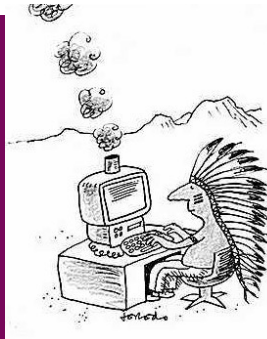


Charles  
County  
Amateur Radio  
Club

Inside this  
issue:

Activities	4
ARES	14
Contests	6
Minutes	12
Practice questions	3
Special events	8-11
Technical	5

# Smoke Signals



Volume 24  
issue 12

December 2021

Meeting Jan 7 @ 1900 EST via Zoom &/or  
Marbury Baptist Church 4670 Bicknell Rd,  
Marbury, MD 20658

## THE PRESIDENT'S WORKBENCH

Thanksgiving is now but a memory with Christmas, Hanukah and Kwanzaa rapidly approaching. (Have you finished your holiday shopping yet?) As a new ham many years ago, I remember all the things I put on my Christmas wish list. As a longtime ham, I now find myself looking through catalogs and websites for hours ending up with things like connectors and adapters on my list.

Shopping for our toys by our loving spouses is much easier now because we can give them a link to a website where the items can be ordered. Back when I was a new ham we didn't have the internet. Instead we had several ham radio stores in the area where spouses could purchase items from our lists. We simply provided brand and model numbers or clippings from the store catalogs and magazines. A few of you may remember EEB (Electronic Equipment Bank) in Vienna, the Comm Center in Laurel, and EGE in Woodbridge. EGE

was eventually purchased by HRO (Ham Radio Outlet), and they are now the lone survivor in our area, but no longer in the original location.

The real beauty of those stores was that a spouse would walk in looking to purchase an item from our list and the sales people would make sure they walked out with everything that might also be needed to make it work with our particular radio. Websites sometimes don't tell you about the required special interface cables or connectors that aren't included.

Those stores were also a regular Saturday gathering spot for local hams. With free coffee offered to anyone that walked in the door, most hams arrived and hung out for a while. I miss those stores and the socializing with so many hams from all around the DMV. It always inspired me to get on the radio more.

## CALENDAR

### December

01 Net 2030

03 Meeting

08 Net 2030

15 Net 2030

22 Net 2030

29 Net 2030 &  
News articles due

### January

05 Net 2030

07 meeting

12 Net 2030

19 Net 2030

26 Net 2030 &  
News articles due

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

This month there are two major ARRL contests. One is a great opportunity for the Technician licensees in the club to participate in an HF contest. This is the ARRL 10-meter contest that runs from 8:00 PM local time on December 10, to 8:00 PM local time on December 12. With the sun starting to get more active, 10-meters may experience some openings to far away states and countries during the contest.

The other major contest is the ARRL 160 meter contest which runs from 6:00 PM local time on December 3, to 11:00 AM local time on December 5.

There are many other smaller contests and sprint events throughout December. There are no QSO Parties in December. Look at the contest list elsewhere in the newsletter for information about the ARRL contests and the other contests and sprints.

The list of Special Event stations this month has some interesting offerings. There are two dedicated to Pearl Harbor remembrances. There is one in honor of the birthday of Clara Barton, the founder of the American Red Cross. There will be a 100 year anniversary event of the transatlantic radio tests of 1921 using a replica of the transmitter used in the tests. Another event that may be of interest to aviation enthusiasts is celebrating the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Civil Air Patrol.

Closing out the month is one of my favorite evenings to get on HF. I'm talking about New Year's Eve. I always enjoy tuning around and talking to people around the globe as the calendar turns to a new year in their various time zones. Give it a try and let us know which countries gave you the most memorable QSOs. Each year my most memorable are usually Ireland and Scotland.

Have a safe holiday season and a Happy New Year.



*by Bob, NW3M*

# VE News

## Next Test Session

February 4, 2022 @1700 Local  
Marbury Baptist Church

# Practice questions

1. When do the FCC rules NOT apply to the operation of an amateur station?
  - A. When operating a RACES station
  - B. When operating under special FEMA rules
  - C. When operating under special ARES rules
  - D. Never, FCC rules always apply
  
2. Which HF antenna would be the best to use for minimizing interference?
  - A. A quarter-wave vertical antenna
  - B. An isotropic antenna
  - C. A directional antenna
  - D. An omnidirectional antenna
  
3. What symptoms may result from other signals interfering with a PACTOR or WINMOR transmission?
  - A. Frequent retries or timeouts
  - B. Long pauses in message transmission
  - C. Failure to establish a connection between stations
  - D. All of these choices are correct
  
4. How are analog SSTV images typically transmitted on the HF bands?
  - A. Video is converted to equivalent Baudot representation
  - B. Video is converted to equivalent ASCII representation
  - C. Varying tone frequencies representing the video are transmitted using PSK
  - D. Varying tone frequencies representing the video are transmitted using single sideband

# CCARC Activities

By Jeff – KB3SPH

**3 December 2021** – CCARC Christmas party, potluck dessert, and gift event at 7:00 PM. **Location:** QTH of Pam – KB3SWS & Jeff - KB3SPH.

**7 January 2022** – Monthly CCARC Meeting at 7:00 PM. **Location:** Marbury Baptist Church Hall, 4670 Bicknell Road, Marbury, MD 20658. Presentation: “Radio Astronomy” by Bob – NW3M

**4 February 2022** – Exam Session at 5:00 PM, Monthly CCARC Meeting at 7:00 PM. **Location:** Marbury Baptist Church Hall, 4670 Bicknell Road, Marbury, MD 20658. Other Details Pending.

**4 March 2022** – Monthly CCARC Meeting at 7:00 PM. **Location:** Marbury Baptist Church Hall, 4670 Bicknell Road, Marbury, MD 20658. Other Details Pending.

# Advanced Technical Information Online

*By Bob, NW3M*

Some of you have been experimenting with microcontrollers, and others have expressed an interest in learning to use them. The beauty of them is their flexibility and versatility. If you don't really understand what they are, think of them as a very tiny computer that is dedicated to just one task. That's an oversimplification, of course. But rather than tying up a laptop or a desktop computer for a sole, mundane task such as a station wall clock synced to GPS time, a microcontroller can do that task for a tiny fraction of the cost. Best of all, it doesn't have to be restarted every few weeks because of yet another Microsoft update.

There are so many interesting and useful things you can build with them. Building also has a different context with microcontrollers for the most part. Instead of pulling out a soldering iron, wire, an assortment of components and putting something together from scratch, you simply purchase inexpensive prebuilt modules that plug into the controller. There are modules for Ethernet, Bluetooth, Wi-Fi, relays, motor drivers, servo controllers, button inputs, and more. There are also sensors for light, sound, smoke, temperature, humidity, and barometric pressure. There are camera modules, analog voltage and current input and output modules, magnetic field detectors, and RFID card readers. The list goes on and on. So building in this sense is picking the job you want done, purchase the appropriate module and a controller, then write simple instructions for the controller to follow to accomplish the task you want done.

Sometimes you will find you have a goal to do something only to discover there isn't a module available to get the results, or you discover that the modules that are available just don't give you the accuracy you need. That's when it comes time to think outside the proverbial box.

As hams we're familiar with SWR. We know that for our radios we want the SWR on our antenna system to be as low as we can possibly get it. If you've been around a while, you probably know that by taking SWR measurements at three different points in a radio band you can determine if your antenna is too long, too short, or just about right. But SWR can be used to measure other things besides antenna impedance matching.

In the article linked below, a means of measuring fluid level inside a non-metallic tank was needed. But the measurement apparatus needed to be outside of the tank rather than inside. The engineer used an open air feedline mounted on the outside of the tank and used SWR measurements of the feedline to determine the fluid level inside the tank.

You can read all about the design and the theory of operation in the article. This is a great example of thinking outside the box. It is a unique and innovative solution to a problem. This is also a perfect job for a microcontroller. And it might inspire you to make an Arduino based SWR meter.

<https://www.analog.com/media/en/analog-dialogue/volume-54/number-1/contactless-fluid-level-measurement-using-a-reflectometer-chip.pdf>

# Contests in December

NCCC RTTY Sprint	Every Thursday		International Naval Contest	11 to 12
NCCC Sprint	Every Friday		PODXS 070 Club Triple Play Low Band Sprint	11 to 12
K1USN Slow Speed Test	Every Sunday		SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	11 to 12
Worldwide Sideband Activity	Every Tuesday		TRC Digi Contest	11 to 12
RTTYOPS Weeksprint	Every Tuesday, Thursday			
Phone Weekly Test - Fray	Every Wednesday		QRP ARCI Holiday Spirits Homebrew Sprint	12
CWops Mini-CWT Test	Every Wednesday, Thursday		4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	13
EACW Meeting	Every Thursday		Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	16 to 17
QRP Fox Hunt	Every Sunday, Wednesday, Friday		AGB-Party Contest	17
OK1WC Memorial	Every Monday		Russian 160-Meter Contest	17
VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	1		Feld Hell Sprint	18
NRAU 10m Activity Contest	2		OK DX Contest	18
QRP ARCI Topband Sprint	2		RAC Winter Contest	18
SKCC Sprint Europe	2		ARRL EME Contest	19
Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	2		ARRL Rookie Roundup, CW	19
ARRL 160-Meter Contest	3		Croatian CW Contest	19
Two-Meter Classic Sprint	4		Padang DX Contest	19
UFT Meeting	4		Stew Perry Topband Challenge	19
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	4		Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	20
FT Roundup	5		SKCC Sprint	22
INORC Contest	5		Gedebage CW Contest	25 to 26
PRO CW Contest	5		DARC Christmas Contest	26
ARS Spartan Sprint	7		RAEM Contest	26
VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	8		QCX Challenge	27
ARI 40/80 Contest	11 to 12		YOTA Contest	30
ARRL 10-Meter Contest	11 to 12		Bogor Old and New Contest	31

## Wide area Ragchew session

The Saint Mary's County Amateur Radio Association is hosting a monthly, informal ragchew session via Zoom for hams in the surrounding counties. The idea is to just get together to chat about what's going on, activities, etc. **once a quarter**. We'll pick it back up on on the 2nd Thursday in Jan, 1/13/22.

### AGENDA:

- Everyone is invited and welcomed from anywhere in the MDC area (southern Maryland, Northern Neck, eastern shore of Maryland, etc.)
- Open chat – who is doing what, club news from all areas, how can we work together better to keep ham radio a growing, viable hobby, sharing of news about upcoming ham events, meet new people!
- Please keep all discussions related to ham radio activities!

### JOINING THE GROUP (there are 3 different ways to join in on the meeting):

1 – Click on this QUICK LINK:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8673965998?pwd=Q2lUL05PTVB3RnEvUkZPNmlKUFJ3QT09>

2 – Open up the ZOOM app on your computer or device and:

Select 'Join Meeting' button and type in the meeting ID and password:

Meeting ID: 867 396 5998 Meeting Password: 1460464

3 – Use your regular telephone (no computer needed, voice only, no video):

Dial 1-301-715-8592 (US) – Follow the voice prompts... enter the Meeting ID followed by the # (pound) symbol; then enter your participant ID (if applicable) followed by #; then enter the meeting password followed by #

Contact information: Rob Hoyt, N2OMC – SMCARA President/ host [robhoyt32@yahoo.com](mailto:robhoyt32@yahoo.com)

**Please note change in date to quarterly**



# Special events in December

## 11/30/2021 | Last Day of Hurricane Season 2021 and Volunteer Recognition

**Nov 30-Dec 5, 1600Z-2300Z, W5C**, Carol Stream, IL. Cajun Navy Relief Amateur Radio Club. 14.250 7.250 D-STAR DSC/XLX 256i JS8Call. QSL. Cajun Navy Relief Amateur Radio Club, 681 Paxton Place, c/o Thomas Sarlitto, Carol Stream, IL 60188. With the end of Hurricane Season 2021 and to thank the men and women who volunteer their time and efforts with the Cajun Navy Relief. We dedicate this Special Event to these men and women who volunteer long hours and risk their own lives to assist in helping save individuals and property in communities that are affected by natural disasters. Through fundraising efforts and community awareness, Cajun Navy Relief also gives back to the communities that they have served after disasters have struck. For a Special Event QSL Card, please send a #10 SASE to: Cajun Navy Relief ARC, c/o Thomas Sarlitto, 681 Paxton Place, Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. Please visit our website for more information on this Special Event Station. <https://www.cajunnavyrelief.com/W5CNR>

## 12/01/2021 | 80th Anniversary of the Founding the Nevada Wing & the Civil Air Patrol

**Dec 1-Dec 15, 0000Z-2359Z, N7C, N7D, N7N**, Parker, CO. Friends of Nevada Wing. 14.250 7.200 147.1. QSL. N7C / N6YEL, 23612 Glenmoor Dr., Parker, CO 80138. Operating SSB in the General portion of the 40 and 20 meter band, and 147.1 MHz for VHF, as well as FT8. For a QSL card, send a #10 SASE to N6YEL by 28 February 2022. Other stations may be added. [weaceves2@gmail.com](mailto:weaceves2@gmail.com)

## 12/03/2021 | W2W Pearl Harbor Day Commemoration

**Dec 3-Dec 13, 1300Z-2200Z, W2W**, Baltimore, MD. Amateur Radio Club of the National Electronics Museum. 14.241 14.041 7.241 7.041. Certificate & QSL. W2W-Pearl Harbor, P.O. Box 1693, MS 4015, Baltimore, MD 21203. Amateur Radio Club of the National Electronics Museum (ARCNEEM) will operate W2W in commemoration of the anniversary of Pearl Harbor Day and the role of electronics in WWII. Primary operation will be Dec 3-Dec 7 with additional operation possible during the Dec 8-Dec 13 period as operator availability permits. Operation on 80M (3.541, 3.841) and digital modes possible during event. Frequencies +/- according to QRM. QSL and Certificate available via SASE; details at [ww-2.us](http://ww-2.us)

## 12/04/2021 | Christmas in Bethlehem

**Dec 4, 1200Z-2359Z, W9WWI**, Bethlehem, IN. Clark County ARC of Indiana. 14.240. QSL. W9WWI, P.O. Box 201, Sellersburg, IN 47172. The Clark Co. ARC will host Christmas in Bethlehem (Indiana that is). We will be operating SSB on HF Multiple bands. Send requests to CC ARC P.O. Box 201 Sellersburg Indiana. Wishing all to have a save enjoyable Christmas season, Chanukah or Kwanzaa. <https://www.facebook.com/W9WWI/> or <https://www.clarkcountyarc.org>

## 12/04/2021 | Commemorating Birth of Clara Barton, Founder of American Red Cross

**Dec 4, 1500Z-1900Z, KG4ARC**, Atlanta, GA. Atlanta Radio Club and Atlanta Chapter, American Red Cross. 14.250 7.250 3.925. QSL. Atlanta Radio Club, 227 Sandy Springs Place, Suite D-306, Atlanta, GA 30328. 200th Anniversary of Birth of Clara Barton, Founder of the American Red Cross. Special commemorative bi-fold QSL card. Check spotting networks for frequencies. Check <http://atlantaradioclub.org/redcross> for updates to event. [secretary@atlantaradioclub.org](mailto:secretary@atlantaradioclub.org) or [atlantaradioclub.org/redcross](http://atlantaradioclub.org/redcross)

## 12/04/2021 | QCWA's 74th Anniversary December 5, 2021

**Dec 4-Dec 11, 0001Z-2359Z, W2MM**, Apopka, FL. Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA). SSB: 28.325 21.365 14.262 7.244 3.810; CW 28.050 21.050 14.040 7.035 3.540. Certificate. QCWA, John R. Kludt, 1972 Martina St., Apopka, FL 32703.

## 12/04/2021 | Remember Pearl Harbor

**Dec 4, 1000Z-1600Z, NE1PL**, Fall River, MA. USNR. 14.258. QSL. Rick Emord, 135 Wareham St., Middleboro, MA 02346. We'll be on 20 and 40 phone at least probably other bands and modes as well. [www.ne1pl.org](http://www.ne1pl.org)

## 12/04/2021 | W9CAP Celebrates the 80th Anniversary of the Civil Air Patrol

**Dec 4-Dec 5, 1500Z-2300Z, W9CAP**, Saint Charles, IL. Illinois Wing Civil Air Patrol Amateur Radio Club. 28.450 18.125 14.250 7.225. QSL. Lt Col Robert Becker, P.O. Box 4027, Saint Charles, IL 60174. [www.qrz.com/db/w9cap](http://www.qrz.com/db/w9cap)



## 12/11/2021 | Transatlantic Tests of 1921 - 1BCG Replica Transmitter Special Event

**Dec 11-Dec 12, 2300Z-0400Z, W2AN/1BCG**, Windsor, CT. The Antique Wireless Association & The Vintage Radio and Communications Museum of Connecticut. 1.820 MHz. Certificate. Edward M Gable, 187 Lighthouse Rd., Hilton, NY 14468. The 1BCG replica transmitter will be operating as W2AN/1BCG on 1.820 MHz, plus or minus, using CW, from The Vintage Radio and Communications Museum of Connecticut. Transmissions from W2AN/1BCG will be one-way, just like the original transatlantic tests in 1921. You can get a SWL certificate for this Special Event by sending a copy of the transmitted message to [1BCG@AntiqueWireless.org](mailto:1BCG@AntiqueWireless.org) Schedule: Transmissions start on December 11, 2021, on 1.820 mhz, +/-, at 1800 EST or 2300 UTC, then every 15 minutes thereafter for a total of five hours thusly; 1815, 1830, 1845, 1900, 1915, 1930, 1945, 2000, 2015, 2030, 2045, 2100, 2115, 2130, 2145, 2200, 2215, 2230 and the last transmission at 2245 EST. [1BCG.org](http://1BCG.org)

## 12/11/2021 | USS Midway Museum Ship : Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

**Dec 11, 1700Z-2359Z, NI6IW**, San Diego, CA. USS Midway (CV-41) Museum Ship. 14.320 7.250 PSK and CW on various HF bands DSTAR on various reflectors. QSL. USS Midway Museum Ship COMEDTRA, 901 N Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92101. Please check spotting networks to find us on HF. Consult [www.dstarusers.org](http://www.dstarusers.org) to find our call sign NI6IW and Reporting Note to see what reflector we're using. Note: Typical QSL turn-around time is 4 to 6 weeks after receiving request with SASE. [www.qrz.com/db/ni6iw](http://www.qrz.com/db/ni6iw)

## 12/11/2021 | W9VT 90th Anniversary Tri-Town Radio Amateur Club

**Dec 11-Dec 18, 1200Z-2300Z, W9VT**, Hazel Crest, IL. Tri-Town Radio Amateur Club. 7.240 Mhz 14.240 Mhz Plus CW, FT8 and PSK31 Freqs. QSL. Tri-Town Radio Amateur Club, PO Box 1296, Homewood, IL 60430. Will be on the air during the week as time permits. Please send SASE for QSL. [www.w9vt.org](http://www.w9vt.org)

## 12/17/2021 | Edwin Howard Armstrong Commemoration special event

**Dec 17-Dec 19, 0000Z-2359Z, W4A**, Bluff City, TN. N9EN. 3.540 7.040 14.040 21.040. QSL. Brad Ambro, 1118 Walnut Grove Road, Bluff City, TN 37618.

## 12/18/2021 | Bethlehem on the Air

**Dec 18-Dec 24, 1300Z-2359Z, KC5OUR**, Belen, NM. Valencia County Amateur Radio Association. 21.283 14.283 7.183 3.883. QSL. VCARA, P.O. Box 268, Peralta, NM 87042. [kc5our@arrl.net](mailto:kc5our@arrl.net)

## 12/18/2021 | Charleston Amateur Radio Society 50th Anniversary

**Dec 18, 1700Z-2200Z, WA4USN**, Mount Pleasant, SC. Charleston Amateur Radio Society (CARS). 14.296 7.250 21.290. Certificate & QSL. William Dean, 30 Lombardi Lane, Hanahan, SC 29410. 50th Anniversary of the Charleston Amateur Radio Society to be broadcast from the USS Yorktown CV10. [wa4usn.org](http://wa4usn.org)

## 12/23/2021 | Celebrate Christmas Time and Holiday Cheer through Ham Radio - Christmas Train

**Dec 23-Dec 26, 1500Z-2359Z, N0T N0R N0A**, Bates City, MO. Area Amateurs. 10 20 40 80 meters; operating as time permits. QSL. Randy Booth, 7562 Copenhaver Rd, Bates City, MO 64011. [rwb22311@outlook.com](mailto:rwb22311@outlook.com)

## 12/26/2021 | American Revolution - Battle of Trenton

**Dec 26-Dec 31, 0000Z-2359Z, W2T**, Trenton, NJ. Delaware Valley Radio Association. 14.250. Certificate & QSL. DVRA, P.O. Box 7024, Trenton, NJ 08628. Info at [www.w2zq.com](http://www.w2zq.com) or on [qrz.com](http://qrz.com). QSL with SASE. Certificate of Commission in the Continental Army Signal Corps for address label and \$5 payable to DVRA, mailed to DVRA, PO Box 7024, West Trenton NJ 08628. [www.w2zq.com](http://www.w2zq.com)

1 by 1 special event calls December 2021

3	6	21st Amendment QSO Party	W4P
6	11	3905CCN Mobile/Portable Event	N5Z
14	27	4th Annual 12 Days of Christmas	K2L, K2P, K2S, W2C, W2D, W2F, W2G, W2L, W2M, W2P, W2R, W2T
3	6	Celebration of the 21st Amendment to the US Constitution	W8A
24	25	Cookeville Repeater Association Santa Net	K4S
3	5	Covina Christmas Parade	W6C
18	19	Edwin Howard Armstrong Memorial S.E.	W4A
10	20	FFMA Rare Grid Activation EL15 - Geminids Meteor Shower	W5A
24	26	Fifth Annual Christmas Birthday Celebration	K2B
12	12	Glenn Amateur Radio Society Anniversary	W6G
4	15	Golden Corner 10m 1 year anniversary	W4G
3	15	NCDXA Florida Nat'l Parks Activation	K9J
10	24	NJ Santa's Workshop	W2S
9	24	North Pole Network	W7S
3	13	Pearl Harbor Commemoration	W2W
3	5	President Eisenhower's	K3S
9	19	RadioFunWeek.com 2021	W0F
2	11	Rudolph Country Christmas	W9R
15	27	Santa On The Air	W8S
23	25	Santa Watch Net	N1S
3	5	Skywarn Recognition Day	K4S, N0F, N4P, W8W
1	7	Superstition Superfest	K7A
22	29	The Ascent of Sandia Peak	K5A
3	5	Western LA County BSA Radio Meritbadge	K6A
16	31	Youth on the Air Month	K8A, K8O, K8T, K8Y

# Pearl Harbor Day Memorial special event

December 7, 1941, 07:48, Japanese forces surprised the United States with an attack on Pearl Harbor. In the hour battle, they killed 2335 (68 civilians), wounded 1143 (35 civilians), sunk 4 battleships, 1 ex battleship, and a harbor tug. 4 battleships, 3 cruisers, 3 other ships, and 159 aircraft were damaged, and 188 aircraft destroyed (3 civilians). All but USS Arizona and USS Utah were eventually salvaged and repaired.

One of the most known events, USS Arizona exploded at 8:10, as an 1,800-pound bomb landed in her ammunition magazine, then sank-trapping over a thousand inside.

Japan planned to destroy the Pacific fleet so the US wouldn't fight back, and Japan could take the South Pacific. Not expecting an attack in HI, most of the Pacific fleet was moored around Ford Island in the harbor with airplanes in nearby airfields but had little defensive status. In the attack Japan had 4 midget submarines sink, 29 aircraft destroyed, 74 damaged, 64 killed and 1 sailor captured.

The attack brought the United States into the war with President Franklin D. Roosevelt calling December 7, 1941, "a date which will live in infamy".

With operating authorization from the Navy's 3rd Fleet Spectrum Manager, the Battleship IOWA Amateur Radio Association (BIARA), Inc. and the IOWA's Innovation and Engineering Team will activate the ship's legacy Navy callsign, **NEPM**, on December 7th, 2021, in memory of **Pearl Harbor Day**. Operation will be between 1600-2359 UTC. NEPM will TRANSMIT on 14781.5 kHz using J3E USB and listen on 14343.0 kHz J3E USB.

Amateurs are reminded that they may NOT transmit on 14781.5 kHz. If there is traffic on 14343.0 kHz, the NEPM operator will advise of an alternate frequency where he is listening.

QSLs will be available if a SASE is provided. NEPM, NI6BB or NE6PM are all listed on QRZ.com and any route will get your request to the QSL manager. Please visit BIARA's Web site at (<https://biara.org>) for more information about radio operations aboard the Battleship IOWA soon to be the home of the National Museum of the Surface Navy



<https://www.history.com/topics/world-war-ii/pearl-harbor>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Attack\\_on\\_Pearl\\_Harbor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Attack_on_Pearl_Harbor)

<https://www.historyonthenet.com/pearl-harbor-ultimate-guide-dec-7-1941-attacks>



# Charles County Amateur Radio Club Meeting Minutes

November 5, 2021

## **Officers Present:**

President – Bob Curran NW3M  
Vice President – Bob Davidson KB3KOW  
Treasurer – Pamela Humbert KB3SWS  
Activities – Jeff Humbert KB3SPH  
Secretary – Charles Hallock AA3WS

## **Members Present:**

Pat Hinman – KB3UYZ (Zoom)  
Nathan Daetwyler - Future

## Meeting opened 1910 Hours.

President Bob Curran NW3M opened the Meeting at the Marbury Baptist Church Social Hall. The meeting was also displayed on Zoom. Bob welcomed the guest and members. Additionally he advised the Test Session prior to the Meeting was cancelled as a consequence of the test taker being unable to attend.

## Presentation

Bob Davidson KB3KOW gave demonstration of Ham Software on the Raspberry Pi 4 computer. Bob demonstrated the "Rig Pi" applications and gave a FFT example. He also showed the Pi Hat for the Pi computer that enables the use of a battery to power the Pi. Bob closed with the description of the Pi Zero computer package.

## **Treasurer:**

Pamela Humbert KB3SWS gave the November Treasurer's Report. The November's Treasurer Report was approved.

## **Activities Manager:**

Jeff Humbert KB3SPH reported on the following upcoming activities:  
7 November 2021 – Remembrance for CCARC member and train enthusiast Art Audley - AA3RT, SK at 10:30 AM. Location: La Plata Train Station Museum, 101 Kent Ave, La Plata, MD 20646.

3 December 2021 – CCARC Christmas party, potluck dessert, and gift event at 7:00 PM. Location: QTH of Pam – KB3SWS & Jeff - KB3SPH.

7 January 2022 – Monthly CCARC Meeting at 7:00 PM. Location: Marbury Baptist Church Hall, 4670 Bicknell Road, Marbury, MD 20658. Presentation: "Radio Astronomy" by Bob – NW3M

4 February 2022 – Exam Session at 5:00 PM, Monthly CCARC Meeting at 7:00 PM. Location: Marbury Baptist Church Hall, 4670 Bicknell Road, Marbury, MD 20658. Other Details Pending.

*(Continued on page 13)*

(Continued from page 12)

4 March 2022 – Monthly CCARC Meeting at 7:00 PM. Location: Marbury Baptist Church Hall, 4670 Bicknell Road, Marbury, MD 20658. Other Details Pending.

**Secretary:**

Minutes for the October’s Meeting are published in the Monthly Newsletter. The October Minutes were approved.

**Old Business**

President Bob NW3M repeated the need of Club Net Controllers.

**New Business**

President Bob NW3M reminded the Club of CCARC Christmas party, potluck dessert, and gift event at 7:00 PM. Location: QTH of Pam – KB3SWS & Jeff - KB3SPH. Bob suggested the formation of a Local Micro Controllers Group to periodically meet at a local restaurant or coffee shop.

Members: Pam reported on CCARC’s participation in the St. Mary’s STEM Festival. Bob (KB3KOW), Rob (N20MC) and Michelle (N3YRZ) set up and demonstrated a HF and VHF portable radio station.

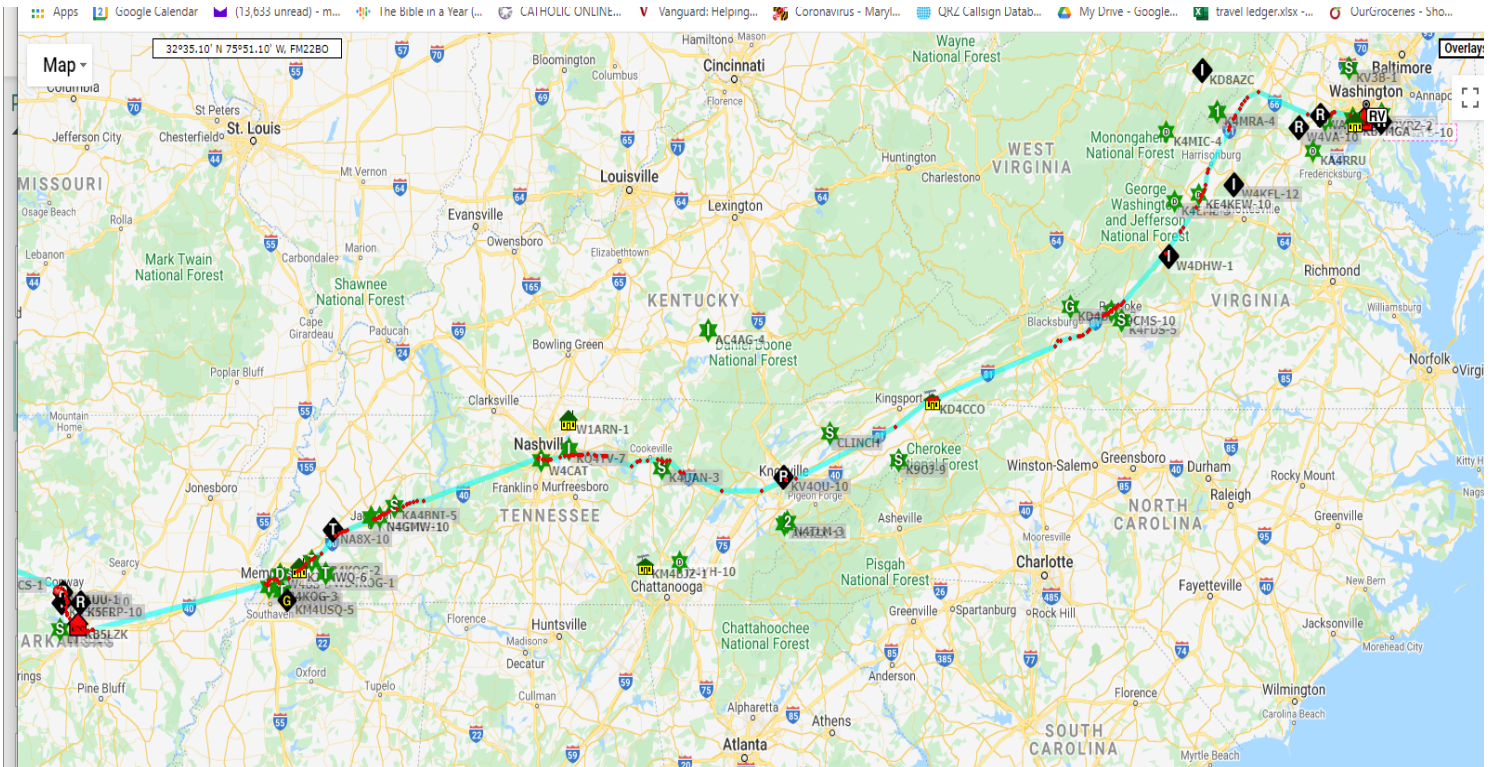
**Closing:** A motion was made and seconded to close the meeting. The motion passed at 2056 Hours.

Charles Hallock AA3WS / Secretary





# ARES Corner



I tried a little practice with APRS while on my Texas trip.

Above is the last segment of my trip as shown on APRS.fi.

I had it run from the time I left home on November 11 about 9 till I arrived in Pampa TX November 13 about 1330 CST. I had it on again to go from Pampa to Borger.

I started it up when I left Pampa for the trip home on November 29 about 0700. When I was stopped for lunch realized I didn't hear it beeping for sending so checked it. It was on the wrong setting, so I corrected that. You can see the rest of the trip

My friend and the Grandtwins enjoyed being able to track me across county since I don't have a hands free cell. And it was cool to show them how fun radio is.

# A Christmas Ham

By Loby-WA2AXZ

'Twas a night before Christmas



and all through my shack  
The tubes were a-glowing...  
I was making contacts

The antenna was tuned and rotated 'round  
Facing the south, the noise level to drown

I sat in my old chair,  
earphones on my head  
I stopped spinning the dial,  
now what's being said?

Two old codgers were at it...  
they were making a scene!  
Which rig was garbage and  
which was a dream



Down the band I slid like  
snow on the fly



With nothing else heard,  
40 meters I'd try

With the snap of a switch,  
align grid and plate

Setting the filters, HEY...  
there are my mates!

The "RAG CHEWERS" were  
there, talking en masse  
Each taking turns,  
their greetings to pass  
One by one listing  
their holiday wishes



Of rigs and amps and satellite dishes.

With a broad smile, the radio I keyed

I checked myself in, what else would one need?

Then all of a sudden, a sizzle and spark

The lights blinked twice and then all was dark.

A glow in the back of the rig's  
getting brighter  
My heart sinks to the floor, the transformer's on fire!



Pull out the plugs... smoke's filling my nose  
I turn on the spray from a close garden hose.

Open the windows, fling open the sash  
I toss out the rig to the ground with a crash  
Stench from the smoke fills my poor head  
Then all of a sudden, I wake up in my bed

What could have caused such a terrible nightmare?

Was it the beer, the nuts or the ham ill prepared?

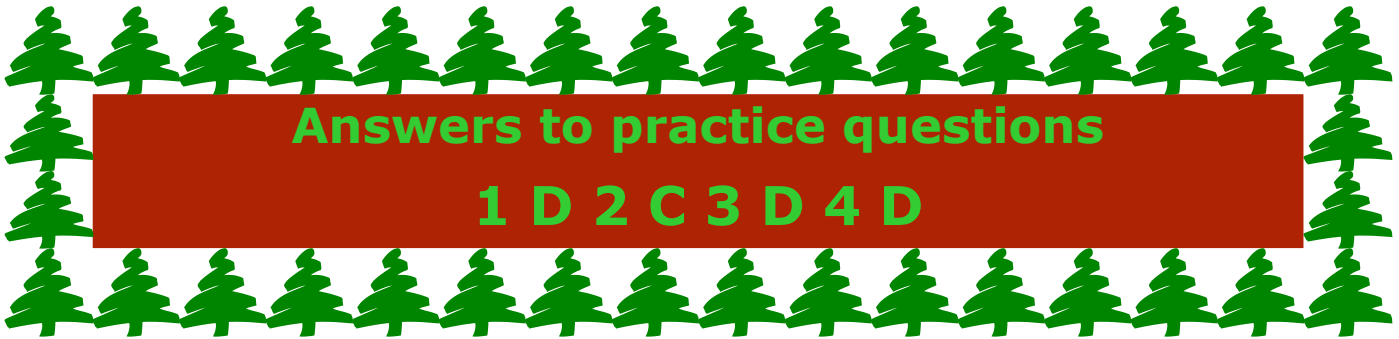
But my shack is intact and snow lightly falls



73's to my friends,  
Merry Christmas to all!

Thanks to Robert "Loby" Lobenstein, WA2AXZ for the Christmas poem in our newsletter. He created it for the 7272 Ragchew Group and gave us permission to use it too.

# ANSWERS



WANT ADS, FOR SALE, &

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS:



**Southern Maryland  
Astronomical Society**

Explore the night sky with us at our observatory, or use your own telescope.

New to astronomy? We'll help you learn.

For information, visit us at <http://smas.us>

**TrotSar Mounted Search Team**  
21218 Dorsey Spring Place  
Germantown, MD 20878  
Pete KC3SBN Commander



Interested in joining the fascinating hobby of RC airplanes?

The Charles County Radio Control Club is ready to help you get started.

Visit us on the web: [charlescountyrcc.com](http://charlescountyrcc.com)



**Smallwood Camera Club**

Open to all skill levels and photographic interests.



email: [SmallwoodCameraClub@gmail.com](mailto:SmallwoodCameraClub@gmail.com)



**EAST COAST  
AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE**



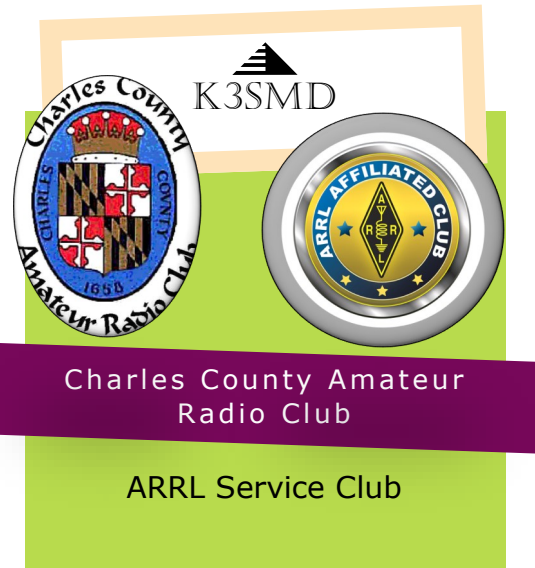
1968 - 2018 Leading the Way Into the Next 50 Years 2018 - 2068

Net Operations occur daily on 7.255 MHz (LSB).  
Weekday operations 7:30 am to 2:00 pm  
Weekend operations 8:00 am to 12:00 pm, East Coast time  
<http://www.ecars7255.com/FrontPageLinks/ECARSOrganization/info.htm>



## Meetings, nets, & contacts

- 
- First Friday- Monthly meeting @ 7 PM/1900
- Net-Wednesdays 8:30 PM local 147.195 MHz, + 600 , PL
- 156.7 EchoLink KB3KOW-R
- 
- PO BOX 169, La Plata, MD 20646
- President: Bob Curran NW3M flyingham@verizon.net
- Vice-president: Bob Davidson rdavidson@aceweb.com
- Secretary: Charles Hallock AA3WS selbynet@hotmail.com
- Treasurer: Pam Humbert KB3SWS *humbertpj@gmail.com*
- Activities: Jeff Humbert KB3SPH humbert1js@gmail.com
- Newsletter Michelle Sack N3YRZ msack@verizon.net
- 
- VE Coordinator Bob Curran NW3M



Charles County Amateur  
Radio Club

ARRL Service Club

We're on  
the web

[http://  
k3smd.net](http://k3smd.net)

## Leave laughing

My uncle was very rude to me at my Thanksgiving last month. I told him in order to come to the family Christmas at my house he would need to apologize. A few days later I received a letter in the mail. It was from my uncle but was written in all dots and dashes. I guess it was re-morse code. .. .- -- ... --- .-. -.- -.-