



THE WIRELESS HILL BEACON

The monthly newsletter of the
Delaware Valley Radio Association
P.O. Box 7024
West Trenton, NJ, 08628-0024



October 2009

OFFICERS

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M. Bepalko, N2KIV

Vice President

D. Norcross, K2DRN

Secretary

J. Sundra, W3ZLP

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Radio Station

D. Marlow, K2QM

Repeater Operations

R. Schroeder, N2HX

Physical Plant

H. Gold, AB2VG

Public Information

T. Bagdas, NU2I

Training & Examinations

D. Wright, AA2F

Web Service

S. Huston, W2SRH

Hamfests

Unassigned

Publications

M. Bepalko, N2KIV

Programs

G. Wilson, K2GW

Immediate Past President

D. Wilmore, W0YMV

DVRA's Next Meeting...

The regular monthly meeting will be held at 7:30 PM on **Wednesday, October 14th**, at The Red Cross, on Alexander Rd., Princeton, NJ. The site is easy to reach from US1. Talk-in is available on the 146.67 (PL 131.8) and 442.65 repeaters.

All are welcome!

This Month:

REMINDER – DON'T GO TO THE SHACK OR CHURCH FOR THIS WEDNESDAY NIGHT'S MEETINGS!

The October meeting (and preceding Directors meeting at 6:30 PM) will be held at a different location on Wednesday, October 14th at 7:30 PM. It will be held at the Central New Jersey Chapter of the American Red Cross, 707 Alexander Road, in Princeton, NJ 08540. This is just south of Route 1 going towards Princeton Junction.

The presentation speaker will be Mark Smith, KC2SMS, who will offer a tour of the facility, the N2ARC Radio Station, a demo of the communications trailer, and discuss plans to upgrade the communications trailer with Amateur Radio Equipment.

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Association Calendar

2009 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

January 14	April 8	July 8	October 14
February 11	May 13	August 12	November 11
March 11	June 10	September 9	December 9

The Directors Meetings are on the same date as the General Meetings above. However, the Directors Meetings begin at 6:30 pm at the club shack. Talk-in available on the 146.67 (PL 131.8) repeater.

TECHNICIAN LICENSE CLASSES

Don Wright, AA2F, periodically holds Technician classes. Classes are held at various locations. Call Don at 609-737-1723 to register.

VE TESTING SCHEDULE

2009 VE Testing Schedule:

January 17	July 19
March 15	September 13
May 17	November 15

All exams start at 12:15 PM sharp!
Testing is at the Hopewell Township Branch of the Mercer County Library, 245 Pennington-Titusville Road, Pennington.
Contact Don Wright, AA2F, 609-737-1723 or aa2f@arrl.net for exam information.

2-METER & 70-CM NETS

2-Meter Nets: All of the following are conducted on the club's 146.67 repeater.

The Pepper Net, 10:00 PM Daily,
Mercer Co. Emergency Net, 7:30 PM Tuesdays, KB2EGI, coordinator.

70-cm Nets: All of the following are conducted on the club's 442.65 repeater.

The Pepper Net, 9:00 PM Daily,

2009 FUND RAISER

DVRA Hamfest Sunday, April **TBD**, rain or shine at the Mercer County Ice Rink

The Wireless Hill Beacon is the monthly newsletter of the Delaware Valley Radio Association. P.O. Box 7024, West Trenton, New Jersey 08628-0024.

Internet: <http://www.w2zq.com>

The editor is T. Mark Bepalko, N2KIV (tmbespalko@aol.com). Submissions are welcome from members and others, preferably by e-mail as a text or Word file. The deadline is midnight on the 20th of each month for the next month's issue; publication of items submitted after that date is not guaranteed.

OFFICER'S & DIRECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORTS

Treasurer, R. Kubinski, KC2PQC

Club Funds as of today are approximately \$3,250. I will bring a budget estimate showing incoming and outgoing funds to the next meeting.

Membership, T. Reeg, K2TFR

Please note that dues payments should be marked "membership" or "dues" on the envelope. I am asking that all dues checks be put aside so I can deal with them in one large group. This is so I can put together an accurate members' roster from scratch. Then I will be able to deal with name tags for new members. Once I get done with the checks I will present them to Ron for depositing. I will ask Ron that any dues checks turned in at the meetings be put aside for me as well.

Radio Station, D. Marlow, K2QM

No report received, per se, but actively involved in the repeater tower issues.

Repeater Operations, R. Schroeder, N2HX

Nothing has been going on with the repeaters.

Physical Plant, H. Gold, AB2VG

The cable across the entrance now has a combination lock.

To prevent random vehicles from parking on our property, Gary K2GW installed a steel cable across the driveway. I just added a padlock. The combination is: 2617

This is very easy to remember: "26" letter of the alphabet is "Z", "17" letter of the alphabet is "Q"

TO OPEN: The word "Master" should face you. Put a little slack in the cable so it won't be pulling on the shackle. Set the number, in line with the word. Push, then pull, the shackle.

If you forget it or lose it, you can always walk under the cable; it only blocks out cars, not people.

Public Information, T. Bagdas, N2UI

Nothing to report this month.

Training & Examination, D. Wright, AA2F

Nothing to report this month.

Web Service, S. Huston, W2SRH

Nothing to report this month.

Programs, G. Wilson, K2GW

REMINDER – DON'T GO TO THE SHACK OR CHURCH FOR THIS WEDNESDAY NIGHT'S MEETINGS! HOTLINK FOR THE MAP:

October DVRA Meeting Map Hotlink

The Second Saturday event will be held on the Third Saturday, October 17, and will be a shack open house for Scouts participating in JOTA and the USCG Auxiliary anniversary event. Norberto Peres, NY8N, is coordinating it and can use some operators to explain Amateur radio to the visitors and help them make HF contacts. Times will be 9 AM to 3 PM or later if interest warrants.

We'll resume our normal location and dates in November.

Publications, T.M. Bepalko, N2KIV

The newsletter is out...

2009 Public Service Events

Put these activities on your calendar and plan on getting involved with one of them:



Alzheimer's Ass'n Memory Walk Sunday, October 11th
ETS Campus, Princeton, NJ
Mark, N2KIV Event Coordinator



Step Out for Diabetes Sunday, October 11th
Princeton Forrestal Village, Princeton, NJ
Darryl, N2JVP Event Coordinator

**Minutes of the
General Membership Meeting
September 09, 2009**

Our Lady of Good Counsel Church,
W. Trenton, NJ

The meeting was opened at 1938 hours by president Mark N2KIV.

An introduction of members followed. Minutes were approved as in newsletter. Bob N2HX gave details re repeater antenna tower. The repeater will operate from spare tower when tower repair goes on. Mark commented on neat appearance of shack and grounds. Hy informed club second Saturday work party coming up. Hy gave details on items that will need attention. Mark: club needs to organize an election committee. If you would like to volunteer in this effort please contact Mark N2KIV.

The October meeting will be held at the American Red Cross headquarters on Alexander Road. The Red cross was pleased with the clubs use of their trailers for our field day activities. A design team will be organized to install amateur radio equipment into their communications trailer. Contact Gary if desire to work with this group. Roberto expressed a need for a bucket truck. Some discussion followed. His needs were met.

Bob N2HX spoke of surplus army Kenwood radios. Roberto NY8N gave a brief demo. JOTA and USCG will have a joint day at the shack. Roberto gave a brief talk about the USCG Auxiliary and their activities. If you would like to be involved in this project contact Roberto NY8N.

Kip informs us that a simulated emergency test (SET) will take place 03 OCT. The Atlantic Division area will be involved

The meeting was adjourned at 2010 hrs.

Activities; Members recounted their summer activities. Roberto present detail of his project to for organizing his emergency gear. Tim reprogrammed his computer. Russ showed paintings he did over the summer. Cal narrated a submarine story. Gary presented a well thought out first aid kit and showed the members the new updated Boy Scout manual. All had a good time.

Respectfully submitted,
Joe Sundra, W3ZLP
Secretary

**Minutes of the
Director's Meeting
September 09, 2009**

DVRA Shack, W. Trenton, NJ

The meeting was opened at 1830 hrs. by the vice president.

Bob N2HX called a crane company. Cost of tower project will be \$800.00 for estimated half day. Bob described the procedure. Bruce N3IA stated that the tower take will be a delicate operation. Club insurance should cover us. Various technical details were discussed.

President Mark N2KIV took over the meeting at 1836 hrs.

Lance Weight, KC2MTO, will remove ties from

shack electrical grounds. Lance was contacted by Bob N2HX.

Mark gave information about future club participation in the computer fests. Two walk type activities will be coming up in future activities.

The second Saturday work party will be coming up. Meeting was adjourned at 1910 hrs

Respectfully submitted,
Joe Sundra, W3ZLP
Secretary

Balanced Lines April 2009

Bob Schroeder, N2HX ©2009

2009 SIMULATED EMERGENCY TEST

The ARRL-sponsored Simulated Emergency Test (SET) was held on Saturday, October 3 all over the country. I'm pleased to report that 15 out of 21 New Jersey counties participated. Unlike previous years, I did not design a statewide scenario to follow. Last year's scenario was a tsunami that was created in the Canary Islands that would impact the New Jersey coast. This year's exercise was left up to the discretion of the counties. It worked out well. Participating counties in northern NJ played in an ARRL section wide exercise organized by George Saabi, KC2GLG who is the ARES coordinator for the northern part of the state. Some counties ran their exercise as part of a local Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) drill.

Mercer County ARES conducted its operations from the DVRA shack instead of the Mercer County EOC. They communicated with other ARES members at simulated command posts and disaster sites in the county. Kip, KB2EGI, will no doubt report on his activity elsewhere in this newsletter.

Sussex County ARES/RACES incorporated their SET participation as part of the annual Sussex County Fair.

Kudos to all the ARES/RACES operators who gave of their time for this national test. At New Jersey OEM I am submitting an after action report through my chain of command so that Amateur Radio gets the recognition that it justly deserves.

HAROLD VAN DYKE, KD2PH, SK

If you've been in the DVRA for any significant time, you probably met Harold "Van", Van Dyke, KD2PH. Bob, WB2F, informs me that Van passed away over the October 4 weekend. Van previously held the call WA2YIA and served the club as its president. He was also responsible for many of the improvements to the shack during the 1980s. He was partners with Heston Smith in a travel trailer company known as Smith and Van Dyke Trailer Sales in Hopewell.

All for now.
Comments invited.

Bob Schroeder, N2HX
Past President, DVRA

QRP-ARCI FALL CONTEST

L. Jeffrey Hetherington - VA3JFF / VE3CW

Hi All!

This coming weekend is the BIG ONE from the QRP-ARCI Contest side of things.

With the Worked All ARCI Challenge going on as well, this is a tremendous opportunity to get a bunch of numbers in a short period of time.

2009 QRP-ARCI(sm) Fall QSO Party

Date/Time:

1200Z on 17 October 2009 through 2400Z on 18 October 2009. You may work a maximum of 24 hours of the 36 hour period.

Mode:

HF CW only.

Exchange:

Members send: RST, State/Province/Country, ARCI member number

Non-Members send: RST, State/Province/Country, Power Out

QSO Points:

Member = 5 points

Non-Member, Different Continent = 4 points

Non-Member, Same Continent = 2 points

Multiplier:

SPC (State/Province/Country) total for all bands. The same station may be worked on multiple bands for QSO points and SPC credit.

Power Multiplier:

>5 Watts = x1

>1 - 5 Watts = x7

>250 mW - 1 Watt = x10

>55 mW - 250 mW = x15

55 mW or less = x20

Suggested Frequencies:

160m 1810 kHz

80m 3560 kHz

40m 7030 kHz (please listen at 7040 kHz for rock bound participants)

20m 14060 kHz

15m 21060 kHz

10m 28060 kHz

Score:

Final Score = Points (total for all bands) x SPCs (total for all bands) x Power Multiplier.

Teams:

You may enter as a team with an unlimited number of operators as long as no more than 5 transmitters are on the air concurrently. You compete individually as well as on the team. Teams need not be in the same location. Team captains must send a list of members to the Contest Manager before the contest.

Categories:

Entry may be All-Band, Single Band, High Bands (10m-15m-20m) or Low Bands (40m-80m)

How to Participate:

Get on any of the HF bands except the WARC bands and hang out near the QRP frequencies. Work as many stations calling CQ QRP or CQ TEST as possible, or call CQ QRP or CQ TEST yourself! You can work a station for credit once on each band.

Worked All ARCI Challenge: With the current WAAC challenge running this a chance to pick up huge numbers towards your challenge score. Details are at: <http://www.qrparci.org/content/view/8350/132/>

Email Log Submission:

Submit Logs in plain text format along with a summary stating your Callsign, Entry Category, Actual Power and Station Description along with score calculation to contest@qrparci.org

Snail mail Log Submission:

Submit Logs along with a summary stating your Callsign, Entry Category, Actual Power and Station Description along with score calculation to:

ARCI Fall QSO Party
c/o Jeff Hetherington, VA3JFF
139 Elizabeth St. W.
Welland, Ontario
Canada L3C 4M3

Deadline:

Entries must be postmarked on or before 18 November 2009.

Results:

Will be published in QRP Quarterly and shown on the QRP-ARCI website.

Certificates:


Will be awarded to the top scoring entrant in each category. Certificates may be awarded for 2nd and 3rd place if entries are sufficient in a category.

=====

L. Jeffrey Hetherington - VA3JFF / VE3CW
QRP-ARCI(sm) Contest Manager

Supporting Sponsors

H. Robert Schroeder



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11 CAPTIVA COURT
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(609) 585-2001 CELL (609) 847-6899

Phone: (609) 888-3400
Fax: (609) 888-1878

MARY E. MOON, V.M.D.
HAMILTON VETERINARY HOSPITAL

OFFICE HOURS
BY APPOINTMENT

18 EAST PARK AVENUE
HAMILTON, NEW JERSEY 08610

Google maps Address **707 Alexander Rd**
Princeton, NJ 08540

