



May 2023

Sussex Repeater

Sussex Amateur Radio Association

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)

May Meeting

This month's meeting will be on Thursday, May 18, 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.



Time to think about FIELD DAY, weekend of June 24-25, 2023



2023 SWAPMEET SCHEDULE

June	Sept.	Nov.
3	9	4

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

There are no fees for attendance or participation
Buy, sell, and trade radio equipment and
accessories

Plenty of space to park and tailgate
QTH of K3TKJ Al Waller
34087 Old Hickory Road
Laurel, DE 19956
Contacts

Jim Jester KC3ITR.
443 366 5677.

Arthur Parks N3EAK
amparks6@gmail.com

Sponsored by the

Delmarva Amateur Radio Club.
146.82(-) PL 156.7

SILENT KEY KC3JM

Jay Fredrick Leibforth,
Barcroft retiree



Jay Fredrick Leibforth Sr., 81, of Rehoboth Beach, passed away at home Monday, May 1, 2023. He was born Aug. 5, 1941, in Lodi, Ohio.

Jay was a proud veteran, having honorably served in the U.S. Coast Guard, after graduating high school. He then married the love of his life, Kay Marvel, of Easton, Md., in 1963. They raised their beautiful family in Rehoboth Beach. Jay enjoyed a lengthy career working for Barcroft, now SPI Pharma, retiring after 29 dedicated years.

In his younger years, he was an avid hunter and fisherman. In later years, Jay spent

more of his time driving out on the beach surf-fishing. He was an avid Ham Radio operator, talking to people all over the world. Jay and his wife Kay loved to ride his motorcycle around town in their retirement years. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. Jay will be forever missed by all who were fortunate to know him.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Kay Marvel Leibforth. Jay is survived by his children, Jan Schneider (Adam) and Jay Leibforth; his grandchildren, Matthew Schneider (Jessica), Benjamin Schneider, Meghan Schneider, Jay Leibforth III, (Amanda) and Brian Leibforth; and his great-grandchildren, Owen Leibforth and Lauren Schneider.

Services are private.

Jay (KC3JM) was a longtime member of Sussex Amateur Radio Association and the Delaware Traffic Net. He won 2nd prize in the 2023 Hamfest raffle. Jay was a Coast Guard Veteran. We will miss him!

FOR SALE

Anyone interested in purchasing a **MFJ High Q mag loop antenna**. Never used I have an antenna and controller. Best offer.

Richard Bellerose
Cell 352 239-7952

Kenwood TS2000. rig for sale. I've lowered the price to \$1080 and I have a new email address:
k3axr@arri.net

Thanks, Dell Palmer



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

Greetings from Lower Slower Delaware. It has been a busy 3-4 weeks and I have been busy finishing up on one of the more important ham radio activities related to my Parks on the Air Rove to Idaho / Oregon late last month - sending out QSL cards. I know a lot of hams don't bother sending the cards out, or possibly just relying on confirmations via QRZ or LOTW or one of the many other QSL-type confirmations, but if and when you do send out a card or receive a card it is a nice gesture. Just last week I received a QSL card from a DX-expedition to COMOROS - D60AE. A team of French hams having fun on an island off the east coast of Africa. It certainly made my day. But the same day I received cards from U.S. bound hams saying they would like cards in exchange for WAS while I was in IDAHO and Delaware. Yes Delaware is DX for many hams and a QSL card is a nice way to close out the contact. While I complained online about 3 failed attempts to activate parks in Oregon during my trip out west, I did manage to have a total 174 contacts from the 5 parks in IDAHO that I did manage to activate. But that leads to the challenge when I made it back home - sending out cards to all of those contacts. I have received nearly 60 cards in advance of me sending out mine. They all want IDAHO, plus several want confirmation of previous contacts with me from Delaware. Busy Busy.

So what's on the schedule for this summer for SARA. This week at our monthly meeting we will get an update on

the severe storm forecast from the National Weather Service. We can't just sit around waiting; a major storm is just around the corner, maybe not this week, not this month, but coming soon. Let's be prepared. That brings to mind one of the more exciting events that I was able to participate in during my visit to IDAHO. I was able to be part of an outstanding tour of the National Interagency Fire Center, as it is now called. They manage all of the activities related to major fires and other national events not only nationwide but assist in events worldwide. A key component in linking 11 federal, state and local agencies together is the use of the ICS structure. One of the more interesting sessions was put on by the radio team. They own and maintain more than 15,000 HT's. The radios and repeaters are annually cleaned up, repaired and distributed before each fire. They use more than 250,000 AA batteries "a DAY" during a typical fire event. We also had a chance to visit with a team of Smoke Jumpers that were getting an annual update on their training. Any idea about how old the average smoke jumper is?

Last but not least: Field Day is just around the corner. June 24-25. Details to follow. Join us for a couple of hours.

Summer is here - GET ON THE AIR
- We are here to help.

Butch WAØCIE



Delaware Section Manager

John Ferguson K3PFW

Delaware Section Convention and Hamfest

First of all, my sincere thanks to all who worked to set up, and those who supported that effort by attending the Georgetown Hamfest and Section Convention last month. From what I saw, a lot of people had a good time.

We were very happy to have our new Division Director, Bob Famiglio, K3RF, for the two forums. His candid discussion seemed to be well received. The ARRL is the advocate nationally and internationally for Amateur Radio, and we all need to support that effort.

The next day, a large group was out to support the Coastal Delaware Running Fest (CODEL) in Rehoboth and Lewes. Good weather, 3,000 runners, and no really major issues, made for a good day. Again my thanks to all who made the commitment to be out there in public, showcasing what Hams can do. We need to be doing more of these kinds of activities, and generating positive publicity for our hobby.

The tornado that crossed Sussex brought out a number of operators with an informal Skywarn net. So with some renewed interest in Skywarn, there is a real need and threat, contact Steven

Keller, KC3DSO (kc3dso@gmail.com) the coordinator for Kent and Sussex Counties. He will have information on where and how to get Skywarn training and a Spotter Number.

Rumor has it that "Billy Bob" will be returning to the mid-peninsula in the near future. Watch for announcements of when he might be back. Don't know that he will have as many surprises, but you never know. There's a bunch of back roads in northwest Sussex and western Kent counties that might fuel his imagination.

Last but not least, it is high time to get your Field Day plans in order, and make a commitment to "take it too the field", the last full weekend of June. This is a golden opportunity to showcase amateur radio to the public. By the way, it's fun, and you just might learn something as you get some practice in setting up a station where there ain't one.

Later, 73
John, K3PFW



EMERGENCY SERVICE NEWS

Anyone remember that slogan? Sure, you do! At least you should if you were driving back in the 1970's. That is the line from the federal government campaign that tried to sell the public on the mandatory 55mph national speed limit. The old "Double-Nickel". It was the law of the land from 1974 – 1995 in response to the oil crisis of 1973. It was intended to improve vehicular fuel economy with the goal of reducing our dependence on oil imports. Reports vary widely regarding its effectiveness and compliance level. It did, however, spawn the Sammy Hagggar song "I Can't Drive 55", several films including "Smokey and the Bandit", "The Cannonball Run", and "Convoy", and the CB craze of the '70's. Ahhh, the good old days!

This first week of May 2023 holds some significant dates. There is, of course, Cinco de Mayo, literally the 5th of May. This annual special day is one where everyone wants to catch Corona (the good kind!) or your favorite brand and commemorate Mexico's victory over

France in the 1862 Battle of Puebla (thanks, Wikipedia). The day before that (May 4) offers the once-a-year opportunity to tell all your Star Wars buddies "May the Fourth Be With You". But the date that is most relevant to us in the Amateur world this year is May 3rd. Why's that?

May 3, 2023 is the deadline date by which all amateur stations must verify and ensure compliance under the new Maximum Permissible Exposure (MPE) rules that went into effect on May 3, 2021. During this two-year period the updated rules were directed towards new or modified stations. Existing stations were given time to become compliant. Time's up. In reality, the standards haven't changed. Prior categorical exclusions have been removed and, as of this new date, all stations will need to be specifically compliant. If you haven't already done so, it's time to get working on this. It's really not hard, and there has been much written about it including great information and tools on the ARRL

website and the latest (May 2023) issue of QST (page 64).

So, not looking to recreate, here, information that can readily be obtained elsewhere. In summary, it all comes down to these factors:

- Frequency – Some frequencies penetrate the body more than others
- RF Power Level (ERP): Output power – line loss + antenna gain = Effective Radiated Power
- Mode – The modulation mode affects average power level (FM carrier power level is 100%, SSB is not)
- Distance – The further the distance from the transmitting antenna, the lower the RF radiation level
- Duty Cycle – How much time is the transmitter actually keyed within a given period of time
- Time of Exposure – How much time an individual spends within the RF field
- Controlled vs Uncontrolled – Different requirements so know the difference between them

While there are formulas and tables that deal with all of these factors in the original FCC OET65 document, its “B” supplement, and the free ARRL “RF Exposure and You” downloadable (all of which do make for informative reading), several on-line tools have been created to make the calculations a very easy process including this one from ARRL

<http://arrrl.org/rf-exposure-calculator> and this one from Hintlink Technology
http://hintlink.com/power_density.htm

My advice is to use one or more of these free calculators to document the MPE characteristics of your station. It is not necessary to report the results to the FCC or anyone else. Just plug in the numbers for each band that you operate on, print the results, and throw them into a file with your station records. That, in my opinion, will satisfy the requirements of this regulation and put you in a defensible position if ever challenged (here’s looking at you, HOA folks). If the calculations result in an area of concern, then take the necessary steps to bring your station into compliance, perhaps by reducing output power or increasing the distance from the antenna to areas of possible exposure. Remember to update the calculations if you make a change to your station configuration. Make sure to check field day and other new setups!

Remember,

“It’s Not Just a Good Idea... It’s the Law!”

73’s

Bill, N3ID