



Sussex Repeater

MAY 2025

Sussex Amateur Radio Association

Local Weekly Nets

Shacktime Ragchew: Saturday
7:00PM 443.200 (+) 156.70

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

Nanticoke Club Net: Monday 7:30pm

Lewes Club Net: Wednesday 7:30pm
147.330(+) 156.7 (D-Star)

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

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

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

Monitor SKYWARN weather net on
147.090(+) 156.7

System Fusion repeater frequencies:
Millsboro 449.825
Seaford 145.210

WGMD Tower (Fusion)
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: Eric Hudson (WG3J)
Vice Pres: Jess Labosky (KC3ZIY)
Treasurer: Rick Long (N3RTL)
Secretary: Stu Greene (KD2LNQ)

www.sussexamateurradio.com

Email: sussexamateurradio@gmail.com

MAY Regular Meeting

The May meeting will be held at Mulligan's Pointe Golf Club on the third Thursday, May 15. You can purchase dinner beginning at 5:30 pm and the meeting will begin about 6:30 pm.



The Delaware Radio Electronics EXPO, IIs in the reaview mirror. And looking ahead:

FOX HUNT Season has arrived!

Join us at Jason Beach, Trap Pond on May 31, 2025. 9:00.til 3:00.

Field Day is the weekend of June 28

SARA field day will be held at Redden State Forest Bailey Pavilion 18074 Redden Forrest Dr. Set up will begin at 9:00am Saturday morning June 28. The focus will be on contesting.

Sussex County AuxCOMM will set up at Ellendale Fire Department on Main Street in Ellendale, beginning about 10:00 am. The focus will be showing the capabilities of amateur radio emergency communication to the public.

If you have time, visit both locations, the two sites are only 6.5 miles apart.



Delaware Section Manager

Steven Keller KC3DSO

Another Delaware State Convention & Hamfest is in the books; and by all accounts, it was a fantastic event. Attendees found great deals, spent wisely, and kicked off exciting new projects with their freshly acquired gear. While the Cheer Center was sold out, the pending weather meant the parking lot wasn't as full as usual. The presentations were well received, with our ARRL Division Director offering valuable insights into the latest developments within the ARRL and our Atlantic Division. One particularly impactful presentation — 'Deployment to North Carolina during Hurricane Helen'—highlighted the real-world consequences of inadequate disaster planning. During the hurricane, all communications in Avery County, NC were down, except for amateur radio. This reinforces the importance of the Fugate Principle within ARES: planning for the least probable incident that has the highest impact. For many of us, this means preparing for a direct or near strike from a hurricane. While routine communication failures occur more frequently, an unexpected large-scale disaster can have devastating consequences. While picking up a microphone is often the first instinct in emergency situations, ARES must continue evolving to meet the changing needs of our served agencies. This might include developing basic networking skills, learning to operate satellite phones, utilizing the county's 800 MHz radio system, or deploying a Starlink satellite system to establish broadband internet within minutes. Expanding our skillset makes us more valuable and effective when providing critical communication support. 2025 ARRL Field Day – June 28-29 The 2025 ARRL Field

Day, an event that started in 1933, is just around the corner and is the largest annual operating event in amateur radio, held on the fourth full weekend of June each year. This year's theme is "Radio Connects." It brings together more than 31,000 radio amateurs across the U.S. and Canada to set up temporary stations in public places, demonstrating the science, skill, and service of amateur radio. The event serves multiple purposes: testing emergency preparedness, fostering community engagement, and showcasing the capabilities of amateur radio operators in less-than-optimal conditions. Participants aim to contact as many stations as possible across various frequency bands while honing their technical and communication skills. Field Day is not just about competition—it's a celebration of camaraderie, learning, and public outreach, making it a cornerstone of the amateur radio calendar. Ensure your Field Day site is registered on the ARRL Field Day Site Locator page which allows the public and other visiting radio operators find your site. If possible, setup in a public area and post signage to get the public to stop by. The ARRL Field Day site also has the rules, logging software suggestions, logos for your group, Public Relations documents such as the Public Relations Kit and audio public service announcements. Updated ARRL Club documents released The ARRL has released two updated club documents: the ARRL Active Club Primer and the Hamfest Rules. While the Hamfest Rules document has a more limited scope, the Active Club Primer is relevant to all ARRL Affiliated Clubs. The previous version of the primer was written nearly 30 years ago, and this updated edition has been carefully crafted to

provide club officers with essential tools and insights for fostering a welcoming and engaging environment within their clubs. This guide empowers leadership to not only train effectively but also cultivate an inclusive culture that strengthens membership and participation. It covers a wide range of topics, including creating a welcoming atmosphere, the responsibilities of club officers, mentorship, leading by example, the benefits of ARRL Affiliation, club enhancement strategies, programs and activities, developing a club calendar, and much more. For the greatest impact, this document should be reviewed annually or whenever new leadership is in place. To access the primer, visit arrl.org and search for 'ARRL Club Primer'.

Upcoming Events & Contests

- Delaware QSO Party- The Delaware QSO Party, which has been running annually since at least 2007, sponsored by the First State Amateur Radio Club (FSARC), is an exciting annual event that invites amateur radio operators from across the country—and beyond—to make contacts with stations in Delaware. Held over a weekend, this contest provides a unique opportunity for hams to work all three counties in the First State while testing their operating skills and enjoying the camaraderie of fellow radio enthusiasts. Whether you're a seasoned contester or a casual operator, the Delaware QSO Party offers a fun and rewarding experience with a variety of operating categories and certificates available for participants. Visit the FSARC website at www.fsarc.org for more information. Visit contests.arrl.org or www.contestcalendar.com for details on these and upcoming contests.

A Warm Welcome to Our Newest & Upgrading Members

Join me in welcoming the latest additions to our vibrant community. Almost all of these new hams are part of the Delaware Section Youth Initiative. Upon passing their technician exam, they were provided a new Ham Radio HT kit with included a fully programmed QRZ-1 Explorer Radio kit. KD3AYC Anderson, Keagan

KD3AYD Boltz, Jacob
KD3AYE Hill, Kevin
KD3AYF Loper, Marcus K
KD3AYG McKnight, Layla
KD3AYH Montgomery, Gabriel
KD3AYI Nelson Jr, James L
KD3AYJ Aylward, Isabelle S
KD3AYK Gonet, Alexzander S
KD3AYL Rulamka, Amaziah B
KD3AYM Walters, Carly
KD3AYN Corrice, Brynner S
KD3AYO Hatch, Roman
KD3AYP Hoffecker, Oliver
KD3AYQ Jones, My'Laiah L
KD3AYR Veney, Darion
KD3AYS Salter, Caleb
KD3AYT Twardus, Owen
KD3AYV Barrett, Eric N
KD3AYW Walker, John
KD3AYY Bisette, Gabriel D
KD3AYZ Fleming, Jason
KD3AZA Vogan, Kaelynn M
KD3AZB Vanyanbah, Oscar
KD3AZC Zickgraf, Zoey
KD3AZF Healy, Rees
KD3AZG Soto-Pacheco, Engel Y
KD3AZI Cushman, Victor T
KD3BAE Timmons, Salem M
KD3BAD Hyde, Cameron G.
KD3BAL Oswald, James
KD3BBG Nachbar, Joshua

Adapt, Innovate and Expand!

As we move further into the 21st century, ARES members must continue to adapt, innovate, and expand their skillsets to meet the evolving needs of emergency communications. Preparedness is no longer just about picking up a microphone—it's about leveraging new technologies, strengthening partnerships, and staying ready for the unexpected. By embracing advancementssuch as satellite communications, digital networking, and modern radio systems, we enhance our ability to serve our communities when they need us most. ARES has always stood as a beacon of reliability in times of crisis, and with dedication, training, and a forward-thinking mindset, we will continue to uphold that legacy for generations to come



AUXCOMM

John Ferguson, K3PFW

Well maybe Spring has finally sprung. May 1st is here; flowers are blooming and leaves are showing on the trees. And have ya'all noticed, it's a tad bit warmer outside. Too? We "old timers" certainly appreciate that. As a certified, "I've held the same call for 63 years, 'old timer'", I tend to spend a lot of time reminiscing. The wife calls it "Day Dreaming". I can still remember the thrill of my first Field Day in June of '62. It was enough of an event to get a write up and a comical sketch in QST. I don't seem to get excited about things like that now. The exuberance of youth, and the thinking that we could do anything, sort of diminishes as age-related things take over.

So, talking about youth. Recently I had the opportunity to chat with some young and relatively new Hams. Guess what, they're excited about what they're getting to do in the hobby. They are pushing the proverbial curve, and pushing it hard! And guess what else? There are some not so young Hams that have been in the hobby a while, making disparaging and discouraging remarks to the younger Hams about what they are trying to do. That is not going to help the hobby, not at all! The younger Hams are the future of this hobby that we claim is valuable and important to us, to our community and our country. If you don't have something encouraging and helpful to say, how about you say nothing!

We really need to look both personally, and as organizations, at how we promote the hobby to young people, and how we include them in the hobby. First, a word of caution. Times have changed and society looks at things differently than when we got our licenses, back when. I spent hours, one-

on-one, with older hams, learning the art of radio. It is very inadvisable to do something like that today. Look at all the rules other organized youth groups now have for youth interaction with adults. It's almost a daunting, and unfortunately necessary, situation to try and work with. So, before rushing headlong into the attempt, look at what other youth organizations now require. Sussex County CERT, just last month, had its first youth CERT member get his certificate. It took weeks of work and a lot pushing to get the necessary approvals, along with a \$750 legal bill to get the necessary forms and releases approved. Do it right the first time, and it will pay off down the road if it keeps you and your organization out of trouble.

Last month Bill Saunders and I went through the NIMS EOC training course along with some sixty other staff members of the EOC. This is part of the continuing changeover from the EOC model to the ICS model for the Sussex EOC that I've previously mentioned. Like it or not, the Incident Command System (ICS) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS) are the 'law of the land' when it comes to all emergency response activities. So, the ICS 100, 200, 700 and 800, as requirements, for qualification to participate in response related activities as Hams, are what you have to do. So quit whining and do it. Yes, I admit I did not like the ICS when I was first introduced to it. However, after working with it for nearly 10 years now, I can't even consider doing what we do any other way. It actually makes managing a disaster response rather easy.

Sussex County CERT held another successful training session in early April, with

17 students getting certificates. They will also be offering Emergency First Aid for the quarterly refresher training May 3rd.

Finally, last month the statewide guidance for the CERT program in the state got signed. The statewide committee had approved it in January. Sussex CERT circulated its draft of Policies and Procedures for comment last month. The comment period has closed and the very few responses are being reviewed. Sussex AUXCOMM is also coming out this month with a similar document called Purpose and Mission. This is part of the growing body of paperwork for developing the operational guidelines at the EOC. In the ICS, everything is documented. That way there is less chance that something will be overlooked. And, it's what you miss that will probably be that which causes an issue. A disaster in itself brings plenty of issues, you don't need to create another one.

Later, 73
John K3PFW

**AUXCOMM – CERT
Field Day June 28, 2025
10:00 am til 7:00 pm**

**Everyone invited to participate in
Field Day activities at Ellendale Fire
Hall, 302 Main Street, Ellendale.**

We will promote amateur radio as well as operate stations for Field Day contacts.

Focus will be on interaction and education with the public and the fire company. We have plenty of setup area and parking. The CERT trailer will be staffed to promote the Community Emergency Response Teams and exercise both the on-board amateur radio station and the CERT radio communication equipment.

2025 Hamfest

