MDC Section News August 2024

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\*MDC SECTION OPEN POSITIONS

The following positions are available on the MDC Section Staff:

Emergency coordinator in the following Counties:

Baltimore /Kent/ Queen Anne/ Somerset/ Talbot

Technical Specialists for the Maryland Hospital Program

Local Government Liaisons

Public Information Officer

Technical Specialist - Website Developer (Wordpress)

For more information, please send an email to me at ab3wg@arrl.org

\* MDC SECTION-WIDE ECHOLINK NET

This month’s MDC Section wide EchoLink net will be held on Friday August 16 2024 at 8:00 PM ET on the EchoLink WASH\_DC Node 6154. The MDC Section EchoLink net is always held on the third Friday evening of every month at 8:00 PM eastern local time. EchoLink Link Repeaters for Net If you would like to join in on RF the following repeaters are linked.

- KA2JAI-R to Millersville repeater 146.805- PL107.2

- WB3GXW-R, 147.225(+), PL156.7 Hz, Calverton, MD

- W3FDK-R, 146.73(-), PL141.3 Hz, Frederick, MD

- K3CAL-R, 146.985(-), PL156.7, Sunderland, MD

- K3ERA-R, 145.230(-), PL110.9, District Heights, MD

- W3SMD-L, 147.51, Simplex, St Mary's County, MD

- WA3DZD-R Maryland FM Association

Repeater owners are encouraged to join our MDC Section EchoLink Net group and link your repeater - TU! Everyone is encouraged to join in and give any updates on what is happening in your part of the ARRL Maryland-DC Section. You may download the free software from: http://echolink.org/register\_data.jsp or your App Store online. Thanks John Creel WB3GXW for making the WASH\_DC EchoLink server and his WB3GXW-R repeater available for the EchoLink nets.

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\*\* SECTION MANAGERS NOTES

ARRL -Section wide member email is still not available. I will continue to post the Section News on our website ARRL-MDC.ORG. Also will distribute to affiliated club reps.

Each year, the ARRL hosts new Section Managers for training workshops. This year the training is on September 13 through the 15th. As I was not able to attend last year, I will be going this year. I look forward to meeting the many folks who have helped me thus far. I hope to return with a better insight and appreciation for the many things the ARRL does for Amateur Radio.

I will be speaking at the September 5th meeting of the Anne Arundel Radio Club. Topics will include League structure and where we in MDC fit in, Club programs, new ham programs and what’s going on at the ARRL. I hope to take some questions from those in attendance.

Let's continue working and learning together.

Tu es 73,

Chris Van Winkle AB3WG

Maryland / DC Section Manager, ARRL

240-755-4257

AB3WG@ARRL.ORG

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\* DIVISION NEWS

Atlantic division page has been updated with new information:

Please visit the Atlantic Division website atldiv.org

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\* UPCOMING HAMFESTS & CONVENTIONS

9/7/2024 – ARA Tailgate Fest

Location: Maugansville Church, Maugansville MD

17904 Binkley Ave

Sponsor: Antietam Radio Association

Email: [tailate@antietamradio.com](mailto:tailate@antietamradio.com)

Website: https://antietamradio.org/posts/tailgatefest-2024

10/06/2024 - CARA Fest 2024

Location: West Friendship, MD

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Columbia Amateur Radio Association

Website: <http://www.carafest.org>

10/12/2024 - SMCARA Tailgate Fest (**not yet Approved**)

Location: Hollywood, MD

Sponsor: St Mary’s County Amateur Radio Association

Website: http://Public@smcara.groups.io

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\* EXAMS ACTIVITIES OPPORTUNITIES & SPECIAL EVENTS

Please send me your upcoming ARC events, suggestions and comments. You may view upcoming Hamfests here: <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar>. I plan to attend your ARRL Maryland-DC Section events.

FCC AMATEUR RADIO EXAMS:

VEC website or Laurel VEC for details.

https://larc-vec.org/home.php

Laurel VEC License Exam Search: https://larc-vec.org

Test Dates in Essex:

Sept.21st

Nov.16th

Contact Pat Stone [AC3F@arrl.net](mailto:AC3F@arrl.net) for more information.

NET CONTROL OPERATORS NEEDED:

Baltimore Traffic Net - Contact Baltimore Traffic Net Manager, Don N3FQC [N3FQC@ARRL.net](mailto:N3FQC@ARRL.net)

MDC Section Nets:

Baltimore Traffic Net - 146.670 tone 107.2 Daily 18:30 more information at https://www.baltimoretraffic.net/

Maryland Emergency Phone Net - 3820 / 1920 & 7243 kHz LSB Daily 1800L

Maryland Delaware DC - MDD meets daily at 7:00 PM and 10:00 PM local time on 3.557 MHz. CW

Maryland Slow Net - MSN meets daily at 7:30 PM Eastern Time on 3563 KHZ. CW

HF Hospital Net - The HF Hospital Net is held on the Wednesday following the third Monday of every month. Start time is 1900L on 3820kHz

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\* SKYWARN REPORT AI0K

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\*SECTION EMER COORDINATORS REPORT KG4WWH

League Reporting is not available at this time.

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\* MDC SECTION TRAFFIC MANAGER'S REPORT - W3YVQ

MDC NETS 2407:

**MEPN/C2,** MARYLAND EMERGENCY PHONE NET, 3820/2200Z-DY

Liaisons: 3RN2/WVA/DTN/MDD/BTN/DTS/WL2K/EL, LSB

MEPN 2407 W3YVQ QND/30 QNI/377 QTC/29 MINS/553

**BTN/C4**, BALTIMORE TRAFFIC NET, 146.67/107.2/1830L-DY

Liaisons: MEPN/MDD/DTS/WL2K, 6.805/107.2 bu1, 6.67S bu2

BTN 2407 N3FQC QND/31 QNI/323 QTC/27 MINS/560

**MDD/C4**, MARYLAND/DC/DELAWARE NET, 3557/1900L-2200L-DY

Liaisons: 3RN4/DTN/MEPN/BTN/MSN/DTS/WL2K, CW

MDD 2407 AA3SB QND/56 QNI/134 QTC/6 MINS/231

(Est. QNI, MINS; NO REPORT)

**MSN**, MARYLAND SLOW NET, 3563/1930L-DY TRAINING,

Liaisons: MDD, CW

MSN 2407 N3AEA QND/20 QNI/55 QTC/6 MINS/303

**PSHR** 2407: KK3F 150, W3YVQ 135, NI2W 89, KB3MXK 73, WB3FTQ 64;

**TFC** 2407: KK3F 614, W3YVQ 41, WB3FTQ 29, NI2W 14,

KB3MXK 13.

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HF PROPAGATION JUN 2024

MEPN NVIS propagation (2130Z to about 2220Z) was poor in July due to the late-afternoon high-sun-angle E and D layer absorption conditions, signals dipping down and becoming weaker temporarily some days around 2200Z, and a significant amount of solar activity which caused additional absorption. Solar cycle 25 continued in May with 3 X-class and 96 M-class x-ray flares with subsequent blackouts sub-solar, continental, and polar. High-energy particle arrivals from flare-related CMEs continued the absorption losses and even caused functional blackouts for hours and days in some instances. The story is not all bad, however. All the excitation of the F layers allowed for great band openings up through six meters after the periods of disruption. The afternoon MUF for 3,000KM at 2100Z was often above 25MHz. and 40M NVIS remained viable most days. Signals early and late on both MDD/4 and 3RN/4 were acceptable throughout the month except marginal on days with late flares. We are enjoying summer conditions with little QRN so far.

Stations may also use Echolink on the WB3GXW-L conference-server, if necessary. MEPN representatives check for Echolink check-ins starting at net call daily via the WB3GXW-L link node (or \*WASH\_DC\* conference-server backup). The conference-server is available for MEPN, MDD, BTN, MSN, and 3RN stations during periods of failed propagation. Sincere thanks to John, WB3GXW, and John, WA3MNN, for continuing to provide and maintain the WB3GXW-L conference-server we use daily.

DIGITAL MODES

ICS form email-formatted content (upper and lower case letters, figures, and standard email punctuation symbols), exported from FLmsg(tm) to a text file, may be attached to a Winlink Radio-email for transport to any legal client; and that file also may be copied and pasted into a legacy Radiogram as the text between the Breaks. This creates a Hybrid Radiogram which may be posted on the RRI/DTN for transport to any legal Radiogram addressee. The RRI/DTN accepts the email-formatted text in the Text-block which may be recovered by the addressee for delivery to a client via digital means. RRI/DTN and WL2K reps regularly attend the MEPN, BTN, and MDD nets.

Emergency communicators, including ARES(r)/NTS/RACES and ARESMAT, will be using these modern digital modes to support served agencies and the public. Join up now - before the emergency happens.

MANNING

We continue to be in need of county liaisons on our nets to accept incoming welcoming Radiogram messages for newcomers for delivery by local hams who can help them get started. MEPN is looking for additional NCS stations and liaisons to MDD. MDD is in need of additional CW operators for daily NCSs and liaisons to the higher nets. Newcomers are welcome - we will train you on the job. The daily Maryland Slow Net (MSN, 3563, 1930L dy) can help you learn net and message skills on CW. The CW mode is used by both the NTS and RRI nets in the evening cycle. It is still a highly efficient and effective mode of messaging even after a century - and every message group is spelled out for you.

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Thanks to all the Section’s traffic-net NCS operators, RRI/DTN and WL2K stations, liaisons, and traffic handlers for the continuing effort to keep the nets running and traffic moving.

73, W3YVQ, MDC ASM, STM

w3yvq atsign arrl dot net

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\* TMARC Report

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