



KEY KLIX

Amateur Radio Club of Savannah

November 2008

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Issue 11

The next meeting of the Amateur Radio Club of Savannah will be held November 11, 2008, at 7:30pm. The meeting will be in classroom 4 or 5 in the Hoskins Building at Memorial Hospital. The Hoskins Building is next to Parking Garage C at the Ranger St. entrance. The meeting agenda includes the nomination of Officers for 2009. Several people have already expressed an interest to "run" for an office for next year. No one will be nominated unless they are at the meeting or have expressed an interest to be an officer prior to the meeting. A program will follow. Light refreshments will be available.

The October ARCS meeting was a different format from our previous meetings. Instead of the normal, hum-drum, very structured business meeting, we sat around in a semi-circle, took care of business quickly, had a snack and refreshments, and viewed an encore presentation of "The Tour of Shacks" created around 1990 by Andy Blackburn and area hams. Everyone enjoyed the presentation. More presentations and programs are on tap for next year. If you can present a program or have any ideas for programs, we would love to hear from you. The best place to present your idea is a ARCS club meeting. Everyone at the October meeting approved of the "change." (Thanks go to Doug Rowland for providing the cobbler and Beth Ann Blackburn for the drinks.)

Plans for the ARCS Annual Dinner will be announced at the November meeting. Skyler's Restaurant on Bay St. is currently being considered. We have also been offered free musical entertainment (if there is no other event conflict with the musical artist.)

ARCS is planning HF, VHF/UHF, fox hunts, hidden transmitter hunts, new programs, and other fun oriented activities in the near future. Plans are being made to have a picnic and a amateur radio operating event at Fort McAllister January 3, 2009. Members of the ARCS with tents and campers are also encouraged to camp at the park for camaraderie. More details will be revealed at the November meeting.

The ARCS Net participation is good with around 20 check-ins in each session. The Thursday Night Net is a great way of keeping up with what is going on with the Amateur Community and the Amateur Radio Club of Savannah. It is also another way of making your interests in the club known. The ragchew portion of the net is a great opportunity to mention what you would like to see us do.

--- *Andy Blackburn, WD4AFY, Editor*

A Visit with a Pennsylvania Amateur Radio Club Carbon Amateur Radio Club

I was about to drag Andrew, WD4AFY, 801 miles for my annual visit with family and friends in Lehigh, Pennsylvania. We headed north on Tuesday, October 14th following the ARCS meeting which concluded at 9PM. It was not the most ideal time to leave for a 13 hour driving marathon to the Poconos, but I was ready to see family after a year's absence. Since I was dragging Andrew this distance, and to see my family, it just so happens that it was also over his birthday. I really felt bad (not), well anyway I wanted to do something for him while we gone. I had

looked into the meeting for the local radio club and had emailed the President, Charles Zimmerman, N3WXO. He indicated that we were certainly welcome to attend their meeting and also invited us to the casual dinner group if we were available. When we arrived at the diner, there were a total of 7 hams. It was nice to hear about their club from a variety of view points. The diner was just down the mountain from the meeting place which was held at the 911 center in Nesquehoning, PA.

After our meal, we arrived at the Carbon County 911Center Meeting Room. We were met by another member who made us feel most welcome. The business meeting was handled a little different and I believe there are some ideas that we might be able to integrate into our own meetings. That evening the program was regarding various types of batteries, their properties, and applications. There were visual aids as well as a power point presentation.

There was a nice attendance and Andrew and I were welcomed by all.

--- *Beth Ann Blackburn, KI4ZDN*

ARCS Field Day Score Listed in ARRL Online News Letter

Field Day scores are now available to members on the ARRL website. The Amateur Radio Club of Savannah has a respectable score of 1744 points in the 3A category.

October ARES Station Testing and Familiarization Training

The Chatham County Amateur Radio Emergency Service held its monthly station testing and familiarization training at the Memorial Health University Medical Center on Oct 11. Memorial is one of our served agencies and has the call sign of K4MUM. We fired up the station and got good comm checks on HF, UHF, and VHF. We also took the opportunity to provide some "How to Operate" training for a couple of our newest operators, Melissa (KJ4HAI) and Robert (KJ4HAL).

Other participants included Ken-W4JKG, Kevin-WD0GFG, Mark-KA4CID, Mac-KF4LMT, Mac-AF4KL, Steve-K4SDJ.

Chatham County ARES tests at least one of our served agencies stations at least once per month. Stay tuned for Nov station testing information.

--*Guy McDonald, K4GTM, EC Chatham County ARES*

K4S Boy Scouts Jamboree on the Air Station, 18 October, 2008

Saturday morning broke with rainy skies and muddy ground out at the Oglethorpe Speedway in Pooler, GA. Despite the conditions, we were still determined to get on the air with the Boy Scouts. We hung sides on the tent shelters to keep the equipment dry,

fought the mud, and started making contacts. Band conditions were good on Saturday morning and there was plenty of activity.

We had four stations set up this year. Philip, KA4KOE had his "Green" military HF radio set up for HF contacts. Ralph, W4REQ had his FT-857 set up for HF and 6 meters. Dan, KF4MND brought his Echolink equipment out and set up an Echolink node. The fourth station was my FT-897 for HF and 6 meters. I brought a G5RV Jr. (40-meters through 10-meters) to use with my station and I couldn't have been more happy with how it performed. I used it on 40, 20, and 17 meters with excellent signal reports when we weren't fighting QSB. In addition to working the radios with the Scouts, Philip also gave some soldering demonstrations and lessons.

It was great fun working with the Scouts. We were able to qualify several Scouts for their radio badges and started others on the road toward theirs. Several Scouts were really enthusiastic about amateur radio and seemed to be prospective hams. I enjoyed working with the Scouts just as much as I did working with the radios.

I would like to thank a couple of stations in particular for helping the Scouts get contacts: KE4AMC and W4C. KE4AMC, Darryll worked five of the Scouts on Saturday morning. W4C, the USCG Auxiliary 69th Anniversary Special Event Station in Merritt, NC took time out of working contacts with the special event station to work three of the Scouts.

---Article sent by KA4KOE - composed by KF4LMT

Items for Swap or Sale

Philip Neidlinger, KA4KOE, provided the following information:

My pastor has some ham radio gear for sale. His name is Bill Strickland with Richmond Hill United Methodist Church, and this is his personal gear he's had since he was a teenager.

Heathkit DX-60 transmitter, CW and AM phone
Heathkit HG-10 matching VFO
Hallicrafters SX-140 receiver

Contact:
Rev. Bill Strickland
Richmond Hill UMC
Telephone 912-756-2190

Articles for the Key Klix are always wanted and needed. Email articles to the *Key Klix* editor, Andy Blackburn, WD4AFY.

andyblackburn3@comcast.net

Announcements / Dates

ARCS November Meeting

Tuesday, November 14, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. The program for this evening will be another Encore Presentation Video and discussion of future plans/activities for ARCS. A light snack will be served. We have several activities in the works and look forward to expanding with member ideas. The meeting will be in classroom 4 or 5 in the Hoskins Building at Memorial Hospital. The Hoskins Building is next to Parking Garage C at the Ranger St. entrance. Talk-In is on the 146.970 Repeater

ARCS Thursday Night Net

Thursday Nights at 9:00 PM, 146.970 repeater

Weekly Chatham County ARES Net

Thursday Nights at 9:00 PM, on the primary frequency 146.970 repeater

Weekly Georgia Section ARES Net

The Georgia Section ARES holds a weekly HF net each Sunday at 5:00pm on the primary Georgia ARES frequency of 3975.

Simplex 2 Meter Net

There is an informal simplex net on 146.520 at 8:45 PM, just prior to the ARCS Net; affiliated with no particular group, it is an effort by local hams to ascertain coverage areas and ranges for 2-meter simplex in the Savannah area.

Effingham ARES/Skywarn Net

Tuesday Nights at 9:00 PM, 146.745- (CTCSS 97.4)

First/Third Tuesdays are Skywarn Nets

Second/Fourth Tuesdays are ARES Nets

When Fifth Tuesdays occur, they will be ARES Nets

For further information on Effingham ARES or Skywarn contact NT6H at nt6h@arrl.net

Southeast Georgia 6 Meter Ragchew Net

Monday Nights at 9:00 PM

50.130 USB Primary, 50.200 USB Secondary

For more information contact kf4lmt@comcast.net