



THE WATT



CALVERT AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER
October 2012

ASSOCIATION QSO

ATTENTION. The next general membership meeting will be held next month at the Mount Hope Community Center in Sunderland Maryland. on November 1st 2012 at 7:15 pm.

October 4 2012 marked the eleventh CARA meeting of the year. Members discussed various topics including collecting nominations for the upcoming election for CARA officers. The election will be held at the next general membership meeting on November 1st.

The by-law committee was reestablished to review the by-laws related to executive board meeting dates and CARA membership type definitions and submit their recommended change by the next meeting.

Information on the Mount Hope HF station was presented to the members. The next general meeting will be held at the Mount Hope Community Center in Sunderland Maryland to allow CARA members an opportunity to see the new K3CAL HF station.

Several members recommended naming the Mt Hope HF Station in remembrance of CARA founding fathers. Further discussion as to the name of the CARA K3CAL Mount Hope Station is expected to take place at a future meeting or on the CARA e-mail reflector.

Be sure to check out the CARA website at www.k3cal.org or keep an eye on the newsletter and an ear on the 146.985 repeater for more information.

73 – KB3WV

CQ CQ CQ – CARA news and announcements

- Want to become a member of the Calvert Amateur Radio Association? You can find the membership application forms and more information

about a CARA membership on the CARA web site or click on the link provided for you here: [K3CAL Join CARA](#)

- Be sure to join the CARA net every Monday night @ 7:00 pm on the 146.985 repeater, negative offset with a 156.7 PL.
- CARA breakfast meetings are held every third Saturday of the month. This month the breakfast will be at Dream Weavers on November 17th 9:00AM.
- The next Association meeting will be held November 1st 2012 @ 7:15 pm at The Mount Hope Community Center in Sunderland Maryland.

On The Air – Mount Hope HF Station to Open in November

The K3CAL HF Station at Mount Hope is scheduled to open in November. Station Coordinator Bob KF3AA met with the control operators at Mount Hope in Sunderland Maryland to go over the final details of operating the Mount Hope HF station. The station is currently scheduled to be open on Wednesday nights, Saturday mornings and Saturday evenings. The station will be set up to allow amateur radio operators or their guest, to use equipment or bands that they may not have access to. It can also be used by non-amateurs who may want to check things out before testing for their ham ticket.

Twelve CARA members have volunteered to be Control Operators and will form two man teams to oversee radio operation at Mt Hope when the station is open. A schedule of when the station will be open and by which team of Control Operators is expected to be announced during the November meeting at Mt Hope on November 1st.

73 – KB3WV

ARES REPORT – Dennis Bowling - N3QHC



The Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES) consists of licensed amateurs who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment, with their local ARES leadership, for communications duty in the public service when disaster strikes.

The Amateur Radio Emergency Services Coordinator (EC)

**for Calvert County is:
Dennis Bowling - N3QHC**

Simulated Emergency Test (SET)

This year SET was held on October 6th from 9 AM until 10 PM, A simple test involving 10 stations to test the 146.985 coverage from Solomons Island to Upper Marlboro and a test of the ability to pass messages using simplex though the same 10 stations. Brian KB3WV operated as net control for the SET from Upper Marlboro. Once all of the participating stations were checked in to the net on the repeater they were directed to switch to simplex and wait for a message to be passed. The message "There are Donuts in the Command Center" originated in Upper Marlboro and was successfully relayed to Solomons Island. This excursive proves that a message can be passed from the Northern end of Calvert County to the Southern end by way of 2 meter simplex. More on this successful test and other things learned from it will be in future newsletters. Stay tuned.

Patuxent River Appreciation Day Parade Communication Support

The Patuxent River Appreciation Day (PRAD) Parade was scheduled to be held on Sunday Oct 7th in Solomons Island. Calvert ARES members in cooperation with St Mary's ARES members were scheduled to provide communication support to pass messages from the parade staging area to the parade announcers. PRAD parade organizers canceled the event early Saturday evening due to heavy rain and wind expected on Sunday

IMPORTANT CALV-ARES NOTES

- ALL CALV ARES Nets and Meetings will be held on the 146.985 repeater Tuesdays at 1930-Hours (L) per this schedule:

1st Tuesday

CALV ARES Net at 7:30 P.M. (L)

Sit-Rep and ICS 214a Forms*

2nd Tuesday

COMMEX Drill with CALV ARES/RACES Teams at 7:30-8:30 P.M. (L)

(September through May)

Sit Rep, ICS 214a and ICS 213 Forms*

3rd Tuesday

CALV ARES Meeting at 7:30 P.M. (L)

at the Phillips house in Prince Frederick

- 4th Tuesday

CALV ARES Net at 7:30 P.M. (L)
Sit-Rep and ICS 214a Forms*

5th Tuesday
CALV ARES Net at 7:30 P.M. (L)
Sit-Rep and ICS 214a Forms*

*Suggested to have 3 Sit-Rep Forms and 1 ICS 214a on-hand.
All Forms can be printed from Calvert_ARES Yahoo Group site under
FORMS or stored in Section 8 of CALV OPS Plan Manual.

- Calvert ARES is now holding meetings every third Tuesday at the Phillips House in Prince Frederick @ 19:30 PM (L)
- ARES binders are now available for download from the ARES Yahoo Group calvert_ares

**73, Dennis Bowling – N3QHC
ARRL ARES EC CALV MD USA**

***For more information about ARES contact Dennis Bowling at
n3qhc@verizon.net or visit <http://www.arrl.org/ares>***

RACES Report – Bill Hackett – N3MXZ



The Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) is a standby radio service provided for in Part 97.407 of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rules and regulations. It consists of only those amateur radio operators who have previously registered with State and local governments to provide or supplement communications during emergencies where normal communication systems have sustained damage.

**The Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service Officer (RO)
for Calvert County is Bill Hackett N3MXZ**

RACES Officer Bil Hackett has been hard at work with the Calvert County EOC. Bill reports that new cabling will be installed at the EOC to allow the installation of a new radio in the EOC. A new computer for the RACES desk has been requested and the radio room for RACES has been rearranged to allow for a second operators position. RACES badges are expected to be available very soon contact Bill Hackett to schedule getting your badge. Look for more in depth stories on these another RACES activities in future newsletters.

IMPORTANT RACES / ARES INFORMATION REQUIRING ACTION

All Calvert RACES and ARES members have been asked by Bobby Fenwick, Division Chief of Public Safety for Calvert County, to complete the Calvert County RACES application form and register as a Calvert R.A.C.E.S. Member as soon as possible. This form should be filled out by ALL RACES and ARES members, new and old even if you have filled one out in the past.
(See below for form location and instructions)

In order to support regular RACES training, current and new Calvert R.A.C.E.S members are also asked to register as a Calvert ARES member.

SKYWARN



Many Americans feel the effects of severe weather every year. To obtain critical weather information, NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS), part of the U.S. Department of Commerce, established SKYWARN

SKYWARN is a volunteer program with nearly 290,000 trained severe weather spotters. These volunteers help keep their local communities safe by providing timely and accurate reports of severe weather to the National Weather Service.

Hurricane Sandy an unpredictable storm looms at the Eastern seaboard just off the coast of Florida. This storm has the potential of bringing heavy wind rain and possible snow to the Calvert County area as early as October 28th.

Here is a website that can help you keep an eye on this Dangerous storm. <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>

73 – KB3WFFV

For more information about SKYWARN visit
<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/skywarn/> or <http://skywarn.org/>

The Amateurs Behind The Microphone –

The anticipated opening of the K3CAL Mount Hope HF station has the potential to create many more subjects for the Amateur Behind the Microphone section of this newsletter. It has also stirred members who want to remember those who are credited with the beginning of CARA. CARA's founding members are rich in amateur radio history and CARA would like to properly name the Mt Hope HF facility in honor of it's founding members. The executive board is seeking input from CARA members with suggestions for such as name. Any CARA member with suggestion should contact KB3WFFV at kb3wv@yahoo.com

As part of the Mt Hope HF station the need for CARA QSL cards has come to the fore front. CARA is currently accepting suggested QSL cards for consideration. If you have a QSL card Idea please contact KB3WFFV at kb3wfv@yahoo.com

73 – KB3WFFV

The Blind Side – Stray RF and White Noise from KB3WFFV

The following was provided to me by Dennis N3QHC .. enjoy !

A few days ago I was having some work done at my local garage. A blonde came in and asked for a seven-hundred- ten.

We all looked at each other and another customer asked, 'What is a seven-hundred- ten?'

She replied, 'You know, the little piece in the middle of the engine, I have lost it and need a new one..'

She replied that she did not know exactly what it was, but this piece had always been there.

The mechanic gave her a piece of paper and a pen and asked her to draw what the piece looked like.

She drew a circle and in the middle of it wrote 710. He then took her over to a car just like hers which had its hood up and asked 'is there a 710 on this car?'.

She pointed and said, 'Of course, its right there.' the mechanic fainted

If you're not sure what a 710 is

Scroll down



73 – KB3WFV

Suggestion or comments for THE WATT

e-mail us at newsletter@k3cal.org

THE WATT

CALVERT AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

October 2012
