



# Sussex Repeater

MAY 2024

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 (out of order)

Delaware Traffic Net: Mon – Sat  
6:30pm Freq: 3.904

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

Sussex ARES Net: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

WGMD Tower (East Coast Room)  
443.550 (+) 156.70

County Emergency Simplex  
145.510 & 144.915

Winlink Simplex 145.050 & 441.00  
Winlink peer-to-peer 145.020

President: Paul Ross (NR3P)  
Vice Pres: Deborah Libertore (AJ3L)  
Treasurer: Rick Long (N3RTL)  
Secretary: Paul Reiger (KC3OIN)

[www.sussexamateurradio.com](http://www.sussexamateurradio.com)

Email: [SussexDeRadio@gmail.com](mailto:SussexDeRadio@gmail.com)

**Our May meeting will be on Thursday,  
May 16, 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.**



**FIELD DAY  
JUNE 22-23, 2004**



## 2024 Swapmeet Schedule

**The first swapmeet will be June 1, 2024, from  
9:00 am til 2:00 pm. Free admission for all  
buyers and sellers.**

**Location is 34087 Old Hickory Road  
Laurel, DE 19956**

QTH of K3TKJ, Al Waller

Contact: Art Parks(N3EAK, [amparks6@gmail.com](mailto:amparks6@gmail.com))



## Hurricane Frequencies

**HF(SSB): 20mtr 14.325 Mhz Hurricane Watch Net  
40mtr 7.268Mhz WaterWay Net (Maritime)  
80mtr 3.815Mhz Caribbean Net**

**VHF/UHF: 147.470Mhz simplex(Listen only NHC ops  
147.000 (-) repeater PL 94.9  
444.600 (+) repeater PL 94.8**



## President's Corner

### Mayday?

### Not this time- it's a May Day.

Greetings fellow S.A.R.A. members and other interested ham radio enthusiasts! It is the merry, merry month of May.

I was happy to be able to attend the Lewes Amateur Radio Society (LARS) meeting today at noon at the Lewes Diner. It was especially good to see folks that do not normally attend that monthly meeting (which happens on the first Wednesday of each month).

L.A.R.S. new president, Mike Boccia-N1MWU, is putting in a lot of work and doing a great job in getting the LARS organization back into operating condition. He needs assistance, and knows it. If you are motivated to aid the L.A.R.S. Group in any way, send Mike an email at [mrmike6022@gmail.com](mailto:mrmike6022@gmail.com). I know that he would like to hear from you!

ARRL Delaware Section Manager, Steven Keller- KC3DSO ([kc3dso@gmail.com](mailto:kc3dso@gmail.com)), informed us of finalized letters to our Delaware congress people for licensed hams in Delaware to sign. In the effort to mitigate HOA antenna restrictions to those of us suffering same, these letters will be gathered in mass and will be hand-delivered to the proper congressional officials in Washington, D.C. Amateur radio is recognized as providing service to our communities and enjoys various FCC radio spectrum frequency allocations for that reason. Radio propagation for this service cannot happen without a proper antenna installation.

The weekend of June 22- 23, 2024 is ARRL Field Day weekend. In the interest of most fun for everyone (the more, the merrier concept) Sussex Co. area amateurs are invited to a joint field day(s) at Trap Pond SP near Laurel, DE. I have reserved a campsite there for the occasion. I am not the only ham to have done that. Weekends sell out fast, and there are still sites available to reserve! Field Day activities will be in the open day-use area south side of the pond. Camping is in the campground area on the north side of the park.

Our S.A.R.A meeting will be at the usual: Mulligan's Pointe, 7pm on May 16, 2024. Testing and dinner at 6pm. We will talk about lots of topics, with most of them enjoyable. Fox Hunt, Field Day, antenna building session, Special event station- W3L- commemorating opening of the Massie Wireless Telegraph Co. replica spark-gap station at the historic Cannon Ball house in Lewes, DE, picnics and other fun stuff needing planning will be taken up. Bring your ideas and enthusiasm!

If you are planning to go to the Dayton Hamvention in May, sadly, you will miss this meeting. Happily, our S.A.R.A. will be represented there with a nice tent, seats for resting and tables to sell stuff. Bring it on!

There is news that I have not covered here, but my memory has leaks.

Enjoy the springtime!

TU es 73 de NR3P

Paul



## EMERGENCY SERVICE NEWS

From a popular song of many years ago (June is Bustin Out All Over) “April cried and stepped aside and along came pretty little May”. Well if the rain we’ve had was April’s tears, I for one am glad she’s gone! Rain, flooding tidal issues, saturated ground, it’s been a mess. Are you noticing that the weather issues all over the country are the same weather issues we’ve seen for years; except somebody put Mother Nature on Steroids! The number of severe weather incidents has increased more than just dramatically. The numbers have literally exploded.

So, what are you doing about it? Not what you going to do, but what are you currently in the act of doing? Waiting around until it’s convenient for you to get off your duff may be a bit too late. We, ham radio operators, are trying to sell the idea to a wide and varied audience, that we are the “be all to end all” when it comes the point when “all else has failed”. I’ll ask the same question again that I asked above, “what are you doing about it”, as in present tense, in the act?

“The HOA won’t let me have an antenna? So again, what are you doing about it? And, I can go on and on with the same question, different subject. What the basic issue here is, if you’re asking “what can I do”, the problem is you don’t have a plan. There is an old (why are they always ‘old’) proverb that says, “Prior Planning Prevents Poor Performance”. It’s become known as the “Five ‘P’s” of

progress. Progress moves forward on the wheels of planning. So, make the plan, work the plan, and see what happens. Maybe you’ll be successful on your first try. Most likely not. There was a German General in WW II that was known to say. “Plans rarely survive first contact with the enemy”. He was Eisenhower’s counterpart, who, as the Supreme Allied Commander for the European Theater in WWII said; “Plans are nothing. Planning is everything”.

Nobody knows that better than the practitioners of the Planning Section in an agency that follows the Incident Command System (ICS). Of course your emergency communication groups does follow the ICS, don’t you? And, if you are not, why not? The ICS is required, by FEMA directive, that it be used by all response and recovery organizations receiving federal funds. Get caught working outside that directive, and you might force the agency you are volunteering for, to pay the feds back their money. Think about it. AUXCOMM is ICS compliant. Per a recent comment from an individual at ARRL HQ, “ARES is not ICS compliant, we’re aware of that”. Also, in their defense, they are working on the issue, and trying to resolve it. Florida, statewide, has recently gone AUXCOMM. This was once one of the strongholds of the ARES. Later, 73

John K3PFW

Change is constant and inevitable...



## Delaware Section Manager Steven Keller KC3DSO

### May Greetings to All Delaware Hams!

Spring is here in it's full glory. Pollen, warmer weather and the increasing potential for storms. Hurricane season starts in just a few short weeks. The Hurricane researchers at Colorado State University have released their prediction that 2024 will have an extremely active season; they expect the hurricane season to include 23 named storms with 11 reaching hurricane strength and five storms will be major hurricanes. The CSU predictions can be found at <https://tropical.colostate.edu/forecasting.html>.

Another Delaware State Convention Hamfest is in the books. The Sussex Amateur Radio Association sponsored the Delaware State Convention and Hamfest on April 20 at the Cheer Center in Georgetown. The convention was well attended with many clubs and operators selling gear. Two forums were run providing updates on several topics. Wendy Horn, W3NRN, Section Emergency Coordinator provided ARES and EmComm updates; Pat Ryan, KW3Z, State Government Liaison, provided updates on the federal HOA bill; Bob Famiglio, K3RF, Atl Div. Director and Marty Pittinger, KB3MXM, Atl Div Vice Director provided ARRL and other updates.

Chris Cote, KE3NJ, Section Youth Coordinator ran several stations out of his yellow bus using yagi antennas making some satellite contacts.

Clearly the topic of the day was the Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act. Legislative Update: Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act (AREPA) The "Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act" bill is making progress at the federal level. As of this newsletter, I and other section staff are attending as many meetings as possible to get all licensees in the state to complete letters of support of the federal bill. These letters will be hand delivered to our Delaware legislators making it clear Delaware licensees want this bill passed. Once the federal bill is passed; section staff will be introducing a complementary bill in the state legislature to ensure licensees are covered. Pass the word about bill and section staff having letters to sign. This is an 'all hands' operation where every letter will count.

Delaware QSO Party – May 4-5, 2024  
The First State Amateur Radio Club (FSARC) sponsors the Delaware QSO Party every year. I encourage every radio operator to jump in a make some contacts. Brush off your HF rig and jump on the radio for an hour or a day.



This contest is very easy and a great primer for the larger contests. This event is one of the best way to put Delaware on the map for contests. There are thousands of QSO party operators who look forward to making a contact with a Delaware Station. Visit the FSARC club for rules.

A Warm Welcome to Our Newest & Upgrading Members! Join me in welcoming the latest additions to our vibrant community:

**KB3LGM Frank Clowes**  
**KC3BPO Stanley Gorak, Jr**  
**KC3CLZ Catherine Twyford**  
**KC3YUI Robert Willemin**  
**KC3YUJ Joe Trybulski**  
**KC3YUN James Larrimore Jr**  
**KC3YUO Dale C. Robertson**  
**KC3YUQ Foufu Ding**  
**KC3YUT James E. Logan**  
**KC3YWR Matthew S. Duphily**  
**KC3YXE Kevin J. Lehman**  
**KC3YXP Susan T. Hines**  
**KC3YXQ Jarel A. Harrison**  
**KC3ZAD Richard H. Cullen Jr**

Upcoming Events and Contests:

The Delaware State QSO Party is this weekend, May 4-5. Also a look ahead notes the 13 Colonies event where Delaware Stations run the K2E callsign. Details can be found on the ARRL Contest Calendar.

Let's Stay Connected  
Your insights, questions, and active participation are the lifeblood of our community. I'm here to support and

engage with all of you, whether you're new to the hobby or a seasoned operator. Together, we can keep our passion for amateur radio thriving.

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

ARRL Delaware Section Reflector  
<https://groups.io/g/ARRLDelawareSection>

ARRL Sections – Delaware  
<https://arrl.org/sections/view/delaware>

## MFJ Ceasing On-Site Production

MFJ Enterprises, Inc founder Martin F. Jue, K5FLU, announced that as of 17th May 2024, the company will cease on-site production at their Starkville, Mississippi, facility. Ameritron, Hy-Gain, Cushcraft, Mirage, and Vectronics brand products will be affected by the shutdown.

In a letter posted to social media, Jue said he is looking forward to retiring.

**“Times have changed since I started this business 52 years ago. Our product line grew and grew and prospered. Covid changed everything [for] businesses, including ours. It was the hardest hit that we have ever had, and we never fully recovered.**

**I turned 80 this year. I had never really considered retirement, but life is so short, and my time with my family is so precious.**  
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