



September 2023

Sussex Repeater

Sussex Amateur Radio

Local Weekly Nets

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
6:30pm Freq: 3.904

Delaware Emergency Net:
Sunday, 6:30pm Freq: 3.904

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) Frequency
443.200 (+5) 156.7 PL

County Emergency Simplex
145.510
144.915

www.sussexamateurradio.com

<https://www.facebook.com/SARAHamRadio>

Email: SussexAmateurRadio@gmail.com

President: Butch Wlaschin (WAØCIE)
Vice Pres: Deborah Libertore (AJ3L)
Treasurer: Stuart Banta (KC3MAL)
Secretary: Donna Spencer (KC3IHV)

September Meeting

This month's meeting will be on Thursday, September 21, 2023. FCC testing begins at 6:00 pm. You can purchase dinner beginning at 6:00 pm and the meeting will begin at 7:00pm.



Our September presentation is AA3R Fred Tollin. He is an avid DX'er and Contester and will tell us about his latest contest activities.



2023 SWAPMEET SCHEDULE

Nov. 4, 2023

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

34087 Old Hickory Road

Laurel, DE 19956



CARA FEST

October 1, 2023

7am-noon

RAIN OR SHINE

Admission

\$10 per person

Howard County Fairgrounds

2210 Fairgrounds Rd

West Friendship, MD 21794



From the desk of **Butch WAØCIE** **SARA PRESIDENT**

Just when I am hoping summer is over the temps are back in the mid - nineties with a good dose of humidity. And then we get a note from the NWS that we might have the opportunity to experience a category 4 storm rumbling up the Atlantic coast. The good news is that the early forecasts had it headed up the Chesapeake. That might have been fun. I hope all of you paid attention to the nasty RIP Tides along our beaches this last weekend. OC made more than 400 rescues, I think Bethany, Dewey and Rehoboth might have seen similar numbers. Just be safe. The worst part of Hurricane Season is now upon us. Stay tuned to 147.090 and watch the weather. Steve and his team will do their best to keep us informed.

September and October offer the opportunity for us to stay busy and show what we can do for the community. There will be a First Responder's Event in Millville on Sept. 16. Come out and join the fun. John and Bill will bring their MCU with the focus on Amateur Radio. Apple Scrapple is just around the corner and we need the help. Plus other opportunities. If the weather cooperates we might even try doing a "show and tell" at the Lewis Ferry Terminal. Don't forget to sign up to participate in the W1AW VOTA week in November. A great opportunity to talk about DE.

Plans are coming together for an informal Holiday Gathering in December. We had a wonderful time last year and I hope we can see you there. We will get the details out soon.

Our guest speaker this week is AA3R Fred Tollin. He is an avid DX'er and Contester and will tell us about his latest contest activities. You can find him on nearly every band using CW or SSB. While Parks on the

Air (POTA) is not a contest, it is a lot of fun. I had a couple of hours between house guests visits and snuck out to hit the 5 local parks. 20-30 minutes in each park making 20-30 contacts in each. If you are interested in checking it out, let me know. This weekend all 51 parks in Rhode Island will be on the air. I think I worked 10 of them.

Come join us on the 21st. See you there.

Butch WAØCIE



WX4NHC at the National Hurricane Center

How to contact WX4NHC

Note: Some frequencies and modes are only attended by WX4NHC during a Hurricane

Amateur Radio HF Frequencies –
(SSB) 20 meters : 14.325 MHz Hurricane Watch Net Daylight until propagation is lost at night 40 meters : 7.268 MHz

Maritime Mobiles Net 80 meters : 3.815 MHz

Caribbean Net, (Alternates: 3.950 : North Florida / 3.940 South Florida)

Amateur Radio EchoLink / IRLP

EchoLink Conference: "WX-TALK" Node 7203 EchoLink

Alternate Conference: "VKEMCOMM"
IRLP Node 9219, Alternate Node: 9508 or 9123



Delaware Section Manager

John Ferguson K3PFW

Well, the ARRL Board of Directors had their meeting and the expected changes in dues and publications were voted in. Dues went up, and if you want the magazines in print, there's an extra fee for that. I won't belabor the issues that lead to the changes, nor the changes themselves. There is, and will be, plenty in print, pro and con, for you to study and digest. My take on this, it was necessary, and a response to the way information is disseminated today. Let's accept it, honor the work and thought that went into the decisions, and move forward.

We're a month away from the historic peak month for Hurricanes. September is National Hurricane month, and it's also National Preparedness Month. Are you and your family ready? Now is a good time for you and yours to review your family disaster plan. You do have one, don't you? Have you checked your disaster supplies, are they outdated yet? How about fresh gasoline for the generator; and, of course, you will put fuel stabilizer in it, won't you?

My current term as Section Manager ends December 31st this year. I will be running for the position again in the coming election this fall. My current term is only eighteen months rather than the usual two years. I haven't yet accomplished all that I set out to do, but am happy that some progress that has

been made. There is still, however, a lot more work to be done.

Activities are slowly starting up again, are you gonna get 'radioactive'? Ham radio is a hobby of doing, and in doing we can demonstrate our communication capabilities, to our neighbors, to the community, and to the local and state agencies. If you want to protect the hobby, get out there and "do"! Our frequencies are definitely a "use them or lose them" proposition. There are two large MS Bike events coming, there will be Apple Scrapple in October, we are still trying to schedule a Section Emergency Test (SET). There is a bit of irony here, you don't get the privilege of scheduling an emergency, but you have to find a convenient date to practice for one. Elsewhere in this issue, Bill Saunders will again share his philosophy, "that which is not tested, will not work". That is so true.

The station at the home QTH is slowly coming back to life. The upper HF bands (20, 15, 10) are working well. The lower HF (160, 75-80, 40) still have some antenna issues to sort out. The VHF/UHF is now back to just 144 and 440, on the lower height antenna. I lost 220 when the FT-736 died – again. So I can now say, "see you on the bands"! Let's all get 'radioactive'.

73, John, K3PFW



EMERGENCY SERVICE NEWS

Hamming It Up

Fall is approaching and along with it are multiple opportunities to be “Radio Active” and take your Ham Radio involvement up a notch or two. If you have at least one radio (of course you do!) and are available on one or more of these dates how about coming out to exercise your equipment and skills, maybe learn a new one (or teach an old one!), share some time with other hams, and serve the community. Besides the following events there are club meetings and ham fests (many of which are listed elsewhere in this very publication), and contests all over listed on ARRL.ORG. Locally...

Oct 7 – The MS Bike event has been held annually in southern NJ for many years. For 2023 the MS Society will also be hosting the new Delaware Bike to the Bay event through southern Delaware featuring rides of 20, 50, 75, and 100 miles beginning at the Delaware Technical Community College Terry Campus in Dover and ending at the Delaware National Seashore State Park in Bethany Beach. A lot of ground to cover. Ham Radio Operators are needed to monitor sections of the course throughout the day to help ensure a safe event. How about

grabbing your radio gear and helping out? They also need volunteer help for the southern New Jersey event Sep 30-Oct 1. Event information and signup is available from <https://www.n3mss.org/>

Oct 12 – Sussex County DE 9-1-1 Awareness Day 2023 is a free event from 9a – 2p located outside the newly named Emergency Operations Complex at 21911 Rudder Lane in Georgetown (directly across from Arena’s at the Airport). This “open house” type event will feature representation from multiple local Emergency Services including the Sussex Mobile Command Unit. Sussex AUXCOMM will be presenting “Ham Radio – What is it?” and “Morse Code – The oldest form of texting” to those attending which includes the general public and fifth graders from schools around the county. Volunteers are needed to interface with the public and help show them what Ham Radio is all about! Contact ws3eoc@gmail.com for more information.

Oct 14 – Apple Scrapple is an annual all day “street fair” held in downtown Bridgeville, DE. Sussex AUXCOMM will be supporting the Mobile Command Unit

Hamming it Up

again this year in helping to make this a safe and fun event for all.



We need volunteers to wander around the event taking in all of the sights, sampling all of the great food, checking out the classic car and craft shows, listening to some great live bands, and putting more than a few steps on your favorite fitness app. Last year some of our volunteers played a key role in reuniting a couple of families who had separated in the crowd. It takes a lot of volunteers to cover this event. How about it? Can you spare the day (or half day) to help out and have fun? Contact ws3eoc@gmail.com for more information.

Oct 21 – Plans are underway for a Delaware SET (Simulated Emergency Test) on this date. Details are yet to be released, so stay tuned to your local club or EMCOMM group news and, in the meantime, get this date on your calendar.

Nov 29 – Delaware is again in the spotlight with the ARRL VOTA program in late November. In January, Delaware totaled 2,546 QSO points. Contact Joe Gribb, KI3B (ki3b@comcast.net) for more information on how to operate representing the W1AW station callsign.

Dec 2 – The Rehoboth Beach Marathon includes full and half marathon races with thousands of runners participating in this Boston Marathon qualifier. The course winds through downtown Rehoboth Beach and Cape Henlopen State Park.



Many volunteer Amateur Radio operators are needed to fully cover the miles of roads and trails, and your involvement contributes to making this a safe event. We have roles that can fit just about any skill and physical comfort level including biking, walking, standing, sitting, and mobile operations. Contact ws3eoc@gmail.com for more information.

Lastly, with the fall calendar, and fall weather, beginning soon, this is a great time of year for all the POTA-heads to get

Hamming it Up

out to the parks and tally up more and new contacts. In addition to acting as deployment practice and providing an opportunity to show ham radio in action to the other park-goers it seems like a great way for new hams to get active or for “old” (experienced?) hams to help new hams learn a thing or two. Not sure how to get started with Parks On-The-Air? Try out one of the above activities or local club meetings and I’ll bet you will come across other hams who can help get you started. Isn’t that how ham radio has always worked? Hams helping other hams?

Plenty of opportunities. Plenty of need. You will soon hear brief public service announcements on WGMD and other local media outlets promoting a Sussex County DE AUXCOMM call for volunteers. This is serious business and an unashamedly desperate cry for help. In order to operate successfully in these and other events it takes people who are prepared and willing to give just a bit of their time and talents in service to the community. We need more active volunteers. If you are willing, please contact us. If you know someone who would be willing, have them contact us.

The type of weather event that will be crossing the Tampa, FL area by the time this gets distributed will someday cross our peninsula. We repeatedly see that volunteer ham radio operators play a key role in the recovery efforts from every natural disaster. Our time is coming. Will you be prepared to help? It’s through

these local events, drills, and exercises that we get our “ham” on, tuned up, and ready for action. Hope to see you involved. 73’s

Bill, N3ID



The Radio Amateur is

CONSIDERATE...He/[She] never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL...He/[She] offers loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs, the IARU Radio Society in his/[her] country, through which Amateur Radio in his/[her] country is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE...He/[She] keeps his/[her] station up to date. It is well-built and efficient. His/[Her] operating practice is above reproach.

FRIENDLY...He/[She] operates slowly and patiently when requested; offers friendly advice and counsel to beginners; kind assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the marks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCED...Radio is a hobby, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

PATRIOTIC...His/[Her] station and skills are always ready for service to country and community.

adapted from the original Amateur's Code, written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA, in 1928