

President's Column

A few random thoughts for your consideration this month...

The club is scheduled to have a guest presentation at our September meeting by Brian Pasternack on the revival of the Delaware Packet Network and the attempt to build an RF backbone along the East Coast.

With all of the recent solar storms, propagation has been terrible recently especially on 80 meters. I frequently check into the 3rd Region Net at 1600 in the afternoon and often I cannot hear the stations from western Pennsylvania and as it turns out they cannot hear Delaware stations. Thankfully there have been other stations in between that have been willing to serve as relay stations in order for the net to operate. That is where hams can shine to "just make it work" in a creative fashion. All hams with 80M privileges are encouraged to participate in local traffic nets to listen and learn. The Delaware Traffic Net meets at 2330Z on 3905KHz Monday-Saturday and the Delmarva Emergency Net meets Sunday at the same time and frequency. The 3rd Region Net meets every day at 1600 local time at 3918KHz.

I dislike what Microsoft has done with Windows 10 in hiding the sound control panel. That panel is needed to set the volume levels for digital operations and I spent considerable time searching for it, frequently in vain. I ran across a shortcut to get there without searching. Do a right click on your desktop and create a new shortcut. In the next window type "control mmsys.cpl" (without the quotes) and hit next. Name the shortcut – I used "Sound Control". Click finish and now you have a direct link to the sound control panel on your desktop.

For those who may use Winlink, there is now a winlink packet station in Kent County at my QTH. The station is KC3BTV-10 at 145.050MHz.

Keep pushing out those RF waves,
Jim KC3BTV