



January 2024

Sussex Repeater

Sussex Amateur Radio Association

Local Weekly Nets

Shacktime Ragchew: Saturday 8pm
443.200 (+) 156.70

SARA Club Net: Tuesday 8pm
147.090 (+) 156.7

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

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

Delaware Traffic Net: Mon – Sat
5:30pm Freq: 3.905

Delaware Emergency Net:
Sunday, 5:30pm Freq: 3.905

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

Monitor SKYWARN weather on
147.090(+) 156.7

System Fusion repeater frequencies:
Millsboro 449.825
Seaford 145.210

MT Joy Repeater (fusion capable)
443.200 (+5) 156.7 PL

County Emergency Simplex
145.510
144.915

Winlink Simplex 145.050 & 441.00
Winlink peer to peer 145.020

www.sussexamateurradio.com

Email: SussexAmateurRadio@gmail.com

President: Paul Ross (NR3P)
Vice Pres: Deborah Libertore (A3JL)
Treasurer: Rick Long (N3RLT)
Secretary: Paul Reiger (KC3OIN)

January Meeting

This month's meeting will be on Thursday, January 18, 2024. FCC testing begins at 6:00 pm. You can purchase dinner beginning at 6:00 pm and the meeting will begin at 7:00pm.



Winter Field Day

January 27, 2024



2024 HAMFEST

In addition to the fun we have, the purpose of the annual Sussex Amateur Radio Association hamfest is to raise money to fund necessary repairs and maintenance of our repeaters.

Jamie Ashton is Chairman of the Hamfest Committee and he asks that anyone who would like to help with the event, please email hamfestdelaware@gmail.com or notify Barbara (KC3LGE) at a meeting or email sussexamateurradio@gmail.com

Hamfest will be April 20, 2024
At Georgetown Cheer Center



FROM THE DESK OF Paul Ross, President

By way of introduction, I am the other Paul Ross NR3P- not to be confused with the first Paul Ross W3FIS. That Paul Ross, W3FIS was the SARA club secretary when I joined in 2012. This Paul Ross, NR3P, was chosen to be the SARA club president in 2024. My, how times have changed!

Speaking of changes, another newly elected fellow- Steven Keller KC3DSO, will be the ARRL Delaware Section Manager in 2024. He is hitting the ground running with the announcement of a new web portal, the ARRL Delaware Section reflector in Groups.io! Steven reports that the group will be open to **all** interested Delaware amateur radio operators! See below for information about joining the online reflector group.

We are organizing and planning the SARA upcoming events and activities! Our current and newly elected club officials and any other interested parties are encouraged to let us know what events and presentations you would be interested in as club activities.

I wish to thank the outgoing officers of the club for their great work and for their help in getting the new officers on the right track:

President, Butch Wlaschin (WA0CIE)
Treasurer, R Stuart Banta (KC3MAL)
Secretary, Donna Spencer (KC3IHV)

Any organization is as good as it's leadership and this group has seen to it that we are the best.

The days soon will be getting longer and hopefully warmer!

Vy 73 de NR3P
Paul

REFLECTOR GROUP INFO:

"Hello Amateur Radio Operators in Delaware! Here is your invite to join the new ARRL Delaware Section's reflector. This reflector will be the go to place for questions, comments and suggestions. This group is open to all amateur radio operators within Delaware. The forums will allow anyone to post questions to not only other radio operators but also Section Staff for answers. This will be the conduit to and from Section Staff. Posts will be made for training, drills, exercises, meetings and other events such as weather updates. The files section will hold the Emergency Reference Sheets from not only the state but each county. The Emergency Operations Plans for the state and county's will also be available. Contact information for section staff and clubs will also be available. The community calendar will allow public posting of events to increase attendance at training events and reduce the workload of our trainers. Club meetings, drills, exercises, will also be posted. Feel free to forward this invitation to any interested amateur radio operator in Delaware.

<https://groups.io/g/ARRLDelawareSection>



Delaware Section Manager

Steven Keller KC3DSO

As I step into the role of the ARRL Delaware Section Manager, I want to express my gratitude to everyone who supported me during the election process. A special thank you goes to the outgoing Section Manager, John Ferguson, K3PFW, for his dedicated service to the section.

Throughout the election process, I had the privilege of speaking with many radio operators, both league members and non-members, who shared their thoughts on various topics. I want you to know that your concerns have been heard, and I am committed to addressing them. Communication emerged as a common theme, and to facilitate improved dialogue, I have created the ARRL Delaware Section reflector on groups.io. This platform will serve as a hub for section-wide communication among radio operators and between operators and section staff. You can find the reflector at

<https://groups.io/g/ARRLDelawareSection>.

As Section Manager I am pleased to introduce the ARRL Delaware Section Staff for 2024:

Joe Grib, KI3B, Assistant Section Manager

Wendy Horn, W3NRN, Section Emergency Coordinator

Marty Brett, AD3J, DEMA Radio Officer/DVOAD Coordinator

Dave Scott, KC3BEJ, NCC Emergency Coordinator

Joseph Farnan, KB3PTM, Wilmington Emergency Coordinator

John DiGiovani, N3LUD, Christiana CARES Emergency Coordinator

Jim Moore, KC3BTV, Kent Emergency Coordinator

Jim Baker, N3XKJ, Sussex Emergency Coordinator

James Tracy, KC3JJS, SHOC Emergency Coordinator

Pat Ryan, KW3Z, State Government Liaison

John Lowe, K3JL, Section Traffic Manager

Chris Cote, KE5NJ, Section Youth Coordinator

Our dedicated section staff members have diverse experience, not only in league activities but also in emergency communications and contesting. They will be visiting clubs in the coming months, so please take the opportunity to introduce yourself.

Emergency Communications is a primary focus, and our Section Staff will be updating both county and section Emergency Operations Plans, along with the Emergency Reference Sheets, before the 2024 Hurricane Season. You can find a new DELMARVA frequency list on the section reflector in the files section, providing a valuable resource for radio programming. Additionally, the FCC has removed the outdated baud rate on HF, allowing Pactor 4 usage starting 08 JAN 24 - a significant upgrade for the EmComm community. An asserted effort will be placed on expanding/upgrading

the Delaware State 2m analog linking system. Having statewide communications is essential for us to have a prepared section.

Assistant Section Manager Joe Grib, KI3B, successfully ran the Section's Volunteers On The Air Event as W1AW/3. Kudos to all stations representing Delaware, making over 1200 contacts and accumulating over 14k points.

I extend a warm welcome to new/upgrading amateurs in our community:

KB3ZIK Carmine Annone III Wilmington
KC3BGU George Segeda Newark
KC3WZR Sarah Bucic Wilmington
KC3YAS Anne Kurtz Ocean View
KB3KRJ Christopher Sanger Wilmington
KC3BPL Colin Van Every Wilmington
KB3ZOP Eric Remington Newark
KC3YDD Michael Miles Laurel
KC3YDX Michael Faulkner Felton

January brings not only a change in weather but also several contests, including Kid's Day on January 6 and the VHF Contest from January 20-22. For details on all contests, visit the ARRL website.

In closing, I want to emphasize my open contact policy. Please feel free to call, email, or text me with any questions. I am eager to work with each of you over the next two years to enrich our shared hobby.

73,
Steven Keller
Delaware Section Manager
Email: kc3dso@gmail.com
Cell: 240.515.0620
Office: 302.604.7470

REHOBOTH MARATHON



93 Year Old ½ Marathon participant.
Still smiling at the 11.5 mile marker



2024 Year End Party





EMERGENCY SERVICE NEWS

AUXCOMM

For the first time, and I hope there will more times in the future, the Sussex AUXCOMM Group was joined by members of “reborn” Sussex County CERT, in support of the Rehoboth Marathon on December 2nd. By way of explanation of “reborn”, there had been CERT in the county before, and this is the first year of the new community groups, of which there are three. Ed Donnelly, coordinator of the Ocean View Police Department sponsored group has used the term ‘reborn’ to describe the comeback.

There were 24 ham operators and 10 CERT members covering the 26 plus miles of the marathon course. The 10 CERT members were teamed with operators at key points of the course, particularly turns and busy locations. There were four ham operators “bicycle mobile” on the trail portions of the course. The 2800 plus runners, I’m sure, appreciated the fact that there were people out there whose primary purpose was watching out for their safety and wellbeing. By all of the after-action reports, it seems to have been a very positive experience for those involved.

So what is CERT, and how was it an asset to the event coverage? CERT is the acronym for Community Emergency Response Team. The CERT program is part of the Citizen Corp program of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). It was developed and is supported by the Federal Emergency Management

Agency(FEMA). It traces its roots, as does the Incident Command System (ICS), to the mega-disasters of California in the 80’ and 90’s.

There are now CERT programs in all 50 states, including many tribal nations and U.S. territories. Each is unique to its community, a critical element of the program, and all are essential to building a Culture of Preparedness in the United States. There are over 2,700 local CERT programs nationwide and more than 600,000 people have trained since CERT became a national program.

The CERT Teams are made up of members from the communities they serve with standard basic training requirements, dictated by the program. The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program educates volunteers about disaster preparedness for the hazards that may occur where they live. The volunteers are trained in basic disaster response skills. These include fire safety, light search and rescue, First Aid, and team organization. Some members get additional training in traffic direction and disaster medical operations.

Putting the two groups together for the event support introduced the CERT members to the communication activities of the AUXCOMM Group, and the AUXCOMM members met other community service-oriented people. From my perspective teaming a CERT person with an AUXCOMM operator is a ‘force

multiplier', bringing a broader skill set to bear on issues that may arise. If we can interest some CERT members in ham radio, and they get a license, this puts more licensees in the organized communities, and members that are part of the communities' response. Might be a left-handed way to get ham radio accepted in planned communities. On the other hand, ham operators would do well to pick up a few CERT courses along the way to improve their own personal and family preparedness.

John S. Ferguson K3PFW
Auxiliary Communication Leader
Sussex County(DE) EOC



Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)

Welcome to 2024. A new year, and more training opportunities.

I would like to start off with welcoming three new members and also welcome back a fourth. If you are curious about ARES or would like to join ARES we are always looking for more members. There will be more information mentioned later in this article.

I am reaching out to ARES members and looking for dedicated people to become Assistant Emergency Coordinators. There may be some training that is required for some positions and those can be discussed.

We are continuing to have our nets on the first and third Wednesdays of each

month at 7:00 pm on the SARA repeater, 147.090 with a PI of 156.9. Our meetings continue to be on the second Wednesday of the even months of the year. They are still being held at Sussex Tech High School in Georgetown at 6:30 pm. At the last few meetings we added a hybrid component. This was put into use for members who cannot attend in person. So far it has worked out for us however, I would encourage members to attend in person. We will continue to do training at the meetings.

As you have heard in the past, we have radio stations in all of the hospitals through the county. We will be the backup communications between all three Beebe facilities and Tidal Health in Seaford. With that being said, we are always looking for radio operators to join the Hospital groups. If we ever do have a major incident, we will need members to cover shifts and it may be a multiday event. We use Winlink to send certain messages between facilities and possibly other agencies. We have been doing some Winlink training and there will continue to train. Remember, Practice makes Perfect. Please let me know if you wish to be part of this operational group. For more information, please go to our new website at sussexcountyares.org and check it out.

That is it for now,
73, Jim Baker, N3XKJ
Sussex County ARES
Emergency Coordinator