

An ARRL



Affiliated Club



# Repeater

Mt. Beacon Amateur Radio Club  
Post Office Box 841  
Wappingers Falls, New York 12590  
[wr2abb.org](http://wr2abb.org)



JUNE 2007

## PRESIDENTS REPORT

By Jim, K2JIM

President, MBARC

Well here we are in the last week of May and almost half the year is gone already. During the first half of this year we had a very successful Hamfest thanks to all the volunteers that helped out and we now have membership meetings the third Tuesday of every month. Business part of the meeting is lasting about one hour and then we have some type of presentation and that last about another hour. We also have the usual coffee and donuts for attendees and we have been averaging about 20 to 25 hams at these meetings.

Now let's talk about the second half of the year. Our new fiscal year starts on July 1st 2007. That means your dues must be in our hands by that date. By paying on time that will ensure that you will get a ballot for our upcoming elections. Yes it is election time again and the floor is open for nominations. Your committee is Tom N2FZC and Frank KA1GL. If you would like to nominate someone or possibly put yourself on the ballot please let one of the committee members know about it. I know they have already been

working very hard on this project and will be making some announcements on who will be running for office. All offices are open except for directors of which only two out of the four are to be voted on. I know there probably have been times you have probably said to yourself why is the club doing it this way maybe my way would have been better. Well this is your time to run for office and put some of your ideas to work. If you would like to see what goes on in the club well this is your time to say I want to nominate myself for the following office. Don't forget our picnic is coming up, (date to be announced) and there are a bunch of good hamfest we can go to during the summer. I am sure Stu WA2BSS will keep us up to date with his announcements during the on the air Monday evening net with their locations. So I hope everyone has a great and safe summer and don't forget about our monthly membership meetings held every 3rd Tuesday of every month, even through the summer, at the Fishkill community room (Fishkill Police Dept) located on RT52 just south of I-84 at 7PM.

## Engineering Report

John, N2OXV

Director of Engineering

I would like to offer a few helpful tips to all who use our nine-seven repeater. First remember that the leaves are in full bloom and that signals to the repeaters will be and are degraded.

If you have an issue trying to access the nine-seven repeater, try a lower power. I have heard on the repeater several times from several people that the "voters are fighting", and would like to set the record straight. We only have one voter, and it does not fight. However we do have four receivers and they are in competition for the best signal, and could be construed as fighting. Hopefully when we hear the voter having trouble deciding which receiver to use, anyone hearing this will suggest that the troubled station reduce power. This helps to eliminate unnecessary receiver voting in most cases when your signal is heard by multiple receive sites.

Another helpful tip is to allow the voter to vote. This is accomplished by pausing when you speak, specifically at the beginning of your transmission. The voter has an easier time voting without speech present on your signal.

Currently we have four receivers, two of which are located on Mt. Beacon, one located on Depot Hill, and the last located in Millbrook. The two receivers located on Mt. Beacon are directly wired to the voter, and Depot Hill and Millbrook are radio linked back to Mt. Beacon. When you access the repeater, and are heard by all sites, the Mt. Beacon receivers will activate first because they are directly wired to the voter, while the other two sites must hear your signal lock up a transmitter, and then be heard by the receiver on Mt. Beacon, which then will have a presence on the voter. This is another reason to pause at the beginning of your transmission, because it gives all receivers an equal shot to the voter from when you begin to speak.

We will be doing antenna work in Millbrook and Mt. Beacon this summer. I will be looking for some assistance with these projects, so stay tuned.

### IN THIS ISSUE

<i>Report from Dayton</i> .....	2
<i>Members to Members</i> .....	3
<i>Webmaster Report</i> .....	3
<i>HVN News</i> .....	4
<i>Nominations Open</i> .....	4
<i>ARES RACES</i> .....	5
<i>Letter to the Editor KC2NTV</i> .....	5
<i>Dues are Due</i> .....	6

## A Report From Dayton, 2007!

By Tom, N2FZC  
MBCARC Director

I have been a HAM for about 30 years and have always heard about the legendary "DAYTON", the mythical gathering of HAM's from throughout the world that gathered in Dayton Ohio for the biggest HAMfest in the world but had never had the opportunity to make the trip.

My son Dan, KB2HAP and I had planned to go in 2006, but the birth of his daughter precluded us going last year, so we were eager to make the trip in 2007.

After months of planning and anticipation, it was Thursday May 17<sup>th</sup>. Dan got to my house around 7:30 am to pick me up for the 11 hour drive to Dayton. He first words were "We have a problem" As he was packing his car, the feedline for the antenna he was using on his FT-8900 quad band radio ripped apart, but he said he did have a magnet mount that we could use for 2 meters and 70 cm, but we would have no 10 meters or 6 meters. I told him that I had a new antenna mount that we could use, I quickly ran back into the house and retrieved my mount with in tact feedline, and we were off.

We took Dan's car because he had the FT-8900 quad band, and I only had 2 meters in my car. Dan was doing the driving and I was copilot/radio operator. We were driving out along with John N2OXX, and our antenna problems delayed use slightly. We had arranged to keep in contact on 146.520 simplex. I gave him a call and found out we were only slightly behind him, and we shortly caught up with him.

In typical Ham radio fashion, we had 3 antennas on the back of the car. We were listening on the national simplex frequencies on 4 bands, 29.600, 52.525, 146.520 and 446.000. As we got closer to Dayton there was increased radio traffic, as you might imagine. I worked stations on 146.520, 446.00, and 52.525 simplex.

We arrived Thursday evening at the Dayton airport hotel, and I was pleased to find out that the hotel had free WiFi internet access, since both Dan and I had brought our laptop computers.

After a nice steak dinner and a few beers, we returned to the hotel room to relax and get ready for the big day on Friday. I then found out that not all broadband access is equal. Our wireless connection was closer to 56 kbps dialup speed than the 3 or 4 mbps speed I was used to at my home. Nevertheless, it was free, and we did have internet access.

The next morning we were up early, and after breakfast at the Waffle House, we arrived at the Hara arena, along with

thousands of other Hams from throughout the country and the world.

What is Dayton like? If you have ever been to the Mt. Beacon HAMfest, imagine a HAMfest that is 40 times larger! The tailgating area took up the whole parking area around Hara arena. There were rows and rows of radios, computers and electronics and parts. Here you can find any kind of nut, bolt, connector or wire you might want or need.

Need a power amp for your repeater? It's here.

Coax, hardline, antennas, power connector, antenna connectors? There all out here. And this is only the tailgate area.

Inside the arena there were displays by all the major manufactures, Icom, Kenwood, Yaesu, Alinco, Comet, Diamond. Also there were dozens of vendors. Universal radio, AES, Ham Radio Outlet, Radiowave, and many smaller equipment vendors. If there was any radio you always wanted to put your fingers on, it was there at Dayton. And there were stacks, and stacks of boxes of new equipment for sale. There were a number of different antennas set up on display in the arena. I had never seen a

GAP Challenger set up. That is one BIG antenna.

Along with the big guys were some of the smaller vendors like Elecraft. There new K3 transceiver is a very nice looking radio.

Dan and I found the booths for Byonics and Argent data, both makers of APRS boards and kits quite interesting. Dan picked up a TinyTracker board from Byonics, and I picked up an OpenTracker board from Argent Data. When we returned to the hotel that evening, we wanted to play with our new APRS stuff (of course). Programming either of the APRS boards is done by serial cable. Of course our laptops only had USB ports, and NO serial ports., so in true Ham fashion we improvised. Dan had a development board for on of the microcontrollers he had packed that had a serial output, and he had a USB to pin-out that he could plug into the board. So we had the USB into the laptop, with wire stuck into the breadboard, and wires coming out of the serial DB9 connector stuck into the DB9 connector on the APRS board. Not pretty but it worked, and we were able to get both of the boards at least minimally working from the hotel room.

Besides the mountains of stuff for sale, both new and used, and all the pretty displays, there are a number of forums. There were talks on QRP, Software Defined Radio, APRS, and Contesting. There were forums on just about every facet of HAM radio. There was a talk by one of the Shuttle Astronauts, and a talk by the F.C.C. The forums were held in various rooms around Hara arena.

In addition to the on-site stuff, there were a number of off site activities going on. There were dinners and get-together at other locations around the area by TAPR, the packet radio group, and AMSAT, the satellite group among others.

There is no way that any individual can participate in everything that goes on during the Dayton HAMvention. Being that this was Dan and my 1<sup>st</sup> time at Dayton, we mostly did the HAMfest part of the experience, though we did attend the APRS forum.

Next time we go, Dan is eager to participate in more forums, and some of the other social activities.

In closing, it was fascinating to see how the Dayton area embraces the Hams and the Dayton HAMvention. The sight of HT's on restaurant table tops is normal during the HAMvention. The Waffle house even had Dayton HAMvention T-shirts with Waffle Man on the back holding an HT.

**Mt. Beacon Amateur Radio  
Club Information**

**Club Frequencies:**

ID	Input	Output	PL
K2ROB/R	52.310	53.310	114.8
N2EYH/R	146.295	146.895	100
KC2DAA/R	146.370	146.970	100
N2OXX/R	147.645	147.045	100
W2GIO/R	222.320	223.920	NON
WA2GZW/R	444.575	449.575	100
N2HPA/R	909.200	921.200	100
WA2YSM-15	144.390 (APRS)		

**On the Air Meetings:**  
Mondays, 8 PM Local Time except on holidays,  
(146.970 - OFFSET, 100 HZ Tone recommended)  
Every one is invited to check in or just listen  
WB2UWU plans on bringing Newsline following the meeting

**Repeater Committee**  
N2FTR, Andrew, Editor  
N2OXX, John, Publisher

**Officers**

President: .....K2JIM, Jim  
Vice President: .....N2ZKX, Rich  
Treasurer: .....KE2FI, Noel  
Recording Secretary: .....KC2MXA, Rebecca  
Corresponding Secretary: .....KC2LUR, Janet  
Director Of Engineering: .....N2OXX, John

**Directors at Large**

KA1GL.....Frank  
N2FZC.....Tom  
W2GIO.....Frank  
WA2BSS.....Stu

**Mailing Address:**  
Mt. Beacon Amateur Radio Club  
P O Box 841  
Wappingers Falls, New York 12590

[www.wr2abb.org](http://www.wr2abb.org)

## MBARC Members to Members!

- Gary, WA2AQH, reminds MBARC members to welcome children to their shacks during the semi-annual "Kid's Day 2007"! Kid's Day is intended to encourage young people (licensed or not) to enjoy Amateur Radio. It can give young people hands-on on-the-air experience so they might develop an interest in pursuing a license in the future. It is intended to give hams a chance to share their station with their children. The ARRL has information on the event which falls this year on Saturday, June 16<sup>th</sup>. More information may be found on the league's website at: <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/kd-rules.html> .

- Finn, WB2UWU, informs us that Shirley, N2SKP, has a comprehensive list of Ham Happenings in the Mid-Hudson valley for June and July – visit their website at: <http://www.qsysociety.org/calendar.htm>

- Larry, N6BQD offers us the "Secret Covered Bridges of Sullivan County Tour" including Breakfast and Lunch which is on Sunday September 30. Start meeting at 9 am and leave by 10 am. Bring your 2 meter radio and some good jokes to share. It's a tour organized by Larry (N6BQD) and Sherman (W2FLA), and sponsorship pending by the "Catskill Mountain Club". Contact Larry for the "Secret" details at (845) 888-4414 or E-M [larryb153@webtv.net](mailto:larryb153@webtv.net). You can see photos from last year at: <http://community.webshots.com/slideshow?ID=553764718&key=enBtya>

### Stu, WA2BSS (Director, MBARC), reports the following:

- A couple of hamfests on June 16<sup>th</sup> (Saturday) at the Southern Berkshire Hamfest in Goshen, Connecticut at the Goshen Fairgrounds More info: [k1lee@arrl.net](mailto:k1lee@arrl.net) , and on July 8 (Sunday) Sussex ARC Hamfest (New Jersey) at the Sussex County Fairgrounds, more information at [www.scarnj.org](http://www.scarnj.org).
- On August 18 is the NYSPTEN Picnic, with more info at: [www.qsl.net/nyspten](http://www.qsl.net/nyspten) .
- Remember that the NYSPTEN net is every evening at 6 PM on 3.925 MHz. Also, NYPON net is same frequency at 5 PM
- For those new and old time hams, you have a free home page space at [www.qrz.com](http://www.qrz.com) where I have updated my email, & bio!
- Check into the 2 Meter SSB net Wednesday evenings 9 PM at 144.225MHz.
- Finally, if you have any questions, comments, or early history of MBARC send me an e-mail: [wa2bss@hvc.rr.com](mailto:wa2bss@hvc.rr.com)
- Hope everyone has a wonderful summer!

---

## Electronic Repeater Delivery

The Board has decided that in order to reduce costs, the repeater will only be delivered in electronic form from now on. We are lacking some of the members email addresses and if you are one of them, send a note to

[corresponding\\_secretary@wr2abb.org](mailto:corresponding_secretary@wr2abb.org) with your address and we'll be sure to add your name to the mailing list. You can also download the latest edition in PDF format right off the web site [www.wr2abb.org](http://www.wr2abb.org)

## Web Site Update

By Rich, N2EYH  
Web Committee

Hello! Our Web site WR2ABB.org is now ready for forums and calendars. Our plan is to host these ourselves and soon be able to close our use of the Yahoo! site. The main advantage is local control and no more ads!

Please go to the website <http://www.wr2abb.org> and sign up for the forums and calendars. The links are on the left hand column. Once you have been registered many more features will be available to you that do not show up the first time you look at it.

On the calendar page you will find on the lower left corner a place to select four different calendars:

1. Main calendar MBARC and local ham related events
2. Amateur radio nets - local nets of interest
3. Local events not radio related - we hope you will post events in the area that are happening so others can be aware
4. Radio contests and special events

As I mentioned above, once you are registered you can add calendar entries to the calendars. If you have the info but not the time contact us and we will post it for you . So we, your webmaster team, invite you to sign up and use our site.

Questions and comments are always welcome. Please email me at [n2eyh@qsl.net](mailto:n2eyh@qsl.net) or you may email the [webmaster@wr2abb.org](mailto:webmaster@wr2abb.org), we will answer you as soon as we can and thanks in advance.

## Hudson Valley NET News

By Ed, N2JBA  
Net Manager

HVN News

Dateline: Amenia, NY June 4, 2007

The 3rd Annual Hudson Valley Net Breakfast and Business meeting (held Saturday, June 2nd) was a big success. The discussions included the Field Day exercise which is a great time for getting the public involved as well as participants in the Field day event. Attending were Ed N2JBA, Stu WA2BSS, Tom KC2DTQ, Adam KC2DAA, Lillie Poulsen, Finn WB2UWU, Pete N2YJZ, Joe K2AVV, Mark WM2C, AJWB2HRK, Bill KC2LIX, Gary WA2AQH, and Frank W2JVP at the breakfast.

I mentioned the fact that one of areas that yield points for the club holding the Field Day contest is the originating, relaying or receiving and delivering 10 NTS messages during the Field Day period. There are 10 points for each piece of traffic, yielding a total of

100 points. There is another 100 points awarded for a message origination to the Section Manager. There are also points for Satellite contacts. Please try to attend a Field day exercise near you and join in the fun.

Hurricane season is here and traffic handlers may be involved in handling emergency traffic into and out of the affected areas. Click on the following link to learn more about emergency communication. This is the monthly NTS newsletter written by Rick Palm, K1CE.

<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/ares-el/about.html>

We also discussed the need for on-going NTS training sessions. We will work out the details in the near future.

I would like to welcome Bill, KC2LIX, who will take over the NCS slot

on Saturday evening.

I would like to thank Vinny, N2RTF, who was the former NCS, but has now moved to North Carolina.

I would like to welcome the following new check-ins:

- John KC2RMD Hyde Park
- Jim KA2UZH Middletown
- Bob KB2JZP Pawling
- Tom W2TRR New Windsor
- Frank N2OKB Monroe

This station is preparing for the Southern Berkshire ARC annual hamfest on Saturday, June 16, 2007 at the Goshen CT Fairgrounds from 8 AM - 1 PM .

We will also be participating in Field Day at the pavilion of the Amenia Fire Company in Amenia, New York. Busy month. Have fun with amateur radio.

73 / 88

Ed N2JBA

## NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN!

By Tom, N2FZC  
MBCAR Director

Nominations are open for the following positions in the Mt. Beacon Amateur radio club

President	(1 year term)
Vice-President	(1 year term)
Treasurer	(1 year term)
Corresponding Secretary	(1 year term)
Recording Secretary	(1 year term)
Director of Engineering	(1 year term)
(2) Directors at large	(2 year terms)

The requirement to run for any of these positions is you must be a paid up full member. (Full member includes student and family members.)

You may submit for nomination any Full member or you may nominate yourself (go ahead, don't be shy)

If you would like to know what the duties of any of these positions, you

can contact any of the current board members

Nominations will close Friday August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Ballots will be mailed out the week of August 13<sup>th</sup> Ballots will be counted at the September membership meeting Tuesday September 18<sup>th</sup> 2007 The meeting starts at 7:00 pm, ballot counting will start at 7:30 pm and the results will be announced by the end of the meeting.

You may submit your nominations to either Tom N2FZC or Frank KA1GL either electronically (E-mail) or in writing to the club P.O. box. or just let one of us know on-the-air. Frank and my E-mail addresses are on the website WR2ABB.ORG

Our club is only as good as the members who support the club!

## Hamfests are fun!

By Noel, KE2FI  
MBCAR Treasurer

Well, the 2007 Mount Beacon Hamfest is now history and I had a great time. I hope everyone else did as well. As far as money goes we did very well. The food booth championed by Janet KC2LUR took in \$356.37 after expenses and admissions took in \$1,831.00. The total of \$2,187.37 is a very impressive 59% increase over last year and while the weather was cooperative unlike last year, which accounts for a lot of the increase, the improved result is still very impressive. It makes me wonder if April dates are a good idea since the weather is so chancy. If anyone has a suggestion on how to improve the event, please let me know.

My only disappointment with the Hamfest was the unequal distribution of work load among the volunteers. Many

*CONTINUED ON PAGE 5*

who volunteered put in more than their share of effort while others who said they would help were either absent or if present not providing their share of the work load. This happens every year and is expected to a degree but if we could only get more volunteers, the event would be more enjoyable for all and the same few people wouldn't be burdened with trying to make things run smoothly. A two hour commitment is all that's required as long as there are enough volunteers. With that, I'll now step off my soapbox and go back into the accounting mode.

## ARES RACES Report

By Brian, W2BJP  
Dutchess County RACES Deputy Radio Officer

On Saturday April 28, 2007, area radio amateurs from Orange County ARES/RACES, and Dutchess County ARES/RACES participated in an NDMS/EMSHG(National Disaster Medical System/Emergency Management Strategic Healthcare Group) drill hosted by JOHN (JACK) F. FLYNN, Federal Coordinator/Area Emergency Manager.

Operations for the drill were focused at the Air National Guard facility at Stewart Field, where Orange County ARES/RACES members; Steve-

N2UBP, Garry-KA2GRS, and CASEY-KC2HQA provided communications support.

Gene-WQ2Y and Brian-W2BJP set up operations at the Castle Point Campus of the VA Hudson Valley Healthcare System. Jim-K2CSS and Adam-KC2DAA manned the Dutchess County EOC at Creek Road in the Town of Poughkeepsie.

Communications between all three locations were tested using the Cronomer Hill repeater (146.430) in the Town of Newburgh, the Mount Beacon repeater (146.970) in the Town of Fishkill, as well as 2m simplex frequencies.

## A Member's Opinion

By Scott, KC2NTV

*(Editor's Note: We welcome Scott, KC2NTV's, writings below. As always, the REPEEPER enjoys receiving member's articles and personal opinions and enjoys sharing them with the membership. "Opinion" columns are just that, opinions, and don't necessarily reflect the official views of the club, officers, members, or the REPEEPER. The lawyers make me say that.)*

*As many of you have heard by now, the FCC has dropped the CW requirement for the General Class license. This has outraged some while just as many delightedly applaud the move. This all aside, one thing is not debatable; the number of new HF participants has grown. I, in case you have not figured out yet, am one of those people.*

*With that out of the way, let me tell you about what I feel are the most enjoyable parts of my new and exciting privileges.*

*With a lot of help from Dave, KC2AFK, and John, N2OXV, we got my 80M-6M OCF Dipole up, coax laid, and*

*HF radio installed downstairs in my shack. This was all done in just a few hours...*

*With my new ICOM 746PRO fired up I managed to start to make contacts (aka QSO's). I have made loads of QSO's in the past few months and have gotten some rewards for this hard work. My prize being QSL Cards!!*

*This is the best part of DXing, aside from actually hearing your Callsign being returned back to you. Many of these cards are colorful while some are just plain ol' postcards with the Callsign of the station and the pertinent information that confirms the contact really happened.*

*Whether the contact is a result of a contest, ragchew, or a pileup, each and every one is precious and tells a story all its own. Let me tell you about just one QSO that gave me a wonderful card which I have proudly displayed. It was the Easter weekend around 8:45PM. I was on the 20m band just turning the knob when all of a sudden I heard a station talking to someone. After a while they gave their*

*call signs. "WOW!!" "It is a guy from Alaska!!!"... After they finished, I quickly threw out my call and he heard me! I was very excited; let me tell you, this was Alaska!!! This is the best part; he was in a cabin on a lake that had 35" of ice. Paul, NL7V said that he was ice fishing for the weekend about 50 miles north of his QTH in North Pole, Alaska. He uses a portable HF rig to keep him company and just in case of emergency. No power or phones that far north so you can never be too careful he told me. Our chat lasted only 5 minutes or so, but the memory of that will last a lifetime.*

*I am happy to say that after a few weeks, I got the QSL Card in the mail. (SASE is very important to provide if the card is needed or badly wanted)*

*I have since logged over 250 entries from all over the world and I look forward to getting many many more QSL cards from this work. I hope to share more stories about QSL cards that I get in the mail and hope you will do the same.*

## VE (Volunteer Examiner) Session at MBARC Hamfest a Success!

By Andrew, N2FTR

Our club's recent VE session at the Hamfest on Sunday 22 April was a resounding success; the lack of CW testing certainly has brought in more folks for their amateur radio licenses! In the session we just completed at the Hamfest, we had 26 total candidates, of which 15 either earned or upgraded to a new license!

The stats were 9 new Technicians, 5 Generals, and 1 Amateur Extra. Congrats to all the applicants! For those that didn't make it, think of it as just a warm up for your next attempt!

The certified VE team members were led by Bob, N2BZP as the Official Team Liaison and included Scott W2LW, Jim K2CSS, Bob WA2JQK, Arlene N2MCK, George N2OXX, Alan K2JCN, Stu N2LLS, Pat WA2P, Ed WC2J, John WA2IID and myself.

We appreciate the fact that most of these folks started helping shortly after 9 AM and didn't get out of the testing session until after 11:30 AM thus missing much of the hamfest 'action'. At the next Hamfest, I wish to be very clear about the hours that the testing needs to be completed by for the sake of our examiners.

If you're NOT a VE and would like to be, email me N2FTR@arrl.net and we'll get you connected.

## Dues are Due!

By Noel, KE2FI  
MBARC Treasurer

Well it's June again and time to renew your membership in the club. It's never been easier. Just go to [www.wr2abb.org](http://www.wr2abb.org) and click on membership. Fill out the form and select your form of payment. You can pay via Pay Pal using any credit card or just send us a check at the club PO Box (Mt. Beacon Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 841, Wappingers Falls, New York 12590). Dues are:

Full	\$25.00
Full Senior	\$20.00 (65 and over)
Full student	\$10.00
Full Family	\$35.00
Associate	\$20.00 (no voting privileges)

If there are any questions regarding membership you can always contact me at 845-227-8717 or email [ke2fi@arrl.net](mailto:ke2fi@arrl.net). Be sure to renew by June 30<sup>th</sup> so you can be included in our next election.

**MBARC Monthly Meetings**  
**Now Monthly 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays**  
**at 7 pm**  
**Fishkill Community Center**  
**(located in the Fishkill Police Dept. Building)**

**Next on June 19<sup>th</sup>!**

**Renew your membership!**  
**See KE2FI's article This Page**

# Satellite Communications

By the time you read this we should have Hudson Valley Satcom Group Net # 20 under our belts. I hope you all have enjoyed our past nets and remember most of them have been recorded and can be found on the Mt. Beacon web site [www.WR2ABB.org](http://www.WR2ABB.org) . Just click on [nets](#) then click on [Satcom net](#). There you will find links to a wealth of helpful satellite information. One is entitled [Down To Earth Satellite Communications](#) written by **Richard Hackney, N1ASA Professor of Physics and Astronomy, Western Kentucky University, also Director, NASA Kentucky Space Grant Consortium, [n1asa@arll.net](mailto:n1asa@arll.net)** . Professor Hackney describes in detail how to best use several portable radios for satellite work. He goes on to tell you about

- **Frequencies** to program into your radio to help you follow the 20 kHz Doppler shift you encounter on the downlink of the satellites.
- **Portable antenna** operation from telescopic whips, my favorite being the [AL-800](#) (made by Pryme), and hand held dual band yagis ([my favorite is the Arrow](#)).
- **How to “hot rod” your Arrow for max performance** by adding a preamp and a 20-30 watt brick amplifier (I will be doing this to my arrow).

Another link you find will be [12 Suggestions for Success Working Amsat-Oscar 51 \(ECHO\) on a Handheld Transceiver.](#); a great tutorial on how to work the birds with your HT.

Check out all the links, it will be worth your time.

- Actual satellite contacts recorded by Dan KB2HAP, for you to listen to so you can hear how a satellite contact goes.
- A link to my [“Satman Site”](#) where you can find more useful information. There is a url for
  - ✓ Arrow antennas that I talked about before.
  - ✓ Satscape. This is the pass prediction program I use to let me know when the satellites will be overhead.
  - ✓ Check out the link for the Huston AMSAT net. This net has been around for a while and their web page has lots of good info on it.
  - ✓ Heavens-above is yet something else for you to see. This is what I used for pass predictions when I first started. I still use it now and then.
  - ✓ Amsat.org, Project Oscar, ARISS

The next items on the Satcom page are recordings of past nets. Unfortunately not all of the nets got to be recorded. We will try not to miss anymore in the future. Go over some of these old nets since there are some very interesting and informative things here. The last item on the page is a current list of Satellite Pass Predictions for you to use to see when the birds are going to be passing over.

Net # 18 on May 17 was just great. Tom, KC2DTQ, the nets co net control played a live pass of AO51 during the net. A South American station from Venezuela was just booming in on the bird. As the bird continued North, (an ascending pass), you could hear VE3 stations come in. We also discussed Preamps. Tom talked about a home brew preamp project from the ARRL Handbook that he plans to build. If anyone has any questions about this project or for any other satellite related questions contact Tom at [kc2dtq@arll.net](mailto:kc2dtq@arll.net) .net and he would be glad to help you. I talked about [Advanced Receiver Research preamps](#). I follow the Amsat-bb and the preamp of choice was the Advancedreciever.com preamps. Our Mt. Beacon Director of Engineering John, N2OXV, highly recommends these preamps and says they are what we use on our club equipment.

I did not want to start out this article on a sad note so I saved it for the end. As most of you know Keith Fritzinger, N2OWV, passed away suddenly in April, Keith was the co net control for the Hudson Valley Satcom Group Net from its start, and he was our Mentor and Elmer of the net. Keith will be missed very very much by us all.

In closing, don't forget to use all that is available to you on the Satcom Net page. Please join AMSAT to help to get the new satellites in the air.

*“The sky is not the limit anymore.....thanks to Amateur Radio Satellites”*

January 11, 2007

# ***2007 MBARC Public Service***

[www.WR2ABB.org](http://www.WR2ABB.org)

## ***Events***

## ***Dates***

**Webelos Eskimo Run - Saturday January 20<sup>th</sup> - 7:30 am to 3:30 pm**

**DUTCHESS County St Patrick's Day Parade - Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Rally New York USA - Friday & Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup> -31<sup>st</sup>.**

**Walk for Autism ~ Sunday April 29<sup>th</sup>**

**MS Walk - Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>.**

**Orange County Classic (10k) – Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup>**

**Harlem Valley Rail Ride - Sunday, July 29<sup>th</sup>.**

**International Rally New York - Friday & Saturday September 7-8<sup>th</sup>**

**Dutchess Classic Marathon – Sunday September 16<sup>th</sup>**

**CROP Walk for World Hunger - Sunday - October 7<sup>th</sup>**

**\*Pumpkin Patrol – Tuesday & Wednesday, October 30<sup>th</sup> -31<sup>st</sup>**

**To Volunteer or for more Information Contact**

**Rich, N2ZKX**

**Vice President Mt Beacon Amateur Radio Club**

**Ph: 845-344-2720**

**Cell: 845-649-8112**

**Email [n2zkx@arrl.net](mailto:n2zkx@arrl.net)**

**All are Welcome & Please Remember MBARC Public Service Events are for the  
Whole Family!**

***“Bring them along to share in the fun of Amateur Radio”***

**\*contact Andrew, N2FTR – email [n2ftr@arrl.net](mailto:n2ftr@arrl.net)**

# On The MBARC Public Service Front

Ham Radio Public Service is alive and well in the Hudson and Delaware Valley's. Thanks go to the impressive group of dedicated operators and family members that give so generously of their time, knowledge, skills, and equipment. Since the last edition the MBARC has provided **Safety & Emergency Communications** for three awesome events, Rally New York USA (March 30 – 31), The Walk for Autism (April 29), and the Dutchess County MS Walk (May 6). The volunteers that participated in these events received high praise from the organizers of every event, with the common phrase of **“we could not have done it without you”!** Please visit photo galleries at [www.WR2ABB.org](http://www.WR2ABB.org) to view some photos from each event. Below you will find an overview of each event, with links to click for more information.



- **“The Most Exciting Public Service Event in the Northeast” Rally New York USA** is part of the **USRC** (United States Rally Championship), it is a European Style Competitive Stage Rally motor sport event where race teams compete against the clock in a test of car preparation, land navigation skills, and driving ability (under any & all weather conditions), all for the love and thrill of competition and of course “bragging rights”! Typically a Rally such as this requires between 30 to 45 Ham Radio operators that are on duty for as much as 16 hours at a time.....oh did I mention that we start at 5:30 am. Aside from a great turnout from our club, volunteers come from as far away as northern New Hampshire, Virginia, and California to participate in our radio net which has been recognized by Rally organizations all over the world as “first rate”. **Each operator plays a critical role in Rally Safety Plan**, helping to insure the safety of the spectators, local residents, competitors, and of course all the volunteers. Communications are both 2 meter phone, using the clubs portable repeater, and APRS, using mobile radios as portable digipeaters. In the future there are plans to include Packet Radio to the Rally Communications Plan. The next rally event will be **International Rally New York** - Friday & Saturday -September 7-8, 2007; I'm looking forward to seeing all the regular volunteers as well as many new faces.



- **A terrific new event for 2007** was the **Sixth Annual Hudson Valley Autism Walk** and Awareness Fair, held on Sunday, April 29, 2007, at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds in Rhinebeck, raised more than \$125,000, with more than 3,700 participants on hand to support the event. The goal of the annual walk is to educate parents and teachers; help spread the awareness of **Autism Spectrum Disorder** in the Hudson Valley community; raise funds for local respite, recreation and educational programs, including a small portion for research of this affliction which has no known cause or cure; and support families recently receiving the diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder, to show they are not alone. The Mt. Beacon Amateur Radio Club received special thanks from the Walk Chairperson Karen Kosack for the 14 **radio operators** and one non-Ham family member that provided communications for the event. Another thank you goes to Phil KC2PNI for bringing this event to my attention, as well as his work setting the **Modell's Child Find Registry**. **Thanks to the following; Rich, N2ZKX; Phil, KC2PNI; Steve, N2UZV; Janet, KC2LUR; Jerold, KC2POZ; Frank, KA1GL; Don, KB2ZE; Ed, KE4ZNU; Mary, KF4NGN; Keith, KC2POY; Jim, KC2KZB; David, KC2KSN; Frank, W2JVP; Jack, WA2IID; and last but not least Karen N (no call yet), for your continued dedication and participation in Amateur Radio Public Service events.**



- **A favorite event year after year** is the Dutchess County **MS Walk**, and 2007 was no exception. The has taken on a larger roll in this event in the past few years, along with our communications duties, we now help out the MS folks by placing all the signage along the course as well as picking up 10 gallons of Starbucks coffee (Frank KA1GL) & 300 bagels from Adams Farm Store (Jim KC2KZB). Communications were all done on simplex and went great, the phrase of the day was “boring is good”! Phil KC2PNI acted as our NCS with the help of Jerold KC2POZ. Ed, Mary, & Karen did their usual outstanding job as Ham Radio Roving Bicycle Patrol, while Larry N6BQD operated the SAG Wagon & tried to score food. **Thanks to the following; Paul, KC2OVN; Larry N6BQD; John, KB2MPX; Rich, N2ZKX; Phil, KC2PNI; Steve, N2UZV; Janet, KC2LUR; Jerold, KC2POZ; Frank, KA1GL; Don, KB2ZE; Ed, KE4ZNU; Mary, KF4NGN; Keith, KC2POY; Jim, KC2KZB; David, KC2KSN; Frank, W2JVP; Robin B; and last but not least Karen N (no call yet), for your continued dedication and participation in this and other Amateur Radio Public Service events.**

Please take a look at the [2007 MBARC Public Service Event Calendar](#) ! There are still several great events left for 2007 I hope you can find the time to come out and join in the fun!

**To Volunteer or for more Information Contact Rich, N2ZKX Vice President Mt Beacon Amateur Radio Club**

Ph: 845-344-2720 ~ Cell: 845-649-8112 ~ Email [n2zcx@arrrl.net](mailto:n2zcx@arrrl.net)

**All are Welcome & Please Remember MBARC Public Service Events are for the Whole Family!**

*“Bring them along to share in the fun of Amateur Radio”*



**MT. BEACON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**  
POST OFFICE BOX 841  
WAPPINGERS FALLS, NEW YORK 12590

**Mount Beacon Amateur Radio Club**  
**DUES ARE DUE**

*Renew your membership! See KE2FI's  
article inside*

**Mount Beacon Amateur Radio Club**  
**Monthly Meetings**

Now Monthly 3rd Tuesdays  
Fishkill Community Center

*Next meeting June 19th*  
*(located in the Fishkill Police Dept. Building)*