

ARRL Delaware Section Newsletter – February 2024

Delaware Section,

January has brought a change in the weather; several times in fact. I sit here in my shack with the weather about 70F when just a few days back I had about 4” snow on the table in my yard. But yes, I am one of those odd operators that love that four letter word, snow.

The weather has brought a new Skywarn Coordinator in Sussex up for the first time as NCS. Operating as NCS provides valuable experience whether you run a Skywarn NET, local ARES Net or your club net. Two of the most common items mentioned after a drill, exercise or real incident are the lack of experienced NCS and digital operators.

January also brings one of the most popular EmComm events, Winter Field Day. Several clubs were up and running with WFD providing valuable experience for their teams and club members. WFD is ‘technically’ an EmComm event for us to test our emergency communications skills by moving us out of our comfort zone. With most of us our comfort zone is at home but setting up a portable, mobile, or indoors in a different location all provide valuable experience with our equipment. Points can be had by making contacts with an easy exchange but it’s not just the contest or the EmComm work that brings me back year after year. It’s the social environment of having fellow radio operators to help troubleshoot, network with, and enjoy a nice meal.

Prior to the WFD events I was invited to attend a radio talk show that broadcasts to several local radio stations and Live Facebook and YouTube channels to discuss WFD. I was able to pass along the value of this event to the amateur radio community and encouraged the public to attend. A great time talking about something I enjoy immensely.

As Section Manager I am hosting a Delaware Section Leadership Meeting on February 10, 2024 in Dover. This meeting will be attended by Section Staff, club presidents and other invitees. I encourage everyone to grab your County EC, Club President and pass along any questions/concerns you may have for Section Staff. Section Staff will be having quarterly meetings with every other meeting open to anyone who wishes to attend. This gives everyone in the section a voice to the events in & the direction of the section.

Both Section and County EOP’s and Frequency Reference Sheets updates are being completed as you read this newsletter. With these documents completed we

will be better prepared to help our communities which are a large part of why we are Amateur radio operators.

If you have not joined the ARRL Delaware Section Reflector (groups.io) you should do so. The calendar is filling up with many classes and events so there is something for everyone. Check the calendar often for updates on classes such as a new Zoom CW Class being offered.

I extend a warm welcome to new/upgrading amateurs in our community:

KB3JUV Justin T Kates

KC3AEA Thomas A Brennan

KC3YFW Brandon E Elliott

KC3YGG Brian C Booth II

KC3YGH Jeremy Davis

KC3YHW Frank D Sofia Sr

KC3YIE Ronald A Wintersgill

KC3YIJ Raymond J Bloch

February has two popular contests. The School Roundup on February 12-16 and the popular International DX – CW Contest. March brings the International DX – Phone contest on March 2-3. Visit the ARRL's Contest Calendar for details on these and other contests throughout the year.

Feel free to contact me at any time with questions. Hope to work you on the air.

73,

Steven Keller

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<https://groups.io/g/ARRLDelawareSection>