



# Sussex Repeater

APRIL 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: 1<sup>st</sup> 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](http://www.sussexamateurradio.com)

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

## APRIL Regular meeting

The April meeting will be held at Mulligan's Pointe Golf Club. You can purchase dinner beginning at 5:30 pm and the meeting will begin about 6:00 pm.



## 🏆 Announcing the 2025 Governor's Volunteer Service Award Honorees!



**This year's honorees represent the best of our state - they have gone above and beyond to serve their communities with compassion, leadership, and dedication.**

**John Ferguson, Sussex County Auxiliary Communication Leader, AUXCOMM/RACES and CERT Sponsor Representative will be recognized at the 2025 Governor's Volunteer Service Awards ceremony on May 1, 2025.**



# Sussex Amateur Radio Association

ERIC HUDSON, President

Another great event is in the books. On March the 22<sup>nd</sup>, members of the club gathered at Jason Beach at Trap Pond for the first Fox Hunt of the year. We had great fun, great food, and great success finding the Fox.

From the youngest:



To the Rag Chew:



To the POTA Station:



To the Winners !!



SARA is an ARRL Sanctioned Hamfest and Convention club. In order to maintain that designation, we are required to maintain a certain percentage of ARRL members in our membership.

Since we are falling close to the required percentage, we are having an **ARRL membership drive**. In addition to remaining sanctioned to continue as the Delaware hamfest Club, SARA will receive a kickback for each new member we submit.

If you are not an ARRL member for 2025, please consider becoming a member. To receive the kickback, **WE** must submit your membership. Complete the membership form that is at the end of this month's newsletter, include your check made payable to ARRL and **mail the check and application to our Treasurer:**

**Rick Long**

**24784 Rivers Edge Rd  
Millsboro, DE 1996**



## Delaware Section Manager

**Steven Keller KC3DSO**

**Greetings from Sussex County**

The average age of ham radio operator? About 75. Yes, 75 years old. This clearly tells us we must usher in a new generation of radio operators if the Amateur Radio Service (ARS) is to continue as we know it. One of my primary goals as Section Manager is to promote the ARS to youth. This year I introduced the Delaware Section Youth Initiative. This initiative provides free programmed HT radio kits to newly licensed technicians still in school. Recent testing at the Nanticoke ARC and Poly Tech School by the Sussex Amateur Radio Testing Team just added 31 high school students to our list of youth licensed in Delaware. I was privileged to issue 31 shiny new radio kits to each new licensee. Getting these kids licensed is only the beginning of our fight. We must keep them engaged through mentors, assist them continue their journey of education to allow them to upgrade their license and participate in local clubs and activities. I ask every ARRL Affiliated Club President to reach out to your local schools and see if you can make a presentation. STEM students through technical schools are ripe for the pickings. As Section Manager I can put the full ARRL resources to our disposal to this cause. I would like to thank all of the local clubs, individual ham radio operators, Gigaparts and QRZ who have graciously donated funds & radios to this cause.

### **The DE QSO Party – May 3-5, 2025**

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. Stations operating from Delaware play a key role in providing multipliers for participants aiming for top scores. Whether you're calling CQ from home, a club station, or a mobile setup traversing Delaware's counties, your participation helps make the event a success. This is also a great event to do while you are in a park doing POTA. In fact, a large group of operators in Sussex County are operating a "3fer" event. May 3 is the Sussex ARES Ocean to Bay Bike Tour. So, several groups of operators will be in state parks at stops supporting the race and will be operating both POTA and the Delaware QSO party at the same time. Get in on the fun! This QSO Party takes place during the first full weekend in May, this year that will be 1700Z, May 3 to 23:59Z, May 5. Information regarding this year's QSO Party will be available here shortly:

[www.fsarc.org/qsoparty/qsosome.htm](http://www.fsarc.org/qsoparty/qsosome.htm).

Questions to: [qsoparty@gmail.com](mailto:qsoparty@gmail.com).

### **A Warm Welcome to Our Newest & Upgrading Members**

- KD3ASA, Jerome Zacks, Sr.
- KD3ASF, Christopher Martin
- KD3ASH, Nolan Sturgill
- KD3ASI, Ari Neal-Dickerson
- KD3ASK, Mohammed S. Diallo
- KD3ATJ, John Francis
- KD3AVP, Andrew Cronk
- KD3AWS, Joseph Reres

Engage our new radio operators!

As we close out this edition, let's celebrate the growing enthusiasm among young newcomers to amateur radio. Their fresh perspectives, boundless curiosity, and

eagerness to learn bring renewed energy to our community. Together, we have the unique opportunity to mentor and inspire the next generation, fostering skills, camaraderie, and lasting friendships. Let's continue to share the joys of this incredible hobby, building connections that span generations and keeping the spirit of amateur radio alive for years to come. The future is bright, and the airwaves are waiting

### **Intro to the ARRL – Part 3 – Section Manager**

Duties, Membership, Publications, Stats, etc.

As the ARRL Section Manager I am responsible for recruiting, appointing and supervising section-level staff to administer the Field Organization's principal areas of responsibility in the section. Additional duties include filling additional volunteer positions, keeping ARRL members (I consider all licensee's my responsibility) well informed concerning matters of the ARRL which includes ARRL policy, legislative matters, maintains liaison with Division level staff, correspondence with state agencies & ARRL Affiliated Clubs, create and distribute "Section News" (this newsletter), promotes the recruitment of not just ARRL members but all within the amateur radio community, visit both Winter Field Day and Field Day sites, and many other unlisted items.

If you want a national perspective look at the ARRL review the ARRL Annual Report which highlights previous activities, membership counts and the annual audit. There are approx. 136,000 ARRL Members with within the approx. 742,000 nationwide. In Delaware we have 1,767 licensees. There are several clubs in each county in the state. Most are ARRL Affiliated Clubs with several not yet. The ARRL Delaware Section website list mentors for each county. These 'mentors' have voluntarily agreed to provide time and knowledge to assist new amateur radio operators.

Membership costs vary from free to many students to a life membership for someone under 30 at \$3,333.00.

Last year the ARRL raised the dues of ARRL members from \$49 to \$59 which became effective January, 2024. This also removed the mailing of the printed copy of QST and added an additional charge of \$24 for the printed magazine. ARRL members are able to get online copies of their favorite magazines included in their membership. These magazines include QST; the monthly membership journal, On The Air; a bimonthly publication that explains the basics for new hams, QEX, a magazine that covers various topics related to amateur radio and experimentation and the NCJ, The National Contest Journal which is a publication that focuses on amateur radio contests. If you are an ARRL member ensure your preferences under your account at arrl.org are marked to enable you to get not only section emails from me but also division emails from our division staff. Feel free to contact me with any questions about the ARRL and our section.

### **Upcoming Events & Contests**

- ARRL Rookie Roundup – Sunday, April 13, 2025 using SSB. This contest is aimed at amateurs licensed three years or less to encourage newly-licensed operators ("Rookies") in North America (including territories and possessions) to operate on the HF bands and experience competitive Amateur Radio operating. Experienced operators ("Non- Rookies") are strongly encouraged to participate and help new operators – either on the air or in person.
- Delaware Radio Electronics EXPO, Delaware State Convention & HAMFEST - Saturday, April 26, 2025, Cheer Community Center, Georgetown, DE. Lots of new and used radio gear, HRO, tailgating, food, FCC testing, and presentations which include "Deployment to NC" during hurricane Helene and "Starlink for EmComm" presentation



## AUXCOMM

### John Ferguson, K3PFW

In honor of the first day of April, I'll quote the infamous, "There is no fool like and old fool". Now given that we are experiencing the "graying" of amateur radio population, we can extrapolate that there is a growing collection of those of us that have been around a while, and at times a little forgetful. I will gladly use that as my excuse as the need may arise. The Sussex AUXCOMM Group is now formulating plans for the ARRL Field Day in June. Following on the successful "teaching – learning" event we had for Winter Field Day, the plan will be much the same, but this time in a more public venue. Yes, we enjoyed the experience at Redden State Forest in January, but public exposure was very slim; although we did have a couple of visitors. For the June event we will be at the Ellendale Fire Hall in Ellendale. Again, we will be using the AUXCOMM / CERT trailer as base of operation and active on HF through UHF. The public location will give us the opportunity to promote amateur radio as a hobby and a public service; as well as presenting the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program which continues to grow in the county. For new hams and those of the hobby that may have been inactive for a while, the perceived chaos of the HF bands in a contest can be a daunting challenge. Our approach in January was a gentler introduction to getting behind the microphone as well as a few demonstrations of "how it's done, runnin' them". Setup was done somewhat systematically with explanations of 'why' things were done the way they were, and 'how' it was important in the operation of the radios. Yes, being able to survive, copy, and record information, in the 'noise blizzard' of an

HF contest is invaluable experience for Emcomm when the things get hectic; but a rough way to start a newbie.

The AUXCOMM and CERT programs continue to grow and improve. The latest, we now have a dedicated supply room for the two programs. Gaining dedicated space in a government facility is an obvious indication we must be considered an asset. Before we were granted the space, our extras and supplies were in six different shared locations. The consolidation is most appreciated. The change was part of the continuing changes as the Department of Public Safety adjusts to the new organizational structure, and fitting into the existing real-estate. The AUXCOMM Room is now much less cluttered with the Go-Kits, batteries, and handcarts out of there. Some new shelves for the supply room are next on the agenda. We have also converted to Lithium/ion batteries for the Go Kits, replacing the lead-acid ones that we've had for the last ten years or so. The reduction in weight is most appreciated!

There are two coming events of interest:

1. We are offering a Basic CERT Class, April 4, 5, and 6. The twenty-two hour class will provide the student with the instruction and hands-on experience to receive a Basic CERT Certificate, the first step in participating in the county wide CERT Program. As of this writing there are only one or two spots left in the class. If you are interested drop an email to [sussexcountyde.cert@gmail.com](mailto:sussexcountyde.cert@gmail.com) asking for a registration form. If you don't make this class there's one coming in August, and your registration will on the top of the pile!
2. Once again AUXCOMM and CERT are supporting the Coastal Delaware Running

Fest (CODEL) Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup> in Rehoboth and Lewes. This will put close to 3,000 athletes on the streets of Rehoboth, Lewes, and the trails of Cape Henlopen State Park. The 26.2 mile Boston Marathon Qualifier course is a challenge to the runners and to those of us covering it for the safety of the participants. Its great experience, and a good way to demonstrate our programs and their capabilities.

\* For AUXCOMM we need hams out on the course with HT's at fixed locations, or even better on bicycles. Most of the fixed locations are accessible by vehicle or at least you can park close by. This is a V/UHF operation, so dual band capability is almost a necessity. Interested, send an email to [WS3EOC@gmail.com](mailto:WS3EOC@gmail.com) to the attention of Bill Saunders who is managing our participation in the event.

\*For CERT we can use individuals out on the course teamed with an AUXCOMM operator, and can also use several CERT members at the AUXCOMM / CERT Trailer in Lewes, presenting the CERT program to the public, since we are going to be more in the public eye this time than previously. Interested, drop an email to [WS3EOC@gmail.com](mailto:WS3EOC@gmail.com) to the attention of Bill Saunders who is managing our participation in the event. Both the CERT and AUXCOMM programs are a dynamic way to offer your time and talents to serve your community, particularly in times of emergencies and disasters. We hope nothing untoward will happen, but Murphy's Law says it will. Those of us that have been around the proverbial barn for a while, know that Murphy was an optimist! Just listen/watch the news. Daily there are stories of communities beset by all kinds of challenges disrupting the daily order. Are you ready? Is your community ready? The combination of the CERT motto, "The greatest good for the greatest number", and the amateur radio ability to communicate under adverse conditions; the two disciplines coming together is a powerful solution to community disasters. We are seeing quite a

bit of crossover with CERT and AUXCOMM members. That is a really good thing, I believe.

Later, 73  
John K3PFW

### **NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY ...**

If you would like to vounteer to work a few hours at the annual Hamfest. Contact Jamie at [Ashton@mucshi.com](mailto:Ashton@mucshi.com) or visit with him at the meeting.

Delaware Radio Electronics EXPO, Saturday, April 26, 2025, Cheer Community Center, Georgetown, DE. Lots of new and used radio gear, HRO, tailgating, food, FCC testing, and presentations which include "Deployment to NC" during hurricane Helene and "Starlink for EmComm" presentation and demo. [www.radioelectronicsexpo.com](http://www.radioelectronicsexpo.com)

### **MESSAGE FROM OUR TREASURER**

Raffle Tickets will be available at the meeting. The tickets will be the same price as last year; one for \$3 or 5 for \$10. If you are mailing them in, please send by April 14<sup>th</sup>, mail can be very slow sometimes. If there are any questions, please contact me at [N3RTL.rick@gmail.com](mailto:N3RTL.rick@gmail.com)

73  
Rick N3RTL



# Membership Application

Get Automatically Entered When You Join

## ARRL SWEEPSTAKES

[www.arrl.org/DreamStation](http://www.arrl.org/DreamStation)

New    Renew    Previous Member    Unlicensed

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth MM / DD / YYYY

**My Family Member is Joining or Renewing** (\$12 each; must reside with primary member and have corresponding membership dates.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_

Please note my new address    I do not want my name and address made available for non-ARRL related mailings

Your Annual Membership Dues		
Circle Your Choice		
	1 Year	3 Years
Standard membership	\$59	\$174
Family	\$12	\$36
Blind (requires one-time statement of legal blindness)	\$12	\$36
International membership	\$59	\$174
International membership + QST via mail	\$95	\$282

**Add Print Subscriptions (US and its territories)**

**QST**, ARRL's membership journal for active radio amateurs.  
 1 Year \$25\*    3 Years \$75\*

**On the Air**, For beginner-to-intermediate level radio amateurs.  
 1 Year \$25\*    3 Years \$75\*

**QEX**, A Forum for Communications Experimenters  
 1 Year \$29

**NCJ**, National Contest Journal  
 1 Year \$25

**Member Benefits**

Your membership supports benefits, services, and programs that keep you active and on the air, including access to four digital magazines and archives, and unlimited courses through the ARRL Learning Center [learn.arrl.org](http://learn.arrl.org) and more...

**Add a Donation**  
Your Diamond Club donation supports ARRL beyond basic dues.  
 \$250    \$100    Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment Information**

ARRL Membership: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Family Membership: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Add-on Print Subscriptions: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Add a Donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**TOTAL PAYMENT:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*A print subscription for QST and/or On the Air requires an ARRL membership. Dues and subscription rates are subject to change without notice and are non-refundable.

Charge to:    Visa    MasterCard    Amex    Discover    Check Enclosed

**YES**, sign me up for **Auto-Renewal** using the credit card below!

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Card Holder's Signature \_\_\_\_\_