

NET ACTIVITY:
KEN: MONDAY 3.972.5 0030Z
KDN: TUESDAY 3.587 0130Z
KYN CW: DAILY 3.537 0200Z
STATEWIDE DMR: "KY
STATEWIDE 0100Z - Thursday
Evening "

SM: w4nho@arrl.net
SEC: sec@kyham.net
STM: kc4bqk@arrl.net
ACC: n4ver.ky@gmail.com
TS: n9ky@arrl.net
OOC: k4lrx@arrl.net
PIO: w0qi@icloud.com
KYHAM: admin@kyham.net

KENTUCKY NEWS
KENTUCKY SECTION MANAGER
STEVE MORGAN W4NHO
OWENSBORO KY 42301
HAPPENING OF THE MONTH
January 2018



KEN "KENTUCKY EMERGENCY NET" NEED NCS'S



KEN, KY Emergency Net meets weekly on 3.972.5 Mhz or there about each Monday evening at 7:30 EST or 6:30 CST. Recently, it has been in a period of flux because we have only had myself, Ron and Jim step for NCS duty. Don't worry about training. Have you called a VHF net? You can call the KEN. If you need a preamble, myself N4KLG , AG4GT will be glad to send you the current preamble. I know there are many qualified individuals out there. Think what you can do for your fellow amateurs. Propagation will

improve, lets be ready for it. Myself and others will start monitoring the new DMR KY ARES talk group **31211** as a backup to statewide communications during the net when propagation is poor.

As we look forward, I hope that others will step into leadership positions. Region 1 is in search of a new ASEC and DEC for area 3 due to the passing of Nick White, NV9V of Hartford. Our thoughts are with his wife Peggy and family during this time.

ARES in turning a new page. Awaiting what will transpire in the upcoming ARRL board meeting January 19-20. A new reporting system is being revealed although I feel that KY has certainly been in the driver's seat for many years in our reporting. Thank you for your dedication in reporting your activity, it is much appreciated.



Our hat is off to one of our own, Charles O'Neal, KE4AIE has been appointed by Gov. Bevin to KY Boards and Commissions. Charles has provided a positive influence for us in regarding mentoring amateurs in many NIMS and Auxcom classes. Thank you and congratulations Charles!



CLUB OF THE MONTH – RIVER CITIES ARC

The River Cities Amateur Radio Association, RCARA for short, is based in Ashland, Ky and was founded in 1979. Over the past 39 years the club has gone through many changes, but one thing has remained fairly consistent, the Tri-State 2 meter net. Hosted on the club repeater, KG4DVE with the frequency of 146.940 MHz and a tone of 107.2 Mon- Fri at 7:30 PM. The net actually started before the club existed and has continued in one form or another for over 40 years.

The club has monthly meetings on the second Tuesday of every month at the Salvation Army in Ashland, Ky. All meetings are open to the public and anyone is welcome to attend. At every meeting there is an activity, program, or video aimed to educate and inform attendees about the great hobby of amateur radio.

Laurel VEC testing is held bi-monthly on the second Saturday of every odd numbered month at 9am at the Salvation Army in Ashland, KY. Nick Cloyes, N4CL, is in charge of testing and has done a tremendous job since he took over. The past few test sessions have seen an increase in the younger generations getting their ticket. Hopefully this trend continues and helps ensure the future of amateur radio.

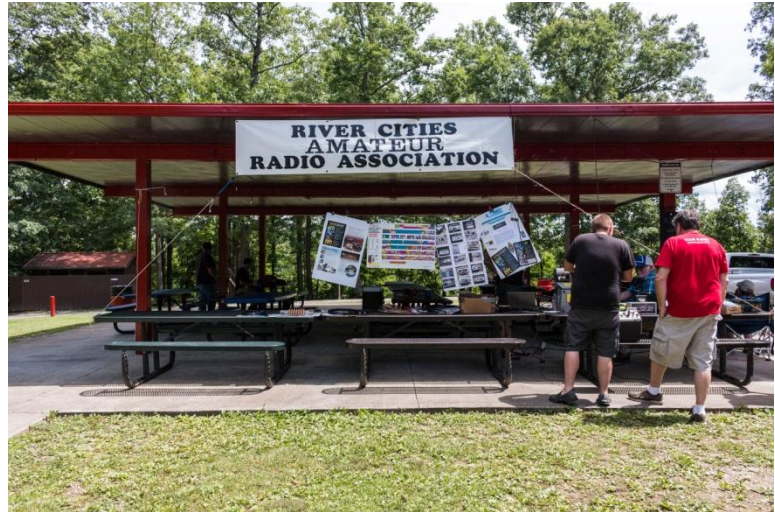


some lucky people win some cool gear.

The club holds an annual tailgate hamfest in the spring (2018 date TBD). It is a small outdoor event that is held at the PNC bank rear parking lot from 8 am to 1 pm on a Saturday. There is covered parking so in the event of rain everyone doesn't get completely soaked. In the parking lot there is a railroad car where the VE testing is conducted during the event. (pun intended) A raffle is held to generate some income to support the club and

ARRL Field Day is always a big event for the club. For the past few years it has been held at ARMCO Park in Ashland, Ky. The location is on a tall hill with lots of trees, perfect for an arsenal of antennas. The summer club cookout kicks the weekend's festivities off and ends with a pancake breakfast on Sunday to provide much needed calories for weary all night operators. This year a few brave members will get together for Winter Field Day the last weekend in January at the same location.

RCARA works closely with Boyd County Emergency Management and provides any necessary support. Club president Chris Straiton, N4TNA has been building an emergency communications vehicle out of an old HVAC service van. Capabilities include HF, VHF, and UHF radios. AREDN mesh network, Winlink email store and forward post office, IP phones with PBX, Video Streaming, and Instant Messaging Chat. All equipment runs on 3 deep cycle 100ah batteries that can be charged by the 300 watts of solar panels on the roof, the alternator when the vehicle is running, or by AC from a generator or shore power. And when you get tired the rear bench seat folds down into a bed.



Going into 2018 we hope to grow the club and get more people involved in amateur radio. And in 2019 there will be some big plans for the clubs 40'th year serving the Tri-State area. Hope you and your family have a safe and prosperous new year.

www.rcara.net

Thousands Getting Their Grids On!

And they're off! New Year's Day January 1 (UTC) marked the opening day for the ARRL International Grid Chase 2018 (IGC <http://www.arrl.org/international-grid-chase-2018>). Among those hitting their grids running was newly minted General-class operator Katie Thompsen, KI7HCX, of Mt. Vernon, Washington, who used the occasion to embark on the Chase and to get on HF for the first time using her own call sign. The 11-year-old comes from a ham radio family. Her dad, Todd, is W7TAO, while her older brothers are Mason, K7MWT, 15 -- who upgraded to Amateur Extra at the examination session where his sister upgraded to General -- and Tanner, K7TMT, 13.

"She called CQ Grid Square Chase on 20 meters and very quickly made 44 contacts," her dad told ARRL. "She was very excited to work her first pileup and even had two Japanese stations QSO with her. She's anxious to continue participating in the grid square chase." Todd Thompsen said all three young radio amateurs are looking forward to participating in Rookie Roundup <http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup> in April.

The IGC is off to a rousing start, with some 6,400 participants from around the globe already showing up on the Leader Board <https://igc.arrl.org/leader-board.php> as of the morning of January 4. Point totals for

the International Grid Chase are shown for confirmed contacts only, and, while the leader boards are not based on real-time data, they are updated several times a day. All contacts on all bands except 60 meters are valid for Grid Chase credit, provided both stations upload their logs to Logbook of The World (LoTW <http://www.arrl.org/logbook-of-the-world>) and get a match.

The objective of the year-long event is to work stations in as many different Maidenhead grid squares as possible, and then upload your logs to LoTW <http://www.arrl.org/logbook-of-the-world>.

Each new grid square contact confirmed through LoTW will count toward your monthly total <http://www.arrl.org/aigc2018>. Stations do not have to exchange grid squares for a valid contact, although it's anticipated that many operators will do so. Some rare grid squares will be in demand. How about yours? Get on the air, and get behind your grid! If you can, get out there, and activate the scarce ones.

Members of the Marconi Cape Cod Radio Club KM1CC <https://www.facebook.com/pg/KM1CC/about/> at the Cape Cod National Seashore will activate rare grid square FN51 January 18-19 for the International Grid Chase.

Complete details of the ARRL International Grid Chase 2018 appeared in the December 2017 issue of QST. For more information, contact contests@arrl.org the ARRL Contest Branch.

Source:

The ARRL Letter Jan. 4, 2018

TECHNICAL COORDINATOR REPORT – DECEMBER 2017

By Chuck Milam, N9KY TC

TS David, N4YHC reports:

The fellow in Arkansas got his problem fixed. There were some bad insulators on the power service that hummed when dry. Glad I could help him.

I asked David to take a look at Jason, KA4JWB's posts, as he is having a heck of a time with RFI. He posted a sample on Facebook and YouTube:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1264039367008422/permalink/1661107213968300/>

<https://youtu.be/FqnUWfV6kiM>

Hopefully, we can help him find a fix.

Still playing with Satellites. Trying to go right to the correct connectors for the situation (jumpers with BNC on one end and SMA on the other for example) to avoid lossy adapters. It's a good use of my crimper that I received for Christmas. I need to play some more with DXLabs. I have tried their logger and don't get it yet. Need more time to play (do you have any extra??).

I told him I could indeed help him with DXLabs, as I'm a long-time user. Software is kind of my thing.

My month of December in ham radio was still centered mostly about recovering from my lightning damage. As I said last month, I sent my K3 to Elecraft for a through checkup (and some upgrades), so I've been using my KX3 QRP rig to get me by while my main rig is in the shop. QRP is fun, challenging, and yes, frustrating at times. Since I also had to set up a new shack PC, I was able to experiment in-depth with the [FT-8 software integration with my DXLabs Suite logging system](#). I was blown away by how much has been done to being all these parts together into one smoothly integrated system. I now am alerted by a pleasant-sounding British voice when a needed state, DXCC, call, or other entity is heard by my station. When I work a station, JT-Alert automatically logs the contact into my DXKeeper log, and will even automatically upload the QSO to LoTW and/or eQSL if I enable that option. I admit there's something nice about making some casual FT8 contacts off on the side monitor while I'm working on another project or even paying bills.

I'm starting to get the itch to melt some solder again, so I bought this [FA-VA4 Vector Antenna Analyzer kit \(BX-240\)](#). I know, this is like the third antenna analyzer kit I've bought in the last two years, but this one looks like it will not only go together quickly, but will be a useful addition to my workbench and toolbox. He's hoping next month I'll have a report on how well it performs for me.

Side Note: Glad to see some of the discussion on alternatives and options for the KEN when conditions are bad. DMR and other linking is one choice, I'd also like to remind our fellow KY hams that more than one HF antenna can help when conditions change. A one-size-fits-all dipole is quite limiting, but I understand sometimes that's all we have available. NVIS and separate RX antennas help when the going gets rough--or just different.

Notes from Around the State:

Calloway Co:

K4CHW

Public Service Event- annual communications provided for the Murray Rotary Christmas Parade. The MSU ARC has been providing this service for many years. Happy New Year & 73!

142 Man HR

Daviess Co

AA4RL

4 ARES WEEKLY REPEATER NET 16.65 MH 4 ARES WEEKLY SIMPLEX NET 11.60 MH 1 3RD REGION KY HOSP EMERGENCY SIMPLEX NET .60 MH 1 3RD REGION KY HOSP EMERGENCY REPEATER NET .15 MH 10 TOTAL NETS 29.00 MH ADMINISTRATIVE, ARES MEETING, AGENCY MEETINGS 2.00 MH TOTAL OF ALL MAN HOURS 31.00 MH. K4HY REPEATER 147.81/21 BACK ON

THE AIR. THANKS TO JIM HUNT KY4AB, HIS CREW AND HIS PERSONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THIS ENDEVOR. IN NW KY GIVE IT A TRY, XMTR WILL BE IMPROVED IN NEAR FUTURE.

Shelby Co:

NG00

Helped with Christmas Parade with support of 8 operators on 12/09. Had Christmas/Thanksgiving Party and Dinner 12/13/17 from 6pm - 9pm with 35 in attendance. Another good month for ARES Net check ins with us doing 3 nets the third Wednesday of the month on 3 different frequencies in County. Looking forward to 2018 !!! 36.67 MH reported

Henry Co:

NG00

Had quarterly Henry County LEPC Meeting 12/20 that lasted 90 min. at Henry County EMA office. Very productive meeting involving Red Cross, Health Department and EMA. Did monthly digipeater check at Health Department. 17.16 MH reported

Anderson Co:

KM4VQD

Participated in 3 of the 4 Anderson Radio Club ARES Nets during December and attended the December club meeting / Christmas dinner. In addition, the Anderson Radio Club assisted emergency management during the annual Christmas Parade with communication and road control. 36.57 MH reported.

Mason Co:

KY4OD

We assisted the Maysville Police Department by providing communications and intersection control during the annual Christmas Parade. We had 9 members assist and made a commitment to provide the same services to them in 2018. This has designated as our December Public Service Event. In 2017 we grew our group to 17 members with 70% of the members participating in public service events. We have begun planning events for 2018 and already have made a commitment to assist with a 100 mile bicycle event this summer. Respectfully submitted, Greg, KY4OD 22.5 MH reported.

DEC 9 Report

W4VJE

Continuing to build out DMR network in Eastern KY. Next repeater to go live is Inez. Also, I have secured tower space and coordination for a DMR/P25 mixed mode repeater in Georgetown. This is one of my commercial repeaters that will be converted and used. It will cover Lexington, Georgetown, Frankfort and further. Thus giving the EOC in Frankfort a direct path to a DMR repeater. I have finally received a talkgroup from Brandmeister for ARES. TG: 31211 Name: KY ARES Statewide. This has been announced on Bluegrass DMR and is ready for operation, as Brandmeister has added it to the servers. Talkgroup has been tested between Prestonsburg and E-town over the network. We now need to consider some sort of statewide net, or training exercise. 11.25 MH

Jackson Co

KB9LXH

This report includes the Southeast Kentucky SkyWarn Net which meets Sundays at 2000 ET on ARES District 11 Linked System serving Jackson and the surrounding counties of District 11. (See December 2017 ADEC report, item #3A for details) For the month of December, the following updates are provided:

1. Membership: Currently have four members with recruitment efforts continuing. 2. Served Agencies: No change from previous month. (See December's ADEC Report, item #3B for further information.) 3. Public Service Events: Participated in the 2017 Skywarn Recognition Day (SRD) sponsored by the National Weather Service from 7:04 PM on 1 December 2017 to 3:16 AM on 2 December 2017 at my QTH as Jackson County EC for 8.2 hours. As ADEC, participated in SRD 2017 from NWSO, Jackson as ADEC from 12:30 PM to 5:00 PM on 2 December 2017 for 3.5 hours. Total time participating in SRD 2017 was 11.7 hours.(see PSAR submitted on 3 December 2017 for details.) 4. Training/Exercise: Southeast Kentucky Skywarn Weather Network 20 MH reported

PSHR REPORT – DECEMBER 2017

NAME	CALLSIGN	NETS	MSGS	APPT	TOTAL
Glenn Foley	KO4OL	38	40	30	108
Steve Morgan	W4NHO	26	30	30	86
Ray	WB4ZDU				27 - SAR

Coming Events:

Cave City Hamfest: March 3, 2018

KY ARRL STATE CONVENTION:

This month I requested input on forums that may be of interest for the ARRL KY State Convention to be held in September via KYHAM. Thus far, I received no input. It is to all our benefit to be able to plan an interesting convention to showcase what Kentucky is all about and maybe training that may be beneficial for everyone. September will be here before we know it. Would appreciate some input so planning can take place. If there is something you would like to showcase let me know.

Silent Keys:

Nick White, NV9V Hartford, KY

Gerald Wyatt, K4UNW (N4GD) Paducah, KY

NTS Reports:						
Net Name	Callsign				Nets	ManHrs
Kentucky Digital Net 2	KC4BQK					
Kentucky Digital Net						
Wilderness Trail Emergency Net	KO4OL				4	185
East KY Emergency Net	WB4CLW					
Lincoln Trail	AF4EB					
Kentucky Emergency Net (KEN)						
Kentucky CW Net	W4NHO				29	566
Newcomers & Elmers Net	AK3Q					
D3 Henderson County ARES	KC4BQK					
D4 ARES Net	W4JHT					
D4 Warren County ARES	KK4AVI					

D5 Hardin County ARES	W8WN			3	64
D5 Hardin ARES Digital Net	KK4DEO				
D6 Jefferson County ARES	KC4S				
D6 Henry County Simplex Net	NG0O			3	19
D6 Oldham County ARES	KE6YCW			3	30
D6 Shelby County ARES	NG0O			6	92.75
D7 KY Emergency Net	KG4HMN				
D7 KY7ET Gallatin Net	K4SHL				
D8 District 8 Emergency Net	KI4NJK				
D9 Pike County ARES	WB4WAU			1	0.73
D10 District 10 ARES Simplex	KF4MF				
D10 Harlan County ARES	KC4FNV			3	60
D10 Letcher County ARES/Skywarn	KF4MF				
D10 Perry County ARES	KK4IFF			9	7569
D13 Madison County ARES	KO4OL			3	58
Total NTS Reports:	10			64	8644.48

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