

ZerO Beat



Montgomery Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

Established 1938

June 2014

CALENDER OF EVENTS

CLUB MEETING

Every month - 3rd Monday at 7 PM
American Red Cross Building
5015 Woods Crossing Dr. Montgomery

FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

Saturday morning before the club meeting at 8:30AM
Location to be announced.

2014 Officers

President: Bill Heath, AK4ZE
Past President: Randal Sedlak, KV4AC
Vice-President: Ken Brittin, AK4KN
Secretary: Rick Cochran, AJ4ZZ
Treasurer: Lester Mack, AK4RU
Publicity: Bruce Jenkins, KI4OZW
Trustee: Jim Eiland, KR4JY
Trustee: Phil Salley, K4PO
Trustee: Fred Springall, KR4YK
W4AP Trustee: Tim Moore, K4TK

Local Repeaters

146.840(-) W4AP Wetumpka
146.920(-) W4AP Eastdale (DSTAR)
147.180(+) W4AP Tall tower - Grady, AL 123 Hz
444.500(+) W4AP Wetumpka 100 Hz
444.450(+) WD4JRB Baptist Tower 100 Hz
(Echolink Node 212144)

FCC EXAMS

Montgomery ARRL VE Team: Last Saturday every month at
9:00 AM at Church of the Holy Spirit at 8570 Vaughn Road in
Montgomery, AL.

For information, Robert Shaw, AF4JR, by e-mail,
rshaw72@gmail.com

<http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amaeur-radio-license-exam-session>

CAVEC every 2nd Monday at 6:30 PM at
American Red Cross, 5015 Woods Crossing Dr.
For Info contact Jim Eiland, KR4JY (jeiland@knology.net)

Additional Exam Info:

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/examsearch.phtml?State=AL>

Club Nets

Central Ala 2 meter Net

Sunday at 8:00PM on 146.84 MHz Net manager: Chris, K4LIA

2M SSB Net,

Sunday, immediately following the Central Ala 2 meter Net
on 144.210MHz USB Net Managers: El K4DJL & Jim N4CIO

SkyWarn/Alabama Emergency Net Golf

Thursday at 8:00PM on 146.84. Net manager: Otto, N4UZZ

147.200(+) KE4LTT Friendship 107.2 Hz
444.575(+) KE4LTT Friendship 100 Hz
145.690 W4AP BBS
144.390 W4AP-1/3 APRS Digipeaters



From the President's Shack

By Bill Heath, AK4ZE

I have been president now for three months and I find that I have already caused some dissension among the members. As I said at the beginning, I can't please everybody all the time but I'm trying to come to grips with the ins and outs of being the president. Life being full of ups and downs requires one to become more tolerant to the wishes of the people being served than to one's own desires. I realize that I can be a bit overbearing sometimes and I must try to overcome that. I greatly appreciate all the help I've been given and trust that you will continue to be there when I need you.

Great strides have been taken in the effort of putting together the program for Field Day 2014. Ken Kohnke is doing an outstanding job and continues to need our help, so when called upon, please say Yes and volunteer where needed. The T-Shirt logo has been prepared by AKD and will be displayed at the April meeting. Ken has also sent out a call for volunteers for the annual "Run for a Mom" event to be held at Vaughn Park. Please volunteer.

Fred Beatty has been diligent in preparing for our annual Hamfest coming up in November. Hopefully, we won't have the problems we experienced last year. This is a big money maker for the club, so let's support Fred in every way possible and do all we can to make this year's Hamfest the best ever. Lew Nyman will work with the vendors in table assignments and lend greatly to our success. Thanks to Scott and Anita Poole for agreeing to run the food concession. Thanks before hand to all of you who have volunteered in various assignments.

Otto Arnoscht is working on and heading up the Glassner Memorial bike run again this year. Let's respond as necessary and support this event as in years past. Thanks, Otto! I'm sure we will hear more about this as time progresses.

Three prospective new members tested for Technician licenses on April 14th. Unfortunately, only one passed the test, but the other two said they would be back again next month for a second try. One prospective new member is already a Ham and a former member of the club, who indicated he wanted to rejoin. Ken Brittin gave him a membership application and also to the successful new Technician license holder.

A great deal of thanks is due to our vice president, Ken Brittin, for his untiring efforts to clean up the membership roster and the MARC-List. Way to Go, Ken. Keep up the good work!

Well, I suppose I've said enough for this time. So, until the next time, may God be with you.

73



FIELD DAY 2014

Ken Kohnke, KJ4CJP

Field Day 2014 Chairman



Finally we are seeing some warmer weather. And what does warmer weather bring to mind for us hams? Ok, some of you might have said "Skywarn". But that's not what I'm thinking. I'm thinking Field Day! Yes, Field Day is coming and we will be at Fort Toulouse once again!

Field Day setup will begin on Friday, June 27th at 5:00 p.m. The event starts at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 28th and runs until 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 29th.

This year we will attempt to run in the class of 3A. We plan on setting up a digital station in Tom Brays Airstream where he will operate the VHF station and

help out with the digital station. If you have knowledge on digital operations then I encourage you to come out and participate and help us make digital contacts. Each contact is worth 2 points so help us rack 'em up! As the chairman for Field Day, I am always interested in seeing us do something different for our Field Day. If you have any ideas that would make our Field Day more interesting or exciting, please let me know! If anyone would like to help out with bonus points, then perhaps an Educational Presentation would be the good place to start. Download and read the rules in the [Field Day Information Packet](#) to find other ways to help us score points!

This year our President Bill Heath will be captain of the phone station and John Garman will be captain of the CW station. If you are interested in helping out with those stations please let them or I know.

And of course our Field Day would not be complete without our chef Lew Nyman. Lew will be in command of the grill and will be serving his famous chili, too! So come on out to Fort Toulouse on June 28th – 29th for some fun, fellowship and food!

I look forward to seeing everyone there!

Ken Kohnke (KJ4CJP)
Field Day Chairman
Email: fieldday@w4ap.com

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ALPHABET SOUP - RACES/ARES

By Fred H. Springall KR4YK

I was asked recently about the difference between two seemingly competing disaster and emergency radio services using amateur radio operators. This short article provides some basic information.

RACES stands for the **R**adio **A**mateur **C**ivil **E**mergency **S**ervice and was a program administered by the Federal Government through FEMA during the Civil Defense era. The concept was:

1. To provide an operational radio system and qualified operators in the event of a declared war when the Amateur Radio would be off the air for the duration
2. To assign specific frequencies (including amateur frequencies) that would be available only to pre-designated stations and operators

3. For the participating stations had unique call signs (did you ever wonder why you hear WA, WB and WD prefixes, but no WC ones)
4. To make available military and government surplus communications equipment through the federal surplus systems to qualified members

This service has not been operational, funded or had plans updated for several years and has been dis-established. I was a member of the Regional Emergency Communications Working Group (for FEMA Region IV) for several years and this we made several efforts to re-establish this program for use during disasters, but never received any funding.

ARES stands for **A**mateur **R**adio **E**mergency **S**ervice and is a program administered by the ARRL (American Radio Relay League) to establish a pool of operators and stations that will be available for activation during emergencies and disasters. This program is alive and well and for all purposes and intents has taken the place of the old RACES program. This is a volunteer program and there are some necessary qualifications for the operators.

The Alabama ARES has an excellent website (<http://www.alabama-ares.org/intro.html>) that will provide information about the program as well as the local county contacts.

I will be happy to research and answer any questions that you may have. Just catch me on the air, at a meeting, or e-mail me at kr4yk@arrl.net

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Sign up for Lunch Bunch email notices at w4ap.org

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ARRL Membership

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

In the March 2014 issue of QST, ARRL CEO Harold Kramer, WJ1B, makes a big deal of the fact that ARRL membership is now up to 162,200 members and is growing at a rate of about 1% per year. After patting the ARRL on the back about this, WJ1B launches into a discussion of the different programs that WJ1B feels have contributed to the membership

growth.

Let's take another look at the numbers, though. As the editorial points out, 10,300 ARRL members are international members, meaning that 151,900 U.S. hams are ARRL members. Another article in the March issue, "New Licenses," notes that the total number of licensed radio amateurs at the end of 2013 was 717,201. If you do the math, you'll find that only slightly more than one in five licensed radio amateurs are ARRL members. I personally don't think that's so hot, and it's certainly not worthy of all the self-congratulation going on in this editorial.

The licensing article also points out that "the amateur radio population in the US grew by slightly more than 1 percent last year." That being the case, ARRL membership has grown at about the same rate. If all the programs noted in WJ1B's editorial were so effective, wouldn't you expect membership growth to be at least 2%?

I've said this before, and I'll say it again. I think the ARRL should set a goal to enroll at least 25% of licensed radio amateur as members. I think that this is achievable, and it seems to me that any group calling itself "the national organization for amateur radio" should have at least one in four amateur radio licensees as part of its membership.

What do you think? Is reaching 25% asking too much? If you think I'm right, please reach out to your ARRL division director and tell him so. More members would mean that the ARRL could deliver more services and have more clout in Washington. That sounds like a good thing to me

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When he's not worrying about ARRL membership, Dan, KB6NU enjoys working CW on the HF bands, teaching amateur radio classes, and building kits. For more information about his operating activities and his "No-Nonsense" series of amateur radio license study guides, go to KB6NU.Com or e-mail cwgeek@kb6nu.com.

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MARC MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

For those few who have yet to renew their membership for 2014, please complete an application for 2014 and mail it with payment. This applies to Life Members as well where no payment is due so we have your current information.

Thank you, Ken Brittin, AK4KN

vp@w4ap.com

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MARC WEB PAGE

By Ken Brittin AK4KN

For those of you who have been at the last several meetings, you know that Jim Wolfe, KK4ZCN and I have been working on a new format for our web site on w4ap.com. Jim has done several web sites including the Montgomery Area Square Dance Assn, the Alabama Square and Round Dance Assn, churches and other groups. I want to express my appreciation to Jim for his ideas and responsiveness.

We have tried to keep the old site content while developing the new format.

We have received many inputs and suggestions, thanks to all who have responded. I invite you to take a look at the site. Soon the original address – w4ap.org – will point to the new formatted site. Your suggestions will be welcome and most certainly content update and corrections.

We have a Getting Started page with the idea of providing new and experienced hams some helpful content about getting started in various areas of amateur radio. If you have an area of interest you would like to share please let us know.

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I had intended to get this newsletter out earlier – my apologies. Ken



MONTGOMERY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

MARC, P.O. Box 3141, Montgomery, AL 36109

Proudly Presents:



2014 Montgomery Hamfest & ARRL AL State Convention Saturday, November 8, 2014

LOCATION: Alcazar Shrine Temple

555 Eastern Blvd
Montgomery, AL 36117

Doors open to the Public at 9:00 AM Sharp!

Talk-In: 146.84 (-) call W4AP

VE TESTING:@8:00 AMFORUMS**DOOR PRIZES**

**INSIDE TABLES **HUGE BONE-
YARD**CONCESSIONS**

Hamfest Chair: **Fred Beatty, K8AJX**

(334)-270-0909 or email hamfest@w4ap.org

Vendor Support: Easy access to vendor floor for setup
Vendor Setup Fri, Nov 7, 3-8 PM; Sat, Nov 8, 7-8:50 AM
FREE breakfast for vendors!!

For Table Rentals contact:

Lew Nyman, K1AZE

(334) 354-1933 or email hamfest@w4ap.org

Tables: \$15.00 each – includes one admission

Tailgate: \$15.00 per space – includes one admission

Admission: \$7.00 at the door

Free Parking!!

For more details and the latest information go to: hamfest.w4ap.org

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Year 20

Montgomery Amateur Radio Club - PO Box 3141 - Montgomery, AL 36109-0141

All MARC Members please complete an application annually to keep our membership roster updated. Use CAPITALS for callsigns. Telephone disclosure is optional. If you include a phone number, please indicate whether it may be published on the printed roster.

Name	<input type="text"/>	Birth Year	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	Call Sign	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
Email	<input type="text"/>		Class	<input type="text"/>	ARRL Member <input type="checkbox"/>
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Family Members:

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Email	<input type="text"/>		Class	<input type="text"/>	ARRL Member <input type="checkbox"/>

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Email	<input type="text"/>		Class	<input type="text"/>	ARRL Member <input type="checkbox"/>

MARC membership dues are payable each year from *January 1st until the last day of February.*

Family Membership is for immediate family with 2 or more amateur radio license holders residing *at the same address.*

Associate Membership is for individuals *who do not have an amateur radio license, but are interested in the activities of the club and are preparing for exams.*

Select type of membership:

- Regular Membership - \$25 per year
- Family Membership - \$40 per year
- Senior Membership (age 65-69) - \$15 per year
- Life Membership (age 70+) - no charge
- Associate Membership (Not Licensed) - \$10 per year

Class of license:

- N = Novice**
- T = Technician**
- G = General**
- A = Advanced**
- E = Extra**

Revision: Nov 2013 - Jan 2009 version may be used. Previous versions are obsolete.

The Montgomery Amateur Radio Club

Public Service Since 1938

Amateur Radio

www.arrrl.org

www.w4ap.org



Montgomery Amateur Radio Club, Inc
P.O. Box 3141
Montgomery, AL 36109-0141

