

From the Section Manager's Shack

Greetings from Sussex County

As I write this newsletter on Memorial Day, I can't help but think of all of those who sacrificed so much. Although I was in public safety for nearly 40 years, I did not serve in the military. My daughter was a soldier, her husband still is, my dad and one Uncle were in the Navy during WWII. We can never thank our Veterans enough.

Legislative Update: Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act (AREPA)

The "Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act" bill is being pushed along. I currently have several hundred letters but that is not enough. As a section we need to get as many as possible. In addition to all licensees, club presidents and other group leaders have been asked to provide a letter as well representing their members. As it stands now all letters will be hand delivered in DC. Pass the word to all licensee's you meet. Anyone can contact me for blank copies of the letters to keep on hand.

Field Day 2024

ARRL Field Day is the most popular on-the-air events held annually in the US and Canada on the fourth weekend in June. Every year more than 40,000 hams set up temporary transmitting stations in public places to demonstrate ham radio's science, skill and service to our communities and our nation. This year's Field Day is being held June 22-23. The June issue of QST has a superb Field Day Guide with a checklist. I would be remiss to not mention a few things about Field Day with the most important being safety. The ARRL has a great list of items you should consider for Field Day such as having a GOTA station, proper band plan and antenna planning and media coverage. On the ARRL site has a superb set of media and social media coverage documents including a press release. Points add up! So, send a message to me via WinLink, post to social media, get a GOTA station on the air, and have a Safety Officer. The best way to have a safe Field Day is to plan ahead. Such items as fire safety, tripping hazards, self-supported masts, protection from heat just to name a few. I will be visiting Field Day sites on Saturday with other section staff. Post your Field Day site on the ARRL Field Day Locator site so others can find your site. Visit the ARRL website for details.

ARRL Service Disruption

The ARRL is in the process of responding to a serious incident involving access to their network and HQ based systems. These outages include .org emails (include both Division and Section emails), LogBook of the World, ARRL Learning Center and others. Please be patient while the ARRL restores its systems.

A Warm Welcome to Our Newest & Upgrading Members

Join me in welcoming the latest additions to our vibrant community:

KC3BRL Daniel T. Brown JR

KC3DAI James Brown

KC3ZCD Ronald Lawson

Upcoming Events

June 1-2 is the International Digital Contest; June 8-10 is June VHF Contest; June 15 is Kids Day and Field Day 2024 is June 23-24. Looking ahead to July, the first week of July is the 13 Colonies event where Delaware Stations run the K2E callsign. Details can be found on the ARRL Contest Calendar.

Let's Stay Engaged & Challenged

Many have, including myself, have called Amateur Radio Service a hobby. It's more than a hobby, it's our passion. We must continue to grow inviting youth to join us, to provide challenges to keep licensees engaged and increase our skill set to make us more useful to our communities. This is not

just a hobby; it's what we love; the Amateur Radio Service. Don't hesitate to contact me at any time to discuss our ARS in Delaware.

73, Steven Keller Delaware Section Manager

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