B 41, W5PY 27. Public Service Honor Roll: K5DPG 120, AC5VN 120, NF5B 110, N5KWB 110, K5MC 110, W5PY 102, W5NK 80, AE5V 79, W4DLZ 75, K5ER 73. Section net reports: sessions/check-ins/messages handled. Louisiana Traffic Net: 31/408/151. Louisiana CW Net: 30/144/81. Louisiana ARES Net: 4/84/0. Local/district net reports: sessions/check-ins/messages handled. Ouachita Parish ARES Net: 5/123/2. Northeast LA ARES Net: 5/67/3. Union Parish ARES Net: 4/57/1. AARA Net: 5/155/1. 73, Mickey Cox K5MC LA Section Manager email: [k5mc@arrl.org](mailto:k5mc@arrl.org) LA Section Website: [www.laarrrl.org](http://www.laarrrl.org)

## Mississippi

Tornado Season has arrived. And as sure as the tornadoes move across the state, Senior NWS Meteorologist Jim Butch makes his rounds to visit the various clubs with another excellent lesson in tornado dynamics. Jim, thanks for your many years of informative presentations! And sure enough the tornadoes arrived. Metro EC AC5SU and PIO K5RWB report that the Jackson ARC was asked by the NWS to activate Skywarn on March 4th and 5th as a strong front moved through Mississippi resulting in suspected tornadoes, flooding, and strong winds. After this early March storm event, the jet stream moved north and left Mississippi with May-type weather with no tornadoes and no rain. A preliminary scan of the Mississippi QSO Party logs indicates that 70 Mississippi stations were on the air during the contest. Folks can't say they didn't have a chance to find a Mississippi station for WAS! What is really amazing is that 61 of the 82 Mississippi counties were on the air at one time or another. Remember logs must be in by April 27. The Tupelo ARC in cooperation with the Northeast Chapter of the Red Cross held a demonstration at the Barnes Crossing Mall. In addition to having a rig on the air, TARC had their "Go-Kits" on display along with information on Skywarn, emergency communications, public service events, school demos, and ham radio on the International Space Station. Those participating were KJ5JR, KD5RTF, KD5YBC, W4TUP, KC5IJP, KC5GHS, WB4VYB, KD5YVY, KD5NSO, KD5UCF, K5SEH, AB5MQ, and KD5NSP. Over 398 runners and 340 walkers enjoyed clear and sunny skies during the 25th annual Run Thru History held at the Vicksburg National

Military Park. The following members of the Vicksburg ARC provided communications support for race organizers: N5JGK, K5NRK, KC5QZW, KD5DHR, KD5WCR, KD5ZIP, KJ5RC, and W5WAF. All runners and walkers safely completed the race. Tippah ARA President N5TBB reports that the club continues to conduct monthly foxhunts with the latest winners being WA5TMC and KA5YZC. They are also planning an ARRL Club Charter Presentation Banquet with the featured speaker being WD4Q, our Delta Division Vice-Director. New Webmaster W5KWB has redesigned the Section Website at [www.arrlmiss.org](http://www.arrlmiss.org). Take a look! Welcome to K5NRK as new Manager of the MSPN. Thanks to W5KWB for two years of dedicated service as Manager. Also welcome to KD5NSP as EC for Lee County and W4TUP as LGL/PIO. Congratulations to new Lowndes County ARC officers for 2004: KD5FUO, President; KD5THW, VP; KD5HVF, Secretary; and W5BJM, Treasurer and to new Monroe County ARC Officers AD5DO, President; K5BUL, VP; and KA1RBC, Treasurer. And further, congratulations to KA1RBC, who was selected as the Monroe County ARC Ham of the Year. Welcome to new Mississippi Hams: KE5AID, James - Steens; KE5AIE, Willie - Starkville; KE5AIF, David - Starkville; KE5AIG, James - Columbus; KE5AIH, James - Columbus; KE5AII, Elizabeth - Columbus; KE5AIJ, Deanna - Maben; KE5AIK, Don - Ridgeland; KE5AIR, Steven, Ocean Springs; KE5AIS, Richard - Ocean Springs; KE5AIQ - Russell, Pascagoula; KE5AIZ, Edmund - West Point; KE5AJA, William - West Point; KE5AJD- Ronald, Oxford; KE5AJE - James, Mendenhall; KE5AJF, Robert - Maben; KE5AJG, Daniel, Petal; KE5AKO, Jessica - Horn Lake; and Jessica, KE5AKT - Ripley. Regret to report the passing of KB5W's XYL after a lengthy illness. Jim has been one of the NTS backbones in the Central US for many years. Jim, our sympathy is with you. OBS Report: W5KWB, PIO Report: W4TUP, DEC/EC Rpt: NN5AF, WB5CON, AD5DO, KD5GWM, AE5RM, AC5SU, W4WLF, N5ZNT. Net Reports: sessions/QNI/QTC. MS Section Phone Net 31/3519/105 MS Traffic Net 31/138/22; Magnolia Net 31/1438/10; PBRA 31/735/3; Jackson Co Em Net 31/337/4; MS Section Slow Net 23/66/1; West Coast MS ARES 10/61/0 Meridian Area EN 5/78/0; Lowndes Co ARC QSO Net 5/54/0; Jackson ARC EN 5/60/0 South Central Skywarn Net 5/46/0; Monroe Co. ARC 5/58/0; NE MS ARES 5/50/0; MS Baptist Hams Net 4/51/0; MS/LA EN 4/52/1; Hattiesburg Area EN 4/55/0; Itawamba Co ARES 4/59/2; Metro Jackson ARES 4/53/0; SW MS ARES 4/64/1 PSHR: WB5ZED 130, AD5IS 110, W5XX 75. Traffic: WB5ZED 2669 (BPL), AD5IS 88, KM5WN 11, W5LEW 11, W5XX 5.

## **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 Web Page:

[www.hudson.arrl.org/nnj](http://www.hudson.arrl.org/nnj) MONTHLY ARES NET: Second Monday of each month at 8PM on the Morris County OEM Repeater; WS2Q. 146.895 (PL 151.4) minus 600 Hz. The ARRL is continuing its on-line EMCOMM courses with reimbursements to ARRL members upon successful completion. If you have not done so, please sign-up. The exercises will definitely be

worthwhile. Also, all ARRL DEC/EC and OES appointees should take the course in order to learn the accepted methods of nets and message handling. Our monthly ARES net will continue to be listed in the heading as a reminder for all NNJ appointees to check-in. It lets us know who is active and gives you, the appointee, an opportunity to make sure your station works as well as learning about ARES events in the section. Clubs continue to be an important part of our success and a number are reaching out to new hams who are the future of amateur radio. As an example the Bergen County ARA continues to hold a weekly "construction night" at the Westwood High School. New Providence ARA is moving along with its local school partnership and ISSS venture by putting together code oscillator kits for participants. And, Ocean-Monmouth ARA is building on its partnership with Monmouth County through its "Project Diana" educational work. Likewise, the 10-70 Repeater Assn. is continuing its volunteer work on the submarine USS Ling. The latest addition has been reproduced diesel engine sound effects along with additional work on WWII radio equipment. The station will be on the air during the annual "Submarines On The Air" event April 24/25. I'm sure other clubs are conducting similar events or partnerships. Please let me know what you're doing so I can pass the word on to the rest of the section. Our Section webpage has links to many NNJ clubs. Please use it to see what others are doing. You may get some ideas yourself! On another club note, Field Day is only a few months away and there's still time to start planning. The Middletown ARA is already doing that. They want to better the outstanding 2A effort they made last year. After only a few years of FD exercises their score keeps rising each year and they promise 2004 will be better! Once again, N2WZB, our webmaster, and I ask that any clubs or groups list their location and site directions on the section webpage. It's a great way to let other NNJ hams know what you're doing as well as attracting additional visitors to your site. Don't forget to send out invitations to local elected officials. The Nutley ARC has done that the past few years with positive results. The ARRL National Exam Day is set for April 24th. I'm sure NNJ clubs will make another outstanding effort this year to hold VE sessions. Lastly, please make use of our section webpage for events and links. 73, Bill Hudzik, W2UDT

## **Midwest Division**

### **Kansas**

Kansas Section News Summary-March 2004 SM, Ron Cowan, KB0DTI-- SEC/OOC: Robert Summers, K0BXF ASM: Orlan Cook, W0OYH PIC: Scott Slocum, KC0DYA SGL: Steve Hamilton, KB0JYL KØUSY-Jack Carl Buffington of Frontenac is now a Silent Key. Jack had been a member of Pittsburg Repeater Organization for many years. This is the time of year to expect severe WX so please be aware and be prepared. Our state convention is August 15th at Salina. Division convention is April 30th-May 1st at Lebanon, MO. Maybe I'll see you there. Norris-WDØY is back on after a wind storm took down his dipole, NØKFS went over and helped put up a G5RV. I've been hearing talk of Field Day lately. Never too early to start planning ! The first Kansas VHF\UHF SSB QSO party was held the weekend of March 27-28. If you participated please send your log and impressions to Dave Powers- KAØKCI. Dave drove

450 miles and 4 grid squares over the 2 days. He also came really close to a tornado in Barton Co. KCØNYS-JD Spradling has been appointed EC for Miami County ( D4). JD is also an Official Emergency Station. Johnson County RAC will offer a 4 session beginners course: April 24, May 1, 8, 15 . Contact Tom Wheeler-NØGSG [twheeler@kc.devry.edu](mailto:twheeler@kc.devry.edu) (816) 941-0430 x 5211 <http://www.qsl.net/w0erh/> . Johnson County ARES group held a night time drill March 9th. A search and rescue operation for 2 lost 8 year olds. Approximately 25 members participated in this first night time drill to test the emergency communications skills of amateur radio operators. Kickapoo QRP ARC has been formed as a branch or Auxiliary of Pilot Knob ARC (Leavenworth). The purpose is to further QRP and technical activities and experimentation. Leavenworth Co. Hams were recognized at their WX spotter training for their contributions to community and work during the storms of last May. Trojan ARC (Colby) passed on their regular club meeting to help with Smoky Hills Public TV in Bunker Hill. Members worked on both sides of the camera with our Vice Director-KØBJ at the microphone. No report yet on Bruce's QSO Rate. Trojan ARC donated the old repeater and controller built for the club by Gary – WDØAVA retired over 1Ø years ago to the Goodland club. Nathan – KCØGLA was looking for replacement parts for the Goodland repeater. Both CKARC and Independence ARC held hidden transmitter hunts. February Sessions/QNI/QTC/Mgr: KSBN/29/1031 / 84/NØKFS KPN/21/274/22/NØKFS KMWN/29/690/582/WBØYWZ KWN/29/923 /711/WBØYWZ CSTN/24/2334/119/ AB5PA QKS/58/351/198/KØPY QKS-SS 7/26/2 KBØDTI TEN: 58 sessions, QTC 500, KS 93 % with WAØLYK KØPY ABØWR WØWR NBØZ . Dave WØSS/Mgr. (CW Net) SEC: 59 sessions QNI 734 QTC (messages) 30. Reporting Zones: KCØGDV 1E, AAØIQ 2B, NØOBM 2D, NØLKK 3C, 3E-F, KBØWEQ 4A, KØBXF 4B, KCØJCQ 4C, KØUO 5E, KCØAUH 6 B-C-D. Bob KØBXF SEC. Traffic: ABØWR 706 WAØLYK 320 NBØZ 82 KIØBK WØWR 39 WØOYH 27 KBØDTI 24 ABØUY 20 WØME 19 KCØHHO 18 NØZIZ 7 KCØMRJ 6 . 73- Ron To receive Kansas Amateur Radio News E-mail News Letter contact Orlan-WØOYH-Editor See KSN on ARRL Website for detailed PSHR and more Kansas news: <http://www.arrl.org/sections/KS.html>

## Missouri

APRIL 2004 MO SECTION NEWS SUMMARY To get the full MO Section News check out the ARRL Website Section News. Mike Musick, NØQBF, has resigned as the Official Observer Coordinator and as an OO. It takes a lot of restraint to be a good OO, and OOC, and we were fortunate to have Mike Musick, NØQBF as leader in that important section position. Don Moore, KMØR, Section Emergency Coordinator announces the appointments: Steven Wooten, KCØQMU as the new St. Louis County EC, John McReynolds, KCØNRO the new EC for Lincoln County, and Martin House, KCØMYG the new EC for Barry County. HOUSE BILL 822 UPDATE, the legislation to make FCC PRB-1 tower pre-emption, is still moving through the legislative process. It was passed by the House of Rep. on March 30, 2004 by a vote of 145 to 8. On March 31, 2004 the Missouri Senate gave a second reading to HB822 and refered it to the Senate Economic Development, CONVENTIONS AND HAMFESTS The Ararat Amateur Radio Shrine Club HAMBASH 2004 will be held Saturday April 17, 2004 at 5100 Ararat Drive in Kansas City, MO. Tickets are \$3.00 at the door. Table information or information can be

obtained from Steve Dowdy, WJØI 12411 Olive Kansas City, MO 64146 Phone 816-941-3392 or e-mail sdowdy@kc.rr.com THE MIDWEST DIVISION CONVENTION in Lebanon on April 30, 2004 and May 1, 2004. On Friday from 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. there will be a picnic buffet at the east end of the Exhibition Hall. Check-out the website

<http://home.earthlink.net/~wb9m/html/untitled5.html>. AFFILIATED CLUB NEWS KEITH HAYE, WEØG, ACC The St. Charles ARC held a "Fox Hunt" on March 28th. Dave, WBØRAB and Ray, KØWC were the foxes. First place "Fox Hunters" Jim, NØPTN and Darren KMØQ found the foxes in just 28 minutes. The April Issue of the MVDXCC Newsletter "THE DX HOG" reports that Merle, WØEWM, gave a presentation at the March meeting of the Mississippi Valley DX and Contest Club on a "PSK meter" that he built and is currently using. Merle tackled the problem of estimating what your radio's proper audio setting should be. The Ozark Mountain Radio Club is sponsoring a technician license course in Houston, MO in the Texas County Institute Building. The course has sparked interest among local volunteer emergency personnel and there are 25 signed up. The Kimberling Amateur Radio Club Mar-Apr. newsletter reports that the rough draft of their proposed new KARC brochure was distributed at their March Meeting. The Callaway Amateur Radio League reports that the farm where their repeater is located has been sold and made no provision for CARL to retain use of the tower site. It is done and CARL member Tom, NØVGW, did talk with the new owner, John P. Harrison, and he apparently has no problem with us being there, at this time. However, he did ask for liability protection in case someone gets injured while at the repeater site. Liability insurance through the ARRL will cost the club \$325.00 per year for \$1,000,000.00 in coverage. The CARL members will discuss this further at the April meeting. MARCH 2004 SECTION ARES REPORT SUMMARY DON MOORE, KMØR SEC Total # of ARES members: 752 down 67 members Number of drills, tests and training sessions this month: 124 Man hours: 933.63 Number of public service events this month: 4 Man hours: 33 Number of emergency operations this month: 7 man hours: 36 Total number of ARES operations this month: 135 Total Man hours: 1002.63 Comments: 8 of 9 districts reporting this time. SECTION TRAFFIC REPORTS FOR MARCH 2004 DALE HUFFINGTON, AEØS, STM MO Phone Sessions 31 QNI 546 QTC 196 NM KØDAT MESN Sessions 2 QNI 43 QTC 1 NM NØXG

## **New England Division**

### **Connecticut**

Come on out next Sunday, April 25 to The Southington High School and join the fun at the annual Flea Market sponsored by The Southington Amateur Radio Association! At approximately 10:30, there will be the annual ARES meeting hosted by our SEC Allen, W1AGP. As you know, there is a lot of work being done in this program so don't miss the chance to catch up on the latest news and meet other ARES ops! And of course, stop by the ARRL booth, get your questions answered and say hello! After the very long winter, it sure will be great to get together. On Sunday, April 18th at 8am members of the Southington Amateur Radio Association will be providing radio communication for the National Multiple Sclerosis

Society during their annual MS Walk in Cheshire. SARA volunteers will be placed along the walk route and with key personnel to ensure the safety of participants and allow immediate communication between checkpoints. A Sky Warn class will be held Monday, April 19 at Manchester Community College from 7:00-10:00 p.m. This is a great class taught by staff of the NWS so don't miss it! An Advanced Spotter Class will be held Thursday, May 20, at the East Haven High School auditorium, from 7 to 10 p.m. The school is located at 35 Wheelbarrow Lane in East Haven. Talk-in is on 147.505 (1-meg split, PL 77). You must have a current spotter ID number to attend this class. The Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial station at ARRL Headquarters, W1AW, will sign with a special designator - /90 - through the rest of 2004. The call sign reflects the 90th anniversary of the League's founding by Maxim and Clarence Tuska in 1914. Operation as W1AW/90 began April 3. W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, said he will encourage guest operators to use as many modes as possible, including RTTY, PSK31, Satellite and Hellschreiber. "Plus, we're going to try for SSTV WAS," he added. "It'll be tough, but we can do it." Special QSL cards will be available for W1AW/90 contacts, and Carcia noted that self-addressed, stamped return envelopes should accompany all QSL requests. All contacts with W1AW/90 will also be uploaded to Logbook of The World. The first weekend in May is the annual New England QSO party so mark your calendars and get ready to have some real fun on the air. The Candlewood Amateur Radio Association will operate from W1AW on that Sunday. **SPEAKER NEEDED!** I have a request from Chester Village West for a couple of oldtime ops to speak at a breakfast meeting in June on the topic of ham radio. The gentlemen living at this facility are interested in what's going on with ham radio today. Please contact me at your earliest convenience if you would be willing to spend about an hour or so, give a talk and enjoy a nice breakfast. Thanks. The Southern Berkshire Amateur Radio Club made their presence known at the 12th Annual Tri-State Trade Festival on Sunday March 28, 2004, at the Housatonic Valley Regional High School in Falls Village, CT. There were 2 active HF and VHF stations set up, contacts were made by some of the visitors, many NTS radiograms were sent to friends and families, ARRL information was distributed and everyone who participated really enjoyed the event. Thanks to the club members who made this all possible: Arnie, KC2CBV, Sid, K1SS, Roy, N1IKM, AJ, WB2HRK and grandson, AJ, and Jay, KB1HNE. The Housatonic Valley Classic is looking for volunteer Amateur Radio Operators to provide route safety communications for a major national bicycle race of approximately 100 miles in length, going around Lake Candlewood, with start and finish in downtown Danbury. This will take place on Sunday May 23 and is part of the Tour of Connecticut. Full detailed race information is available on the Internet at [Spartacycling.com](http://Spartacycling.com).

## **Eastern Massachusetts**

2004 BAA MARATHON--As I write this report, Amateurs throughout EMA are gearing up for the largest public service operation of the year: the 108th running of the annual BAA "Boston" Marathon. As usual, the race runs from the starting line in Hopkinton to the finish in downtown Boston. Various groups of Amateurs will provide communications for the American Red Cross, the BAA and the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency. Unusually warm temperatures during the race could lead to increased incidents of heat exhaustion and other

injuries requiring Amateur Radio involvement. PILGRIM NUKE DISASTER DRILL--Eight members of the Massasoit ARA assisted the Bridgewater Emergency Operations Center in conducting a mock disaster scenario at the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Plant on April 14. The scenario called for an aircraft to crash into the containment building at the plant, leading to a small release of radioactive material and an accompanying evacuation. Operators at the Bridgewater EOC were: KC1ZW, N1FY, W1JOE, N1XTB, W1DGD, W1GFM, K1VQ, KB1CYV and N1EDM. N1IX and other Whitman ARC members were active at the Taunton ARC. The Kingston EOC was staffed by KC1ML. Bridgewater EOC acted as a relay for Plymouth EOC; Taunton EOC also showed that it could function as an effective backup with solid communications. [MARA News] THE FRAMINGHAM AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION had another successful License In A Weekend class March 12-14, according to FARA's Lee Gartenberg, K1GL. Of the 12 students, nine received new technician licenses. The team of instructors was led by Ed Weiss, W1NXC, recipient of the ARRL Herb S. Brier Instructor of the Year Award. FARA has been conducting this class since 1995 and boasts a passing rate of close to 90 percent. MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH SHORE FOX HUNTERS held a successful hunt March 12 near the Monponsett Ponds. Roy Logan, KB1CYV and George Davis, KC1FZ were hiding on a boat ramp off Route 58. The fox was first found by Walter MacNeil, W1WMN. W1WMN participated for the first time with the South Shore Fox Hunters on February 28. Veteran fox hunters "with 6 and 7 years of experience were seen scratching their heads and heard mumbling something about beginners luck." NEW PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER APPOINTMENTS: Public Information Coordinator Jim Duarte, N1IV recently announced three new PIO appointments for the EMA section: N1SOM, W1PLW and KA1MOM. Bill, KA1MOM has been acting in a PIO capacity for some time, but a "snafu" with the database at ARRL Headquarters never officially registered Bill's appointment. "The Eastern Mass Section Staff looks forward to working with you . . . if there's anything we can do to help, let us know," remarked Duarte. HAM CLASSES AT FALL RIVER MIDDLE SCHOOL--A Bristol County Repeater Association member is teaching Amateur Radio to students at a middle school in Fall River. According to Roland Daignault, N1JOY, "There are several kids who are thrilled about the hobby, and quite a few who are starting to take an interest." N1JOY has asked BCRA members to stand-by on the repeater to chat with the kids. "If you have a few minutes, I'd like to get some of the students on the air at the end of the classroom session. These are 6th graders, and a little bit of fun time on the air could be a great influence to help them reach their goal of passing the exam and getting their own license." WALTHAM/1200 RC AUCTION IS QRT. A long-standing Boston-area ham institution is no more, according to its organizer Eliot Mayer, W1MJ. In a letter dated April 14, 2004, Mayer writes, "Besides being a great social event, it paid for a significant portion of [WARA's] repeater maintenance expenses. Alas, despite our best efforts to improve the auction and its publicity, the event has been suspended due to declining interest." The event, co-sponsored by the Waltham Amateur Radio Association and the 1200 Radio Club, had been held annually in November at the Newton Masonic Hall. 73, K9HI

## Rhode Island

Greetings fellow RI Amateurs: Our own Technical Coordinator, Rob Vincent K1DFT, has been recently honored by his employer, The University of Rhode Island in recognition of his development work in his distributed linear monopole antenna design as the “most outstanding intellectual property of 2003”. This is a very high distinction to receive by itself, but an even a greater one when you realize that only the brightest staff and faculty have won this award over the last few decades. Some of RI’s most gifted scientists and inventors will now be seen as technical contemporaries of our friend, K1DFT. His invention will be compared with other discoveries similarly recognized that have written new pages in technical manuals for the world to learn from. Congratulations Rob! Best wishes with your work in antenna development. We are honored to have you serving your fellow Amateurs in RI and proud to call you our friend. The CERT training program continues to produce more new hams. Its third consecutive class was completed on 4/10 with a VE session supported by BVARC. Six more new Technicians were licensed. The first two classes in Bristol and Tiverton produced 13, so we now have 19 new licensees in RI that we likely wouldn’t have had without the CERT initiative. The next two CERT training classes are scheduled to start soon with a total of 25-30 students. They will be ready for testing on the weekend before Field Day. You can easily see that the number of CERT hams could easily double on test day, June 19th. CERT’s Amateur Radio Instructor, W1VH will be meeting with three or four potential new instructors soon to expand the program even further. Nice job everyone and thanks! You have drawn positive national attention to our little state with your initiative. RI SATERN will put on a demo/exercise on April 17th to demonstrate some essential hands-on skills for our new hams. It will be held at SATERN EOC on Commercial St. in the Pawtuxet section of Warwick. The purpose is to provide a practical platform presented by experienced volunteers to allow these new hams to quickly become proficient in essential skills like soldering techniques, simple antenna installation, repeater use and protocol. All are invited. I am planning on being there as well. Fidelity ARC will hold its first Annual Flea Market and Auction on Saturday, May 15th. It will be held at the Washington Lodge #5 Masonic Center, 1515 Ten Rod Road, North Kingstown. Sellers should report at 7AM, Buyers at 8AM and Auction at 10AM. Since the ’76 Flea and Auction has suspended its spring event, the Fidelity club picked up the date. Talk-in on 145.13 MHz, PL 151.4 Hz. For more details, contact any Fidelity member or club president at wvih@earthlink.net . You may also reach me for more details. Three License Restructuring and BPL related are listed on ARRL’s website, <http://www.arrl.org/> . You are strongly encouraged to review them and add your comments to the many that have already been listed. They are appreciated. I’m sorry to inform you that I’m facing some more orthopedic surgery in the near future. I don’t know exactly when it will take place but it likely will prevent me from making my regular tour of club Field Day sites around the state. Our Asst SM, WA1RI is also President of BVARC and will be unable to tour in my place since he’s an essential member of BVARC’s FD team. This surgery just became known to me. I apologize to you all but sincerely wish you all great success on Field Day and hope for great band conditions even though we’re nearing the solar cycle minimum. I’ll do a special dance (?) to the propagation prognosticators in the hills to assure lively band conditions. 73 to all, Bob Beaudet W1YRC, Section Manager

**Vermont**

April Greetings to you, my Ham Radio Friends. This is the March Section News Summary Report. I have just come from visiting the MS Walk in Burlington (on April 17). I was very impressed, to say the least. The folks in charge had APRS running the whole time to keep track of their Hams on bicycles and in cars. And, this was just a six-mile walk! The MS Society had ten walks going on around the state. Next year, we hope to cover more of the cities and towns, including: Bennington, Bellows Falls, Middlebury, Montpelier, Morrisville, Rutland, St. Albans, St. Johnsbury, and Woodstock. If you are in one of these towns, please contact me about helping with Ham Radio Communications for next year. My thanks to the crew that worked so hard this year, including Bob Allen KB1FRW and Brian Riley N1BQ. On August 7-8, the MS Society will be putting on the MS150 Bike Ride. We are in the process of recruiting Hams for this large event. The contact person is John Gladding N1HLG@arrl.org. This will start and end at Castleton State College, near Rutland, so if you can help out, please contact John. In club news, The Green Mountain Wireless Society has successfully renewed their SSC status.

Congratulations to GMWS! They have been an ARRL Affiliated Club since 1982 and a SSC since 1987. It's President, Albert Poirier, W1AJP is to be commended for his work with the club in helping it realize and maintain its potential. The Southern Vermont Amateur Radio Club has a new slate of officers. Congratulations to Bob Hain WA1VYZ on being elected to Club President of SOVARC, which has been an ARRL Affiliated Club since 1992. There is a new Ham Radio Club in Vermont. The West River Radio Club (WRRC) was founded recently to fill in a gap in Southeastern Vermont. Its President is Tim Bell KA1ZQX and they are already up to 19 members. Their great web page is at: <http://www.westriverradio.net/>. Tim is also our DEC for Windham County. The Saint Albans Amateur Radio Club also recently had elections. Congrats to the new Club President Bill Walker W1WAW. Bill has a great team working with him. STARC has been affiliated since 1998. I should also mention here that STARC merged with the Border Amateur Radio Club in Newport last year, and that they are now making improvements to the Jay Peak repeater. As I mentioned last month, Carl Phillips KC1WH@arrl.net is still looking for your help with the Vermont City Marathon on Sunday, May 30th. Please contact Carl if you can help with this event. In case you are wondering, I have been reelected to a new term of office, starting July 1, 2004. Nobody would run against me. I look forward to serving you over the next two years (again). Here is the March Traffic Report. Submitted by Bert Morton W1DFU. NAME/SESSIONS/QNI/QTC/MINUTES/MGR VPEN 4/21/0/144 KC1YW GMN 27/674/19/1941 N1HXC VTNH 31/132/89/407 W1DFU KWN 23/129/0/541 (Kingdom Weather Net) KB1HWB Bennington County ARES 5/19/0/70 N1SP CVAN 5/40/4/265 (Central Vt. ARES NET) WA1LIE

## **Northwestern Division**

### **Montana**

The month of March was a busy one for your SM, away from Ham Radio, but some happenings of note that should be recognized. Argus Barker, W8QMD of Stevensville, MT has achieved 50

years as a licensed Amateur as of March 19. He brings those years of experience to our hobby in the form of considerate, thoughtful operating practices and sharing his knowledge with others. Congrats Argus. Troy Brooks, KD7IIC won the Section award for the International IARU Contest last July in the low power competition. He's been active in several contests over the past few years and finds them a true challenge. Hardest part is finding the dupes on his log. April 17th is the Hamfest in Idaho Falls, ID. Past years have been interesting and worthwhile. Hopefully, the weather will be better than last year. The Great Falls Club Annual Swapfest will be held at the Westgate Mall in Great Falls, MT on May 1. Information can be found at [info@w7eca.org](mailto:info@w7eca.org). IMN-W7GHT/QNI 738, QTC-132 MTN-KD7HWV/QNI 2638, QTC-104 MSN-K7YD/QNI 161 73 Doug, K7YD

## Oregon

Oregon SM: Randy Stimson KZ7T. SEC: KK7TT. SCC: W7WZ. ACC: K7SQ. STM: W7IZ. OOC: AB7OC. PIC: W6ABM= The FCC is asking comment on three plans. One is the ARRL's petition for a three level licensing. The designation is RM10867. If it is accepted by the FCC there will be Novice, General and Extra. Extra would require 5WPM. The second one RM-10869, it to retain 5WPM for General and 13WPM for Extra The third RM10868, is to modify Technician ticket to allow restricted HF phone, image and CW privileges. Another one that is ready for comments. The BPL ET Docket 03-104 & 04-37. You can start commenting on May 3 2004 and must be in by June 1st 2004. You can look all of these up on the ARRL Web site. There is a lot to comment about so get on your computer and start writing. Please, we need all the help that we can get. Don't just complain do something about it I have mentioned ARESMAT before and it is going very well. Bruce Bjerke, K7BHB is the man in charge of organizing it Statewide. I offered Bruce some space to explain the plan and its requirements. "ARES Picks Up New, Statewide Mission! By Bruce Bjerke, K7BHB ARESMAT DEC Through a purely random set of fortuitous circumstances, Oregon ARES/RACES has been chosen to provide emergency communications expertise and operators for the Oregon State Fire Marshals' Structural Overhead Teams! (Of course, many would say "Luck is where Preparation meets Opportunity", which is probably more accurate.) Last summer Section Emergency Coordinator Wayne Jack called for an ARESMAT team to assist with communications for possible evacuations resulting from the huge B&B Complex fire in the Sisters – Camp Sherman area. A nine-person team was assembled and in place in less than 24 hours to provide relief for Deschutes County ARES/RACES folks, some of whom had been on duty for over two weeks. As it happens, no evacuation was necessary, but in the conduct of normal operations it became known that the Oregon State Fire Marshal's area repeater had failed, leaving OSFM firefighters in the Camp Sherman area without communications back to their management staff at base camp in Sisters. The fire situation was very fluid, and there was a real possibility that these crews might be in danger, or at least be rendered ineffective, due to lost situational awareness. Wayne contacted the OSFM Overhead Team Chief and outlined our capabilities. The next morning a two-man ARES crew ascended Black Butte with the Ham equipment necessary to install and operate a cross-band repeater system. Additional equipment was installed at the OSFM Incident Command tent at the Sisters fairgrounds. Solid communications were restored and used until the

fire was declared contained and the crews sent home. After fire season wound down the OSFM B&B Complex Incident Commander related the circumstances of how ARES had restored communications to the larger staff of the OSFM during after-action discussions in Salem. Apparently, a “light bulb” lit up and the OSFM management team in Salem began to realize what a great resource amateur radio could be for their Overhead Teams. Unlike US Forest Service and Oregon Dept. of Forestry Teams, OSFM response teams have no communications unit personnel and only minimal organic communications gear. As we were told in joint meetings near the end of last year, on virtually every incident that OSFM Teams respond to there is a failure of base-to-field, field-to-field, or base-to-headquarters communications; and frequently, more than one type of failure. Well, to make a long story short, OSFM has chosen Oregon Section ARES/RACES to be, in effect, their communications staff. We will be providing up to six teams of six people, each of whom are ready, willing, and able (read as “fit”) to dispatch along with OSFM Incident Command and Firefighters when and where necessary during fire season and beyond. The OSFM organization is an “all hazards” responder, so they may activate for not only fire, but also natural disasters such as flood, earthquake, tsunami, or even HAZMAT or terrorist incidents. ARES folks have been designated as the Communications Unit Leaders on each of the three OSFM Incident Management Teams (an OSFM management staff position). It is my belief that we were able to pick up this mission because of the increased professionalism, commitment, and stability that all of us in Oregon Section ARES/RACES have worked so hard to achieve over the last 18 months or so. Emergency Managers at all levels, from OEM, to the Counties, to specialized agencies like the OSFM are finally beginning to sit up and take notice of how a well-led and well-organized group of emergency communicators are a resource that is not available anywhere else, at any price. Next Month: How the OSFM ARESMAT Teams are selected, organized, and equipped; And how you can apply to be a candidate for one of the teams.” Central Oregon DX Club new officers are Dick Frey K4XU, President, Charles Southall KI6Y, Vice President and A.J. Parry WA7AJ, Secretary/ Treasurer I have appointed Lynn Hurd, WB7UNU as Technical Coordinator. Robert Williams, KN7I as Technical Specialist Congratulations Russell KD7BSA for completing EC-001, Leighton K7AZW for completing EC-002 Traffic; W7IZ 316, N7YSS 161, N7DRP 141, N7CM 139, KC7SGM 90, KK1A 82, KC7SRL 49, W7VSE 30 and N7APE 8 PSHR; KK1A 120, K7EAJ 118, KC7SGM 118, N7CM 110, N7YSS 110, KD5ONS 96, W7RRC 95, N7DRP 90, KZ7T 85, KK7TN 85, KL7OR 80 and W7VSE 76

## **Western Washington**

This month, the leadership of WWa Section calls on you all to contact our Senators and Representatives to ask them to support S-537 the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Bill. The Act would protect existing Amateur Radio spectrum against reallocations to or sharing with other services unless the FCC provides "equivalent replacement spectrum" elsewhere. Sen. Cantwell serves on the committee that is reviewing the Senate version, S-537. Sen. Cantwell has not agreed to co-sponsor the bill yet. The House of Representatives version is HR-713. Additional information and sample letters can be found at

<http://www.arrl.org/govrelations/arspa.html#bill>. Please write requesting their support and co-sponsorship. ARES TEAM ACTIVITY REPORTS: Island Co. reports: The HF station at the County Sheriff's Office remains out of service due to antenna problems. W7BXH is maintaining HF liaison with WSEN during the outage period. Skagit Co. reports: Snohomish Co. reports ARES assisted the City of Monroe with their emergency drill on March 24th. Valley General Hospital was manned by 3 ARES members and worked in cooperation with Snohomish County RACES providing communications between the governmental served agencies within the City of Monroe and Valley General Hospital. District 2 reports that 14 team members attended the Communications Academy. District 3 provided Communications support to the SSCA NW Division DooWop Road Rally on March 6. A District 3 meeting was held on March 27; In addition to a status update on all counties and the District, Thurston County showed off their Comm Van and Marina, N7LSL provided HIPPA Training and an update on Medical Services. District 4 reports that LCARA held their March meeting at the Cowlitz County EOC where the DEM Secretary, Lori Hendrickson, displayed the interactions of the Dept. of Emergency Management and Search & Rescue activities. Following the presentation, Lori asked if the Hams could pickup duties of coordinating the Emergency Services area for the Cowlitz County Fair. Randy NU7D volunteered to coordinate the area. The ELT Team held a Training session; teams located the beacon in 2.5 hours. Also Butch KD7DCM and his son, Drew, followed Team 1. Drew is doing his high school senior project on RDFing ELT's. Rich Wilson KK7LB became a Silent Key this afternoon at 5:30 p.m. at the Hospice in Longview. Rich spent many hours at LCARA working on the never-ending projects the club always had. He was also involved with ARES / RACES and volunteered for a number of public service events. LCARA is going to miss Rich very much. Six ARES/RACES members from Cowlitz County attend the Communications Academy in Shoreline. On Monday, March 8th Bob, K7YFJ, met with newly formed Clark County Citizen Corps Board. Ground rules were established and operating rules were discussed. Further meetings are coming. Five members attended the 2004 ComAcademy in Shoreline. District 6 reports that Kirkland is preparing for Joint Kirkland, Bellevue, Mercer Isld and Redmond exercise on May 11. Normandy Park: Completed installation of radios into cabinet in EOC. Still need to tie down power supply and build instructions. District M reports a busy month! Communications Academy accounted for approx. 2400 hours of activity for the team. Mason Co team is going great guns with lots of activities. MST made a presentation on Emergency Communications for Rural Healthcare at the Rural Healthcare Conference in Spokane on 3/25-26. Net Report de W7ARC NET QNI QTC SESSIONS NET MGR CALL CCARESNet 152 0 5 ND7P ESTS 41 14 16 WBYWOW NONN TIME NET 10627 433 63 W7TVA NWSSB 816 41 31 N7YMY OARS 8 0 5 N7EIE PSTS 33 3 30 KA4TTY WARTS 3883 161 31 W7GB WCN 304 38 31 K7WCN WSN 869 207 93 W7QM TOTALS 16733 897 305

## **Pacific Division**

### **East Bay**

Hello East Bay Section Amateurs. The Section News will be updated regularly on the ARRL East Bay Section page: <http://www.arrl.org/sections/EB.html> This is the only place to read the section news as it is no longer published in QST. If you have a Public Service Event or a radio club activity that you would like to see included in the EB Section News, please contact me via e-mail. Also, if you have a club newsletter please add my name and address to the mailing list. I would appreciate receiving one each month. I will be looking through club newsletters for items to put on the Section News web page each month. My mailing address is on the web page shown above. ASM's: Jim, KE6QJV; Bob, K6HEW; Dar, K6USW; SEC: Sam, KO6JR; STM: Joe, W6DOB; STC: Dar, K6USW; ACC: Texx, KG6ATH. I want to welcome Texx, KG6ATH. I appointed Texx to be the Section Affiliated Club Coordinator. He is the primary contact and resource person for each Amateur Radio Club in the section, specializing in motivating, providing assistance and coordinating joint activities of radio clubs. Silverado ARS will hold a 2 day License class the weekend of May 22nd . The class is free. To pre-register e-mail [techclass@pacbell.net](mailto:techclass@pacbell.net) Seating limited to 20. ORCA members operated the HF station at the City of Oakland's EOC for the ARRL SSB DX contest. The Amateur Radio Club of Alameda ratified the clubs constitution and bylaws, congratulations. SBARA raffles some neat things at their monthly meeting, Bill, WB9YVM recently won a tentec1253 HF receiver kit. At the April meeting they will raffle a Yeasu VX-2R HT. MDARC members Jerry, KB6T and John, KG6CZX presented an ATV overview to members of LARK. ACSCT will provide safety and logistical support for the March of Dimes WalkAmerica April 24th. BAEARS will hold a 1 day Technician Class license study session followed by VE test session on April 24th at CSM in San Mateo contact [WB6ZBU@arrl.net](mailto:WB6ZBU@arrl.net) for more info. Section Traffic Report W6DOB: ORI/0 SENT/350 REC/254 DEL/34 TOTAL 638 AK6DV: ORI/0 SENT/962 REC/936 DEL/16 TOTAL 1914 KE6QR: SENT/1 REC/6 DEL/4 TOTAL 11 WB6UZX : ORI/ 1, Sent/49 REC/ 98 DEL/ 36, Total 184 BPL: W6DOB, AK6DV PSHR: WB6UZX: 1/33 2/40 3/10 4/10 73 Ti-Michelle Connelly, NJ6T SM/EB

## **Nevada**

Greetings to everyone in the Nevada Section! It is with great sadness that I report that on March 25, Lee Welsh KI7EY, became a Silent Key. Lee was husband of prior Nevada Section Manager Jan Welsh NK7N for 50 years. A memorial service was held on the 30th for this well-loved member of the Las Vegas amateur radio community. Lee was one of the most caring people I've had the pleasure of meeting. Please keep Jan and her family in your thoughts. This year's expanded two-day emergency communications symposium EMCOMMWEST 2004 is being combined with the Reno Spring Ham Swap for a full weekend May 22-23. A half-dozen northern clubs are all pulling together to make EMCOMMWEST 2004 a very successful regional event. Check <http://www.emcommwest.org> for on-line registration and the latest information. Rural Amateur Radio Association (RARA) President Dave Hough W7GK reports a lot of interest in expanding the Section-wide SKYWARN net on the Echolink conference node NV-GATE. Participants use either the IRLP Western Reflector Channel 7 (9257) or the Echolink conference node NV-GATE (152566). Contact Dave for more information. The Carson Valley Radio Club (CVRC) just finished their bi-annual Amateur Extra Class upgrade class with

every exam-taker walking away with a brand new upgraded ticket! Next year they will alternate by teaching a General upgrade class. Congratulations to all the new Extras and special thanks to instructors Dale Anderson KV7S, Bob Evans N6YMA and Bob Grissom KI7GN. Clark County Emergency Coordinator Charlie Kunz AA5QJ and Vern Garman K0EGA (AEC Operations/Training) participated in the Moving Target 04 Tabletop Exercise in Laughlin on March 2 in preparation for the full-scale exercise on April 1. Northern Nevada District Emergency Coordinator Don Carlson KQ6FM reports the new Northern Nevada District ARES VHF net is doing very well under the management of Fred Hunt WA6GOG . Bringing over 20 years of experience to the job, Fred is doing an exceptional job. Southern Nye County Emergency Coordinator Dick Grady AC7EL reports that each year the Nye County Emergency Management Department conducts a program called Surviving Hazards In Every Local Disaster (SHIELD) for sixth-grade students. ARES members contribute by teaching the kids what amateur radio is and demonstrating how it is used in disasters. The event spans eight days between from March 25 and April 23. The Sierra Intermountain Emergency Radio Association (SIERA) is gearing up for another three-day Pony Express re-ride from the afternoon of June 2 through the early morning hours of June 5. Volunteer are always welcome and anyone interested should contact Will Lewis KD7NIR . For a current list of all ARRL Nevada Section Field Appointments, you can always check <http://www.pdarrl.org/nevsec/officers.html>. Please send me your concerns, opinions, questions and newsletters. Until next month, 73, Dick K7VC  
Nevada Section Manager

## **Pacific**

SM Pacific Report written March 18, 2004 Hawai'i: Amateur Radio antenna bills: The bills to allow Amateur Radio antennas in restricted condominium regimes (HB 2773 HD1 SD1) and in subdivisions controlled by CC&RS (HB2774 HD1 SD1) passed third reading on April 14, 2004. They are going to conference the week of April 19th to iron out the differences between the two drafts. This will allow rewording of the bills to implement reasonable accommodations of Amateur Radio antennas. The bills must take into account the different associations' concerns regarding a process for review and approval. If agreement is not reached in conference, the bills could still die. The latest updates will be posted on hamradiohawaii and Hiham reflectors. Ham Swapmeet Success: On April 3, 2004, approximately 120 people enjoyed meeting each other and trading ham radio equipment at the Ham Swapmeet sponsored by the Ko'olau ARC and the Emergency ARC. The weather was kind at Aiea Elementary School which allowed some trading from the back of trucks. Our thanks go out to Warren, KH6WM, and co-chairman Jim, NH6YF, for conducting it. There were a number of door prizes, including a Drake TR-7 HF SSB/CW transceiver and other components. Warren is already working on next year's swapmeet. Big Island International Marathon: The Big Island ARC provided communications support for the Big Island International Marathon on March 21, 2004. Approximately fifteen Amateur Radio operators, with at least one from O'ahu, gave up their Sunday morning for this event which lasted over seven hours. Outer Island Visits: Recently I visited both Kaua'i and Maui for the club meetings as well as meeting with other individuals and groups. On March 1, I visited the Kaua'i

ARC meeting. I discussed with them the bills, the proposed Amateur Radio restructuring, IRLP, emergency communications and their need for a new home for their website as well as a new reflector for email. Upon my return, I created their reflector karc692 within the yahogroups. While I was on Kaua'i, my host, Jerry Hill, KH6HU, showed me the site of the 147.04+MHz Hawai'i State RACES repeater site. At this time, it is out of operation. Plans are underway to fix it when access is regained. We'll keep you posted on this. If you want to contact them while on the island, try the 146.92- MHz repeater. Federated States of Micronesia, Yap: A declaration of a state of emergency for the state of Yap, Federated States of Micronesia has been declared. On April 8-9, 2004, Typhoon Sudal hit the State of Yap, Federated States of Micronesia. Winds speeds of 102-115 knots and wave heights of 36 feet were reported.the typhoon has caused substantial damage within the State of Yap. If you have information regarding Amateur Radio operations in Yap, please send it to the Pacific Section Manager, Kevin Bogan, AH6QO, at ah6qo@arrl.org. If you have club information, events, or activities that are of interest to Amateur Radio operators in the Pacific Section, please send it to the Pacific Section Manager, Kevin Bogan, AH6QO, at ah6qo@arrl.org. Aloha, Kevin Bogan, AH6QO SM Pacific

## **Sacramento Valley**

ARRL & FCC: There is a lot of new news for the amateur this month. The FCC has asked for comments on their Broadband/Power Line proposal, with a deadline of May 3 and for reply comments on June 1. Please read the articles on the ARRL web pages for information and suggestions on making comments that will get the attention of the FCC. Also the FCC is asking Amateurs to comment on the ARRL's and other proposals for ham license restructuring. The outcome of this proposal could change the licensing structure somewhat and to give HF Phone privileges to Novices and Technicians and possibly delete the requirement for Morse Code knowledge – except for Extra Class licenses. You can make comments on both of these subjects on the FCC web pages. If you do make comments, put some thought into it and describe your reasons for your comments and why you are for or against the particular change in license requirements. SILENT KEYS: El Dorado ARC member Larry Boyer, WB6LSF became a SK recently. Long, long time member of North Hills RC, Joe Strazzarino, W6BWZ, also became a SK. Joe was injured in a fall, and passed away while in the hospital. Joe was licensed in 1921 and was licensed for over 82 years. He was still active in the NHRC, and had been a club officer for many years. He was one of the founding members of the club. He will be missed by many GOLDEN EMPIRE ARS: GEARS members will provide communications for the Chico Velo Bike Club during the Wildflower Bike Tour on Sunday April 25. To help, or for information, call David KG6AFE at 530 873-2309. They need 2 meter Ops for rest stops and NCS. Butte County ARES will hold their annual Simulates Emergency Test (SET) on May 2. Mike, KG6HMJ, is the coordinator. EL DORADO ARC: The club President, Jay KE6GLA, spent 2 weeks on Navy duty in Hawaii and was able to find time to work stations stateside as well as DX. He used a IC-706 and a Buddy Stick. Tough duty! NORTH HILLS RC: They will present "What is Amateur Radio" again this year, on April 20, at 5026 Don Julio Blvd, North Highlands. On May 16 they will hold their annual Hamswap at the Bella Vista High School, 8301 Madison Ave, Fair Oaks. EMCOMMWEST AND RENO SPRING HAMSWAP: WILL BE HELD ON

May 22-23 at the Fred Trainer Middle School in Reno. There will be a 2 day Emcomm convention, with many presentation on emergency communications as well as an ARRL forum by ARRL officials. For information and maps see [www.emcommwest.org](http://www.emcommwest.org). RIVER CITY ARCS: Kathryn Hoxie, KC8CLO, of the National Weather Service spoke to the club on the Skywarn system, using amateur operators. They will provide communications for the annual March of Dimes Walk-a-Thon April 24. Contact Dale, AD6CT at [ad6ct@arrl.net](mailto:ad6ct@arrl.net) for more info. SIERRA FOOTHILLS ARC: Rob, WW6G, and Casey, W7IB, ran a Tech Class for 6 weeks – a mix of video, lectures and question review. Larry, AE6CC and Donna, KD6PJN, helped with the VE exams. There were 18 new Technicians licensed. The speaker for the March meeting was Rui Cumba of the Placer County OES (Program Manager). He discussed how his group works with the police, fire and Homeland Security groups. Silent Key, W3PMP's wife, Irene, will hold a sale of Bob's radio equipment on May 1, 8 am, at 5695 Arrowhead, in Rocklin. YUBA SUTTER ARC: The club will provide communications for the "Bike Around the Buttes", on April 17, more Ops needed. Info- W6HBU at [firtree1@pacbell.com](mailto:firtree1@pacbell.com) for info. There will be CERT training classes beginning April 13, 7-9:30 pm, and each Tuesday and Thursday until May 6 at the Three Rivers Red Cross, 2125 E. Onstott Rd., Yuba City. Contact is Mike, W6CUJ, at [ysarc@cwnet.com](mailto:ysarc@cwnet.com). PLUMAS COUNTY RC: Terry, K6ME and a group from the club provided communication for the annual Motorcross Races on Turtle Mountain. I hope to attend their club meeting in the near future. MOTHER LODGE DXCC: Andy, AE6Y, presentation to the club was "Everything You Always Wanted to Know About WPX, But were afraid to ask". He provided information on how to best utilize your air time and increase the score. Andy also showed pictures of his exotic DX QTH in Aruba. The club made a Multi-Single entry in CQ's WPX contest. THANKS: Thanks for your support of the ARRL and me. 73, Jettie, W6RFF

## **San Francisco**

San Francisco Section News - March & April 2004 Be sure to plan on attending the Valley of the Moon ARC Hamfest in Sonoma on Saturday, April 24th. The swap, breakfast, exhibits, vendors and VE session begin at 8 AM and last until about 1 PM. The event will be held at the Veteran's Memorial Bldg, 126 First Street West in Sonoma. For more info, check [www.vomarc.org](http://www.vomarc.org) If you aren't attending VOMARC's Hamfest, then you must be heading for the International DX convention at the Holiday Inn in Visalia. Starting on Friday and running through midday Sunday, this is the premier DX convention on the west coast. For more info, check [www.scdxc.org/visalia](http://www.scdxc.org/visalia) The bunch at the ARISS Telebridge at the Santa Rosa Junior College handled two ISS contacts in March. On March 1st, they patched the students from the Armstrong Middle School in Flint, MI to Astronaut Mike Foale KB5UAC. At the console for the contact was AMSAT School Mentor Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV. The following week on the 8th, with Herb Sullivan K6QXB at the switch, the station facilitated a contact from the DuBose Middle School in Summerfield, SC to Mike on the ISS. The contacts were arranged by ARISS Contact Coordinator Tim Bosma W6ISS, who was also at the station during the contacts with Don Dalby KE6UAY. The SRJC station was built in 1995 by AMSAT volunteers and some of Herb's students. It has made many contacts to the shuttles, MIR and now ISS over the years for

local and international school's students. On March 18th, the Humboldt Amateur Radio Club was honored for it's Mobile Communication Vehicle project by the USDA Rural Community Fund. The event was held at the McKinleyville Sheriff's substation. Leaders from the Sacramento office of the USDA went to Humboldt to view the recently acquired CommVan #2 that was purchased by funds received as a result of a grant proposal submitted by HARC President Marci Campbell KE6IAU (who is also our ASM). Marci received a letter from the USDA congratulating her and the club for their dedication in providing support to their community through Amateur Radio. An article on the award and the club was published in the Times-Standard newspaper. Way to go, Marci & HARC! The DelNorte Amateur Radio Club has started having a coffee on the first Saturday of each month. Club President Lori Bennett-Tetrick KF6VFI started the monthly coffee at the Apple Peddler to offer an informal meeting to just rag chew. Public Service season has started. On Sunday, April 18th the Sonoma County Radio Amateurs provided communications and SAG wagons for the MS Society's walk through downtown Santa Rosa. SCRA provides communications support for quite a number of agencies during the year. The Marin OES Club has been granted affiliated status with the ARRL. The club meets quarterly in Marin County. Welcome to the group! 73, Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV

## **San Joaquin Valley**

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY SECTION Report for the month of March 2004: 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. Emergency Coordinators are needed in Mono and Calaveras Counties. Contact K6IN (k6in@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 2004 Fresno Hamfest will also be the San Joaquin Valley Section Convention and will be held at the Ramada Inn University as Shaw and 41 in Fresno. The dates are April 30 to May 2. For more information on the SJV Section Convention, visit the Fresno ARC web site at <http://www.qsl.net/w6to/ota.html>. You can download the registration form from the web page. On Friday, there will be a golf get together. Friday Afternoon April 30 Dan Miller, K3UFG, will present an ARECC Seminar from 1 to 5 PM. ARRL to sponsor ARES/RACES/ARECC seminar in Fresno -- The ARRL will offer a free Amateur Radio Emergency Communications seminar on Friday, April 30, in conjunction with the San Joaquin Valley Section Convention in CA. The seminar will not include the Level I course itself. This program is designed to explain in greater detail the duties of all Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course participants and how their volunteer efforts are essential to the ARES Field Organization. This seminar will explain the importance of every team player with emphasis on using lessons learned to effectively move Amateur Radio emergency communications to the next level," said ARRL Emergency Communications Course Manager Dan Miller, K3UFG. All ARES/RACES volunteers, ARECC course participants, and Field Organization leadership are invited. Course participants at every ARECC level -- Mentors,

Certification Instructors, Certification Examiners and current students -- will be encouraged to come and share with everyone their experiences with the ARECC Program. Field Organization Leadership -- SMs, SECs, DECs and ECs -- are also invited to join in the brainstorming with ideas for motivating volunteers and coordinating activities. We will focus on coordination between ARECC volunteers and students, and their integration into the Field Organization, helping us to provide the community impact stressed by CNCS for year 2. Attendees will receive handouts and be eligible for a prize drawing at the end of the seminar. There will be a technical program on Saturday, with presenters, K6QI, Mike Staal, K6MYC, Wayne Overbeck, N6NB, Rob Hill, Dan Miller, K3UFG, Bob Vallio, W6RGG, and W6TE, KA6Y. The Hamfest Luncheon will have a speaker from Jet Propulsion Laboratory. The Sunday breakfast will feature Rob Hill from Antenna Magic. QSL cards for DXCC, WAS, VUCC, and WAZ may be checked on Saturday. Have all forms completed and bring the award fees, check or credit card and an addressed envelope to send the paperwork. Amateur Exams will be given on Sunday May 2 at 1:00 P.M. Check at the ARRL Booth for information on the exams. The International DX Convention will be April 23-25, 2004 at the Holiday Inn at Visalia. Check [sdcxc.org/visalia2004](http://sdcxc.org/visalia2004) for information. EMCOMM West 2004 will be May 22-23, 2004 in Reno NV. Check [www.emcomwest.org](http://www.emcomwest.org) for schedules and information. If your club would like news of their activities and events listed here, please send the information to your SM, [w6dpd@arrl.org](mailto:w6dpd@arrl.org). The following Radio Amateurs became Silent Keys in March: W6GV, N6ECH, WB6DJK. They will be missed. The Tuolumne County AREC has an YL net Sundays at 08:00 PM on 147.945-, PL 100. KD6FFX is the net control. The Turlock ARC held a 1 day Technician Class on March 6. K6SUU was in charge. Members of the Lodi ARC helped with communications at the Lodi Grape Festival. W6TE qualified for 6m VUCC and for WAZ. N1FW qualified for WAS. Congrats to W6ASO, W6EZ, and WA7MSD on completing the ARECC Level 1 course and to W6MSU on completing ARECC Level 2. The Manteca ARC had 16 take CPR and First Aid Training. Traffic for March: W6MSU 3 PSHR K6RAU 54.

## **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. This is a busy time for regulatory matters. Comment deadlines for two FCC matters are rapidly approaching. Comments on the RM-10867 petition, ARRL's license restructuring proposals are due by Friday, April 23rd. The FCC has not issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on license restructuring yet, but is seeking initial comments on this and related proposals. Comments on the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking ET Docket 03-104 (Broadband over Power Lines) are due on Monday, May 3rd. I hear lots of amateurs in the section talking about these two proposals, but the only real way to have some say in what ultimately happens is to file thoughtful, considered and factual comments to the FCC. The FCC also has just released a wide-ranging Notice of Proposed Rulemaking WT Docuet 04-140 covering many different aspects of the Amateur

Radio Service rules. It consists of many smaller items and it's not generally as controversial as the first two proposals, but still worth a look. The comment deadline for this proposal is Monday, June 15th. This year for my "Field Day Marathon" I am planning to start in the northeast corner of the state, and will focus on Areas 1, 2 and 3. If you're in that part of the state, please send me information about your group's Field Day plans so I can try to visit. With hurricane season upon us soon, it's a good idea to check a few things to make sure you are ready for whatever happens. 1) Make sure you are personally prepared to deal with a disaster - if you aren't, then it is unlikely you will be able to help us out with communications. I have some personal disaster preparedness information on [www.ncarrrl.org](http://www.ncarrrl.org), and there are other good sources of this information listed there. Also try [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov). 2) Make sure any equipment you might use during a disaster is in good working order. Make sure your radios are still working and you know how to use them. Crank your generators regularly, not just on Field Day. 3) Make sure you practice and train with your ARES group regularly. If you only show up for actual disasters, you won't be of much help. Professional athletes practice at least weekly, sometimes daily; not because they don't know the game, but because teamwork and performance are maintained only with consistent practice. Hams who only pass traffic once a year won't be efficient at it if they have to do it on short notice. Work with your team regularly, and it will show! Everyone has something to contribute; some of us are good at putting up portable towers, others are good at operating, and others still are good at gathering supplies. Find out where you fit and work with the team. Hamfests: Saturday, May 15: Williamston NC (sponsored by Roanoke ARS); same day in Winterville NC will be an Antique Radio Show and Sale (sponsored by East Carolina Antique Radio Club). Saturday, May 29: Durhamfest. I expect to be at the Dayton Hamvention the weekend of the 15th and therefore will miss the first two, but I am planning to be at the Durhamfest. March Traffic: W4EAT 5638 (BPL), W4DAC 1186 (BPL), W4UEF 348, K4IWW 273, W0UCE 209, AA4YW 196, K4RLD 173, WD4LSS 151, K7UGT 108, KE4JHJ 89, KF4OCU 80, W3HL 79, WA4OBR 78, AD4XV 68, W4LN 39, KG4OQA 35, KE4AHC 32, K4BMH 19, WA4SRD 17, W4IRE 14, AG4ZB 13. March PSHR: K4RLD 175, K7UGT 170, W4EAT 130, K4IWW 120, AD4XV 120, W4DAC 110, KE4JHJ 110, WD4LSS 101, W0UCE 100, K4BMH 97, KG4OQA 89, W4LN 89, KF4OCU 85, AA4YW 80, N4JBP 72.

## **South Carolina**

Greetings to all Amateur Radio Operators. This is Dr. Jim, N2ZZ with the April 2004 South Carolina Section Manager's Report! Please remember that the SC Section website can be found at [www.qsl.net/arrl-sc/](http://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! On March 27th, Florence County ARES provided communications for the McLeod Sports Medicine's 10K/5K Run/Walk. Communications were provided between the water stations, sweep vehicles, and operators served as a shadow for the director. Thanks to Mac Cullom, K4AVR, and wife Suzie, KG4YVK, for bringing their RV and using it as a net control station. Mike Duff, KG4SLH, Assistant PIC set up an amateur radio display-- complete with a TV showing the amateur radio video-- in front of the RV. The Florence club and Florence ARES will be using Mac's "net control RV" again at the Mayfly air show on May 1st and 2nd. This event will be held at the Florence Regional

Airport, and will require 36 or more volunteers per day. Volunteers and their immediate families (Spouse and Children) will receive complementary tickets for the show. Bobby Collins, KG4BZK, Florence EC reports good response to the request for volunteer help, but more volunteers are needed. Please contact him if you would like to participate: kg4bzk@arrl.net . Speaking of May 1st, another event will be taking place in the Upstate- the Upstate Hamfest! This is the South Carolina Section Convention and will be held in Spartanburg. Dan Henderson N1ND from ARRL headquarters contest branch will be attending, and will be speaking on "Logbook of the World" as well as other topics. For more information, visit their website <http://www.upstatehamfest.org> or contact John Hoyt N5UGD hamfest@brars.org . I hope to see everyone there! I enjoyed attending the Union Hamfest on April 3rd. Thanks go to Roger Gregory W4RWG and the Union Hamfest Committee for a great hamfest. Thanks also to the ARRL-SC team that attended: Dan KF4VIS, PIC, Adam AF4QZ, STM, Charlie AE4UX SEC and Les K4NK, Roanoke Division Vice Director. See everyone May 1st at the Upstate Hamfest! Brian KR4SP, ACC has informed me of several foxhunts in the Upstate by the Foothills ARC, Greer ARC and Anderson ARC. Congratulations! We will try to keep the events and notices current on the [www.qsl.net/arrl-sc/](http://www.qsl.net/arrl-sc/) website! Congratulations to Barbara KA4UIV for being named "South Carolina Single Sidebander of the Year" by the SC SSB net on April 7th. Thanks go to Miss Emmie KA4LRM, Tom WA4VYS, Johnnie WA4UGD and all the others that compiled the 2004 SC SSB net roster, which looks great! If you haven't received yours, just check in to the SC SSB net on 3915 at 7pm local time, and send a request to Miss Emmie, KA4LRM. Of note, the SC SSB net has announced plans for their net picnic to be held on June 12th at 1pm at Dreher Island State Park on Lake Murray, Picnic Shelter #9. Well, that will do it for now! Thanks to all for a great month! March 2004 South Carolina NTS Reports: Station Activity Reports (Sent / Received / Delivered / Originated / Total): KA4UIV/132/143/5/0/280; KG4VDR/15/11/21/0/47; WA4UGD/0/34/2/0/36; KA4LRM/9/15/6/0/30; K4RKC/5/20/0/0/25; WB4PCS/2/3/2/0/7 Public Service Honor Roll: KA4UIV 100; KA4LRM 90 Net Reports (Net Name / Check Ins / Traffic / Sessions / Reported By): Anderson 2 Meter Net/1032/41/31/KA4LRM; Blue Ridge 2 Meter Net /2302/42/31/K4SUG; Carolina's Net (CW)/444/217/62/K4IWW; Columbia ARC 2 Meter Net/148/8/8/K4RKC; Greater Pee Dee 2 Meter Net/870/34/31/K4DTT; Greenwood 2 Meter Friendly Net/641/29/31/W4JAK; Lancaster County 2 Meter Net/206/24/13/N4WMB; SC SSB Net/1372/136/31/WA4UGD Again, to all, thanks for your contributions to Amateur Radio! '73 de Dr. Jim N2ZZ ARRL Section Manager South Carolina Section [www.qsl.net/arrl-sc](http://www.qsl.net/arrl-sc)

## **Rocky Mountain Division**

### **New Mexico**

Section News For The Month of March, 2004 New Mexico Bill Weatherford, KM5FT ASM: K5BIS, N5ART, W5PDY; SEC, W5YEJ; STM, N7IOM. NM's: WA5UNO & W5UWY; TC, W8GY; ACC, N5ART. The annual Spring Tailgate in Albuquerque is coming up Saturday, April 24. It will be at the Del Norte High School North parking lot, where the Winter Tailgate

was held. The next day, Sunday, April 25, is the Bean Feed in Las Cruces. These are both great events, so check them out. Now that Spring is here, why not volunteer for some of the public service events coming up? Contact Ed Ricco, N5LI, to see where your talents can be best used. It's not too early to start planning for Field Day, June 26 and 27. Contact your local club and join the Field Day fun. You might even enjoy it! Registration for the next Level III Emergency Communications on-line course (EC-003) opens Monday, April 19, at 12:01 A.M., Eastern Daylight Time (0401 UTC). Registration remains open through the April 24-25 weekend or until all available seats have been filled – whichever comes first. Class begins Tuesday, May 4. Approximately 50 seats are being offered to ARRL members on a first-come, first-served basis. Thanks to a grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service and United Technologies Corporation, the \$45 registration fee paid upon enrollment will be reimbursed after successful completion of the course. To learn more, visit the ARRL Certification and Continuing Education (C-CE) web page and the links found there. For more information, contact Emergency Communications Course Manager Dan Miller, K3UFG, (860) 594-0340. The FCC has released an “omnibus” Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) that seeks comments on a wide range of proposed Amateur Service (Part 97) rule changes. The NPRM is a result of a dozen petitions for rule making, all filed more than a year ago and some as long ago as 2001. Comments on the proposals are due by Tuesday, June 15, with reply comments by Wednesday, June 30. Among other changes, the FCC has recommended adopting the ARRL's “Novice refarming” plan, which can be seen on the web at [. The FCC said “Because the ARRL petition addresses the operating privileges of all classes of licensees on these Amateur Service bands, we believe that the ARRL petition provides a basis for a comprehensive restructuring of operating privileges.”](#) The NPRM, on the web at [, in WT Docket 04-140, is available on the FCC web site. If you're in the Deming area on Thursday nights, check into their net. It's on the 146.820 repeater at 7:30 p.m. And, if you've got Six Meter gear, check out the Sunday night nets around Albuquerque. One is on FM simplex on 52.02 at 7:30 p.m., and one is on SSB on 50.150 USB at 8:00 p.m. March net counts: Caravan Club Net 50/4; NM Roadrunner Net 1300/109; Rusty's Raiders 798/121; Valencia County ARA NET 84/13; SCAT Net 613/7; NM Breakfast Club 1075/168; Four Corners Net 424/20; Yucca Net 508/35; Deming ARC Net 99/12; Gila ARS Net 46/7. Lots of great newsletters from around the state: Totah ARC; The Communicator; QRL?; HDARC; Que Pasa DX; Valencia County ARA; Albuquerque Amateur Radio Club. Somebody is putting a lot of effort into these and it shows. Thank you and keep up the good work. We welcome the High Desert Amateur Radio Club as an ARRL affiliated club. They're new and if you live on the West side of Albuquerque, or in Rio Rancho, give their president, Frank Warren, AB5WJ, a call. They meet the second Saturday of the month, 2:00 P.M., at Fire Station 1 on Southern in Rio Rancho. We mourn the loss of Jaime Smith, W2AWD, Scott Van Omen, KC5RUS, and Leo Bressen, WD5HCB, and extend our condolences to their families. 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; ASM/Youth: Andrea Hartlage, KG4IUM; 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. It's true, y'know. A friend in need is a friend, indeed. Members of the Middle GA ARC have certainly proven themselves to be friends during a time of need for fellow club member CLYDE MATHES, WB4BDP. Since a devastating fire destroyed Clyde's home and most of his belongings at the end of last month, club members have been right there for him, shoulder to shoulder, helping to clear away the debris and assisting as Clyde picks up the pieces of his life and begins the arduous task of starting over again. Clyde, our DEC for AFMARS and longtime active ARES member and storm spotter extraordinaire, could still use help. See [www.wr4mg.org](http://www.wr4mg.org) to see what you can do to help. Congratulations to DALE CULP, W1BPP, who has accepted the DEC position for Navy/ Marine Corps MARS. Dale has served GA ARES in many capacities over the years, and is currently also serving as our Red Cross DEC, a position which he has graciously agreed to maintain until someone else volunteers to take it. If you're interested in serving as our DEC liaison for Red Cross, please contact our SEC MIKE BOATRIGHT, KO4WX at [ko4wx@arrl-ga.org](mailto:ko4wx@arrl-ga.org) or drop me a note. Hip! Hip! Hooray! Three cheers for CHARLIE NORWOOD, the first GA legislator to sign on as a co-sponsor for the Spectrum Protection Bill. That's a start, folks. Keep those letters going. Remember: it's the squeaky wheel that gets the oil, so let's keep on squeakin'. A great big thank you to STEVE REYNOLDS, W4CNG, DEC for metro Atlanta, and to all of his ECs. These guys achieved the elusive goal of 100% reporting this month. Close behind was the NW District, under DEC FELTON FLOYD, AF4DN, with 16 out of 17 reporting, for a fine 94.1% reporting level. That's great! You guys are doing better and better every month, and I appreciate your efforts. Don't forget: reports are due the 5th of every month. [www.gaares.org](http://www.gaares.org) Thanks!! Apologies to the fella who sent me an email telling me that neither of the CAP websites on NTIA compliance were working. I "lost" your email in the crowd, so couldn't reply. Sorry about that. Thanks for the "heads up", though. If anyone knows of a working website with accurate information on NTIA compliance, please let me know, so I can share it with the rest of our GA hams. Coming up right around the corner: the Calhoun hamfest, April 24, 8 AM- 2PM, at the Sugar Valley Community Center. Talk-in on 146.745(-)PL 100. For more info, see [www.qsl.net/k4woc/hamfest.htm](http://www.qsl.net/k4woc/hamfest.htm) Also, on that same weekend, on the 23rd and 24th, big doings in Marietta, at the SE VHF Conference, at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites. See [http://www.svhfs.org/cong\\_2004.htm](http://www.svhfs.org/cong_2004.htm) for details. Looking forward to making both of these events. (where there's a will, there's a way!) Sadly, two SKs to report: BILL FISHER, W4AN, and CHARLES FORRESTER, WA4BKM. Sincere condolences to the family members and the many many friends these fine men leave behind. Well, that's about it for now. Until next time, this is AF4FO, signing clear. Take care of yourselves. And each other. 73, Susan [www.arrl-ga.org](http://www.arrl-ga.org) QTC March: \*\*WB4GGS-590\*\*>; K4FUM-359; AF4NS-185; W4WXA-153; K4WKT-71; KG4WBH-58; W9NXC-42; K1FP-35; K4BEH-34; WB4BIK-31; KR4JI-23; KG4FXG-4 \*\*Yup! He did it again!! Congratulations to SID HUTCHINSON, WB4GGS, for earning yet another Brass Pounder Award.

## **Southern Florida**

Section Emergency Coordinator KD4GR (contact for ARES and Emergency Communications questions, OES and EC reports); Section Traffic Manager K4PG (contact for NTS questions, Station Activity Reports, Public Service Reports, Net coordination); Affiliated Club Coordinator/Technical Coordinator WA4AW (contact for Affiliation questions, Club questions, Technical issues) ASM KA4FZI, ASM W4WYR, Official Observer Coordinator W4WLR (contact for operating violations) SGL W1XO, DEC/ASM N4LEM, K9SHT, AA4BN. SFL WEB PAGE: <http://www.sflarrl.org>. SFL News and photos:

<http://www.arrl.org/sections/SFL.html> (This was updated on 4/17.) Spring is here. I see the signs. Snowbirds (both feathered and human) heading north, amaryllis in bloom, Field Day plans, proms, talk of Dayton trips, etc. April 18-24 is National Volunteer Week. Thank you Volunteers! Any time you spend volunteering with amateur radio or any other group is appreciated. Organizations and communities cannot function without you – the most important folks – the volunteers. Last months traffic and public service reports are below. (Looks like we still have computer problems – records are being saved and I will post update, hopefully, next month so that reports are archived for the yearly CD). I have updated the SFL News with new photos, articles, and club news. Please visit both web sites listed above to find information to answer many of your questions, broaden your radio knowledge, and find new ideas for your clubs. February 2004 SAR - K4FQ 433, WA9VND 397, KA4FZI 329, WA2YL 196, KD4GR 143, K4PG 135, KE4UOF 133, WA4EIC 126, KN4JN 65, AA4BN 59, KG4MLD 42, KG4MLC 34, KG4ILJ 26, KT4XK 25, KG4CHW 25, K4VMC 20, N9WS 17, KG4EQY 16, AF4NR 16, W4WYR 15, KF4OMB 13, K4OVC 9, WY4F 7, W2JI 4, W4DKB 2, KE4WBI 1 BPL - K4FQU BPL FOR 100 OR MORE ORIGINATIONS (165) PSHR - KE4UOF 130, KG4CHW 100, KA4FZI 120, AA4BN 94, KD4GR 110, KG4MLD 85, WA2YL 110, KG4MLC 80, WA4EIC 100, WY4F 17 TS reports were received from the following: WB2QLP, N4BG, K4AW, W4REN, K2UGH, KF4KDO, KR4GQ, and W4KPG. EC's reporting: N4LEM, N4KFR, WA4ASJ, WA4GUK, N3PYQ, AD4RZ, N4QPM, and AA4PN. The Section SET is scheduled for May 17 through 23 with a CAT exercise. 73, GUD DX, And CU in the FQP Sherri, W4STB

## **Southwestern Division**

### **Arizona**

Several people (Clifford E. Hauser, KD6XH, Mike Zonnefield, W0LTL, Keri Sylvyn, and Bill Jorden, K7KI) have met with four (4) of the five (5) Pima County supervisors, Ann Day, Ray Carroll, Richard Elias, and Ramon Valadez, on the proposed change to the Pima county amateur radio antenna/tower height limitation. Our position has been made very apparent to each supervisor, “No change to the existing ordinance is necessary because there have been no safety issues or no other complaints over the last several years and thus any change will be in violation of PRB-1, reasonable antenna height and limited restrictions”. We tried to answer their concerns regarding safety, community service, and our involvement in the county emergency service

organizations to include the Red Cross, Salvation Army, and other volunteer organizations that are supported by amateur radio personnel. We will meet with the fifth county supervisor, Sharon Bronson, on Wednesday 07 April 2004. The County Supervisors meeting that will decide the proposed ordinance change will take place on: 13th of April, County Supervisors Board Room, 130 W. Congress, Tucson, AZ, Starting at 9:00 AM. We need all amateur radio operators who are interested in the outcome of this proposed ordinance change to be present. The more people we have the better it will look to the supervisors that we are really interested in our community. Please attend. Please see the ARRL Arizona Section Web site, <http://www.arrl.org/sections/AZ.html> for a recap on what the present and proposed changes to the amateur radio antenna ordinance to be reviewed and decided on by the county supervisors. Now for the other news about Arizona: The Cochise Amateur radio association will hold its Hamfest on 01 May 2004 in Sierra Vista. Kachina ARC will have its Hamfest on 5-6 June 2004 in Show Low. 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 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". 73 from Clifford Hauser, KD6XH; E-mail is [kd6xh@arrl.org](mailto:kd6xh@arrl.org) or [kd6xh@comcast.net](mailto:kd6xh@comcast.net).

## **Los Angeles**

Associated Radio Amateurs of Long Beach are planning a month long exhibit depicting the History of Amateur Radio in the Long Beach area. The display will run from May 3rd to May 29th at the Long Beach Public Library. (Main Branch) To learn more visit the ARALB web site: You may also contact Michael J. Fox, W6MJF ; vy 73, Phineas, W6BF

## San Diego

Thanks to all who supported me in the election and especially in the time of my health distress. I feel great now and am ready for action! But this malady is a wakeup call for everyone to let them know that the human body is very fragile and breaks so easily. We need to prepare for the worst and be very thankful when we are well. Disaster Planning goes further than having supplies stocked up or having plenty of Radios ready. What will happen if suddenly we are a Silent Key? Yes, it is grim to consider, but we must have all aspects covered "Just in case". This means having family members knowing what to do should the unthinkable occur. Often, Hooligans will try to weasle a priceless radio collection out of a grieving widow "just to help her out." These folks belong in JAIL! Many radio clubs, like the ARC of El Cajon, have Survivor Assistance programs where they evaluate and help dispose of the "junk" and insure the widow receives a fair market value for the goods. Valiant, tireless Hams like Tom N6JOJ, Erich W6LKK and Gary N6LRV have helped out the widows of many silent keys over the years and are still ready to help. I know other clubs have this program too, but I am not sure of the participants. Though you feel great today, make a list of what is valuable and keep it handy. I felt fine too moments before I took the Ambulance ride. My suffering wife just about had to dispose of MILLIONS of pounds of Electronic Debris. (Some worth alot, others not quite as valuable.) I have been on a collecting binge for decades now. "I just may find a use for it someday" is my motto. Indeed I do in many cases. That 20K 1/2 watt resistor is there in the box just waiting for me to solder it in a circuit Even that massive transformer for a KW power supply that I probably will never build is there too. That is how a Million pounds grew. But how can a widow dispose of all this? Just call a local club and they will be happy to help. Some of it might wind up in one of those 10 foot high Dumpsters they are using to pile the burnt housing remanants up here in Crest. But I hope the very valuable precision parts and equipment finds a happy new home where ANOTHER ham can begin to build his junkpile! ARES is up and THRIVING!!! After a spell in the doldrums, it has been given a new lease on life and the April meeting was spectacular. Thanks to all the RAVES members for coming back and joining in on the fun. We have pledged a closer relationship with our sister organization RACES. Dual memberships is encouraged and highly desirable. Wonderful plans are on the horizon to make this very valuable organization flourish and prosper. But we need YOU to come and help. Being an ARES member only requires that you have an interest in helping out during Emergencies or Disasters. Of course, we have plenty of Public Service events like Bike runs, foot races and Beach cleanups to practice and hone our communication skills on. ARES has been a long time partner with the Special Olympics keeping them efficient. As we prepare for the worst, like we had during the Firestorm, we have fun and get to use our Rigs for the greater good of mankind. Our ARES meetings are held at 8AM on the 2nd Sat of the month at GIOVANNIS restaurant (Southwest corner of Ruffin Rd and Claremont Mesa Blvd just West of Interstate 15), in the back room where we can discuss all we want. The staff has been most accomodating to us and provides us with excellent chow and service. See you there! CLUBS!!!! Are you up to date with the League? I reviewed the ARRL club page and some of the info dates back to the mid 90s!!! Contact our Affiliated Club Coordinator Marcia KG6FIX and give her fresh data for the Website. We want to have accurate info so visitors and new hams can discover the many fine

clubs in the area. Marcia will help you in every way and also if your group would like to become a new ARRL Affiliated club as well. Clubs are the bond which is so vital to Ham's existence. I so enjoy the many club meetings attended each month, just wish some didn't fall on the same days. A fine place besides our Website to find where a club is near you is the Notice board up at HRO. Most clubs have flyers there to take home and peruse. If your club doesn't, now you know where to put them. JOIN A CLUB!! You will be forever glad you did!! 73, Pat WA6MHZ  
ARRL SDG SM

## West Gulf Division

### Oklahoma

April 25 is the OKC Murrah Memorial Marathon with thousands of participants expected with Amateur Radio playing a huge part in event communication. Tom-WA9AFM is coordinating the Amateur Radio role in the marathon. Two upcoming events to partake of: -Tri-State Amateur Radio Group-Hamfest on Saturday-May 1 in Woodward Contact Jay k5gud@arrl.net Should be a great hamfest with planned League forum. -Salvation Army Disaster Conference-May 2-4 near Tahlequah Mark ae5mh@sbcglobal.net for information and registration Jerry-K5YAA notes the following results from the recent OK DXA QSO party: OK Counties on the air-77 (meaning at least one rover in every OK county) Number of states in OK logs-50 including District of Columbia How many of the 9 Canadian multipliers in OK logs-7 16-Number of countries in OK logs. Traffic report provided by Arlyn Seidel-KKGY Section Traffic Manager: Public Service Honor- WA5OUV, N5IKN, KK5GY, & W5CU Net Managers Reporting: KB5BQB, WB5NKD, N5VEA, KM5GZ, KC5OKG, KD5FX, KC5NW, KA7GLA, & W5JPI Station Activity Reports (SAR) WB5NKC 1510, WB5NKD 587, N5IKN 300, KK5GY 282, WA5OUV 239, KI5LQ 137 & W5CU 86 First Quarter 2004 (January 1-March 31. Totals of the 16 reporting nets: Sessions-486, Checkins-4581, Traffic-3163 Congratulations to Assistant SM Eddie-KD5JGB on receiving recognition in May 2004 QST. This was expressed on page 13 in the ARRL in Action narrative section for his published BPL article in the OK Emergency Manager's Association newsletter. Nicely done Eddie! This effort represents the OK Section focus on working with our served agencies on a statewide level and beyond. Similar energy is underway with the National Weather Service, OK & National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters, Salvation Army and Red Cross. Similar vision has resulted in the OK Section Cabinet recent meeting and planned HF Section cabinet HF net set for April 25. It is felt what we accomplish within the OK Section, in large part, is based on successful networking on a statewide level and beyond in promoting ARRL connections with our served and sister agencies. The Mayes County ARC and OU ARC recently completed special activities to draw attention to Amateur Radio and expand the role. The Mayes County group was a part of a public exhibit of public service entities and made huge strides in connecting with the broadcast media. An antenna day with several presenters, including Coy Day-N5OK, West Gulf Director was hosted by the OU crew. Kudos to the Southern OK ARES club in Ardmore for their League affiliation. Great club meeting and cookout hosted by the club on April 17 to receive their affiliation certificate from Coy Day-

N5OK Division Director. Section Affiliated Club Coordinator Jim-N5OHL and SM were a part of the festivities. The Wheatstraw ARC hosted a visit on April 18 by N5OHL and the SM. Appreciate the club's effort in Amateur Radio. The March meeting by the Edmond ARS had the following to present: David Barnes-City of Edmond Emergency Manager, Section staff-John-KA7GLA, Dean-KL7MA, Dave-N7HRT, Jim-N5OHL and the SM. Great information sharing as Lucien-KD5LPV District Emergency Coordinator discussed OK County ARES operations. 73, John-WB5SYT