



MAY 2022

# Sussex Repeater

Sussex Amateur Radio Association

Breakfast Meet and Greet  
At Pizza King in Millsboro on  
Thursday mornings at 8 am. Join  
an ever-changing group of 'hams'  
to have coffee and/or breakfast  
and talk all things ham.

## Local Weekly Nets

SARA Club Net: Tuesday 8pm  
147.090 (+) 156.7  
Followed by C4FM Net at 449.825

Nanticoke Club Net: Monday 8pm  
146.715 (-) 156.7

Delaware Fusion Net: Monday 8:30  
145.210(-) 156.7

Lewes Club Net: Wednesday 7:15pm  
147.330(+) 156.7

Delaware Traffic Net: Mon – Sat  
6:30pm Freq: 3.905

Delaware Emergency Net:  
Sunday, 6:30pm Freq: 3.905

Sussex ARES Net: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed.  
7pm 147.090(+) 156.7

System Fusion repeater frequencies:  
Millsboro 449.825  
Seaford 145.210

[www.sussexamateurradio.com](http://www.sussexamateurradio.com)  
<https://www.facebook.com/SARAHamRadio>  
Email: [SussexAmateurRadio@gmail.com](mailto:SussexAmateurRadio@gmail.com)

President: Butch Wlaschin (WAØCIE)  
Vice Pres: Barbara Dean (KC3LGE)  
Treasurer: Stuart Banta (KC3MAL)  
Secretary: Donna Spencer (KC3IHV)

## MAY MEETING IN PERSON

On Thursday, May 19, 2022, we will have an in-person SARA Club meeting at Mulligan's Pointe Country Club, in Georgetown. You will be able to purchase dinner beginning at 18:00 and the business meeting begins at about 19:00.

Masks are optional. FCC License Testing begins at 18:00.



Tim Reisinger (KC3OO) will be our speaker for the May meeting. The topic for discussion is the FT-8 and what it is all about.



The successful 2022 HAMFEST is in the rearview mirror and we are starting to plan for 2023 HAMFEST.



**JUNE 4, 2022**

10:00 AM—3:00 PM



**At Waller's outdoor flea market for  
ham radio see details page 4.**

# From the desk of Butch WAØCIE SARA PRESIDENT

Good evening from the windswept beaches of southern Delaware. After a brisk walk along the Bethany Beach boardwalk and along the dunes at Fenwick Island, much of our multi-million dollar beach replenishment has once again washed out to sea. That tends to slow down the number of tourists coming to the beach, and makes those that come to the beach fight for what little beach remains.

That said, I really had a great time at the Georgetown Hamfest. Jamie and his collaborators did a wonderful job. I thought I made the rounds and talked to lots of visitors and shoppers, but was surprised by some who commented on the air that they didn't know I was there. Maybe I need to stand on a ladder next time to make the announcements. My hat's off to Bill (N3ID) for the great Coastal Delaware Marathon event on Sunday April 24. It was good to see everyone there. I heard plenty of wonderful comments about the "radio" operators. And the same was heard about the radio operators covering the Ocean to Bay Bike ride. Truly a busy month for SARA hams. My thanks to all.

This past Saturday Barb put together a workshop to introduce everyone to the FUSION radio, specifically C4FM. Joe (KK3JOE) and Spence (NS3F) provided us with an introduction to the terminology,

and a follow up more advanced session on May 21 will help participants learn how to make contacts on their individual HT and base stations. Make sure you sign up with Barb.

And last but not least, we are looking at hosting the ARRL Field Day event at the DSP Troop 7 facility in Rehoboth (off John Williams hwy) on June 25. We will have more details in the next couple of weeks. We hope to have 3 or 4 stations operating and could use some help (volunteers) to help set up and get on the air. Let's talk about it at our meeting on May 19.

Thanks again to everyone for a great month.

Butch WAØCIE

## The REAL cost of Ham Radio

Used starter rig/antennas	\$800
ARRL Membership	49
Local club membership	20
Club hat/vest/memorabilia	150
House repairs from damage for antenna access hole	1800
New chair for shack	169
Amplifier	2500
Electrician bill for 220v to shack	1600
Electrician bill from amp blowing kitchen breaker	1100
New computer for logging/digi modes	1600
Money for <u>XYL</u> for HER HOBBY	10000
New tower and antennas	3700
New homeowners insurance because towers not allowed	3100
Legal fees from HOA	8000
HOA fines for antennas	5000
More money for <u>XYL</u> hobby	19500
New rural home to get away from HOA	475,000
Money for <u>SOTA</u> rig/antennas	2300
Medical exp. For injuries getting to <u>SOTA</u> site	8500
New <u>SUV</u> for getting to <u>SOTA</u> sites	47500
New side by side for getting to last 100 feet at <u>SOTA</u> site	16250
New RV for <u>POIA</u>	31500
New rigs/antennas for <u>POIA</u> RV	3200
Divorce	75000
1 bedroom apartment deposit/rent	2400
Used starter rig/antennas	800

TOTAL \$ 721,538



## EMERGENCY SERVICE NEWS

### After Action Reports

Have you heard the line, “the job ain’t finished ‘til the paperwork’s done”? That is never truer than completing an After Action Report (AAR) when an event or incident has ended. It is a critical piece of the planning feedback loop to improve the operation and response of an organization, the next time around. This is where you list your observations of what went well, what didn’t go so well, and therefore be improved, and any other pertinent information. You as an individual operator have a singular view of the proceedings, a perspective no one else has. Therefore, your observations are as important as any other participant.

Last Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, was the running of the Delaware Coastal Running Festival, CODEL for short. A combined group of AUXCOMM, SARA, and ARES members, 22 in all, covered twenty six plus miles of the course and watched approximately 3000 runners test themselves against the course. Now the event is over, but the work isn’t complete. Paperwork, it is critical, ICS 214’s and AAR’s, document and describe the collective activities of the group. They are slowly coming in. Oh yes, and

logging your time, on line, on the website is requested. In other words, “do it!”

I’m enjoying the unique perspective mentioned above; I was there as an operator, “Junction Bike South”. So I heard the exchanges, sort of made a mental note of the significant ones, and went on about covering my section of the J&B Trail. I have so far refrained from putting ‘pen to paper’ and crafting an AAR from my perspective of the event. For quite a few years, I’ve been the one receiving and reading the cogent prose from the group of operators at the various events and activations. Now, ‘I are one’, so to speak, who should be forthwith doing one. I’ve held off, because I’m still in the other unique position, I still get to read them. Driving home from the event, I was going over in my mind those elements of the operation that stuck out as needing mention, attention, and training. The feedback loop mentioned above should be familiar to anyone who has taken the “required four” ICS Courses, it’s the ever present “Planning P”.

So, I’ve read the AAR’s that have come in, I’ve also had the opportunity to

sit in a group discussion of several operators that were there. I also had an opportunity for a 'one on one' chat with another of the operators. Hearing it 'live' has a whole lot more impact than reading cold text. This is also known as a "Hot Wash", although that usually refers to the discussion at the conclusion of the event or incident, not a day or two later.

Alright, so you want my impression of what I saw, read and heard. In short, we did a good job, we responded appropriately, and all returned safely. That is a success, in anybody's book. Can we do better, improve our response, and be more efficient, absolutely yes. How do we accomplish those things, we use the AAR's, the operator's comments from those that were there, and figure out where and how we can make adjustments to improve? You can look forward to some additional training sessions with some new material and some exercises to practice certain critical skills. It's been said that, "practice makes perfect". It would be more correct if we said "perfect practice is what makes perfect performance. The "Planning P" is the tool to use in working through where to improve. Here's another quote for you, "Prior Planning Prevents Poor Performance"; it's known as the "5P Principle", and fits very nicely with the "Planning P".

An efficient operation is based on the appropriate use of many small details. The work of all the individual operators, smoothly executing the elements of good net protocol. The Net

Control Operators maintaining the rhythm and flow of the net traffic, create a marvelous and efficient communication system, which is awesome to experience. It is a culmination of teamwork and practice. The net operation for a marathon is not much different than the net operation for a hurricane response with damage reports and shelter statistics crowding the frequency relentlessly. The tempo is much faster, however, and there is little time or tolerance for sloppy operating. So if we get it right for CODEL and Ocean to Bay, etc., we will probably get it right for Hurricane Izzy.

Later,

John Ferguson (K3PFW)



## **WALLER'S OUTDOOR FLEA MARKET**

34087 Old Hickory Rd, Laurel, DE  
Near intersection with Susan Beach Rd  
Contact: Arthur Parks N3EAK  
amparks6@gmail.com

Buy, Sell, or Trade Ham Radio  
equipment, materials, supplies, etc.

Opportunity to meet & greet  
in the great outdoors.

Please come prepared for your personal  
comfort and needs. Bathroom on  
location.

# ARRL Announces New World Wide Digital Contest

The [ARRL World Wide Digital Contest](#) will debut at 1800 UTC on June 4, ending at 2359 on June 5, 2022. All non-RTTY modes are permitted. Going forward, RTTY will be the sole mode for the ARRL RTTY Roundup, which will continue to take place in January.

In broad strokes, this will be an HF to 6-meter event, on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, and 6 meters, with single-operator and multi-single entry categories. These are Single Operator, One Radio (SO1R), Single Operator, Two Radio (SO2R), and Multi-Single (MS). Overlays in the single-operator categories will include "all enclosed antennas" and "maximum of 8 operating hours." Single-operator entries may operate for 24 hours (with off times taken in one or two breaks that are at least 60 minutes long), while MS entries may operate for the full 30 hours.

Operating assistance is permitted for all operating categories.

Power categories will be:

- **QRP** (5 W transmitter output or less)
- **Low Power** (maximum 100 W PEP transmitter output)



The exchange for the World Wide Digital Contest will be a station's four-character grid square designation. Stations may work each other once per band, regardless of digital mode. Participants will earn 1 point for each contact, plus 1 point for each 500 kilometers (310 miles) between stations. So, a contact between stations 1,000 kilometers apart would be worth 3 points. The total score is total contact points.

ARRL makes available a grid-center [distance calculation tool](#). Options include kilometers (always rounded up), distance between pairs, and points.

For instructions on how to [submit logs](#), visit the ARRL Contest page. Logs will be due 7 days after the event has concluded.

[Full details](#) on the new operating event are on the ARRL website.



Ocean to Bay Bike Tour 2022



2022 CoDel Marathon Mile 20 marker  
436 runners passed this location!!



<http://www.arrl.org/field-day>

The link above will take you to the rules for 2022 Field Day. ARRL Field Day is the most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. On June 25, 2022, Field Day will be held at the parking lot of State Police Troop 7, 19444 Mulberry Knoll Road, Lewes.



Delaware Traffic Net Presentation  
SARA Meeting April 2022



2022 Hamfest



Setting up for  
Field Day 2021