



Oxford County ARES/CERT Comm March 2025 Newsletter

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Radio installation

We have several radios to be installed at the EMA and one in the Communications trailer. The mounting masts for the EMA radios are currently in the shipping boxes in the radiator room.

The Fusion radio is on the desk without coax going to the antenna which is in the radiator room as well.

The DMR radio has not been installed and is in the radiator room. We have sections of used coax in the building that should be tested and connected.

I (Wayne N1YIS) have a D-Star radio that I will be loaning to the group until we have new unit to install. At this time, this radio will need coax, a ground strap, antenna and antenna mount. Since these three radios (Fusion, DMR, and D-Star) will be line of sight to Streaked Mountain a quarter wave ground plane should suffice.

Currently, I have been grounded and have not had the ladder climbing restrictions removed yet. A work day needs to be scheduled for sometime in April.

Training Event for August 2025

Allyson had mentioned in a meeting in February that we have the opportunity to participate in drill in August. The Maine Appalachian Trail Club helicopter lift north east of Grafton Notch that will occur sometime in August. It will involve the agencies that may be called on to respond to the Grafton, Andover West and Andover North Surplus UTs during the airlift and construction at the Frye Notch Lean-To. Our involvement would be to deploy the comm trailer to assist in communications. The location has limited to no cellular service, so radios and the SAT phone will be the primary means of communication.

This Just in from Cumberland County

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Brittany O'Neil** <oneil@cumberlandcounty.org>

Date: Fri, Mar 14, 2025 at 4:45 PM

Subject: Southern Maine Drone Symposium - April 15th

To:

Cc: Perreault, Todd <ema@bridgtonmaine.org>, Michael Chaine <mchaine@bridgtonmaine.org>

Good afternoon,

Join the Bridgton Police Department, Bridgton EMA, and Cumberland County EMA at the Southern Maine Drone Symposium on April 15th! This will be a night of knowledge sharing, professional discussion, and collaboration among current and future drone pilots. All first responders are welcome, regardless of experience level. Dinner will be provided.

When: April 15th, 2025, 5PM-7PM

Where: Pleasant Mountain Ski Lodge, 119 Mountain Rd, Bridgton, ME 04009

Register: <https://forms.gle/1nGqi4orGRxnB9gZ9>

****please register by April 9th****

For any questions, contact Sgt. Michael Chaine, Bridgton PD (mchaine@bridgtonmaine.org), Todd Perreault, Bridgton EMA (ema@bridgtonmaine.org), or Brittany O'Neil, CCEMA (oneil@cumberlandcounty.org). Feel free to share with others who may be interested.

Thank you,

Brittany O'Neil

Response Coordinator

Cumberland County Emergency Management Agency

Office: 207-892-6785

State Of Maine ARES & ARRL

I attended the state meeting for ARES the end of February. Jim KY2D gave a presentation of message handling in the National Traffic System. The forms that ARRL and RLL use are very similar. There is usually a 25 word limit on the standard message form which forces the sender to be brief and concise. (This came from the Western Union days when you were charged for each word on the form.) Most radio traffic either CW or voice is brief. There are provisions to send an IC213 form and other forms, but being concise and brief was stressed. The notes sent to me from Derrick and James are at the end of this newsletter.

From Derrick:

Also here are the forms to the websites I used to show NTS and the information!

<https://nts2.arrl.org/>

<https://radiorelay.org/>

73 KW1A

RRI – Radio Relay International

Despite having been heavily involved in promoting public service and emergency communications for over a century, the legacy organization that predates the creation of Radio Relay International had never developed...

radiorelay.org

NTS 2.0 – ARRL's National Traffic System for the 21st Century

Jonathan Taylor, K1RFD, Ridgefield, Connecticut, inventor of the highly popular program “EchoLink,” was featured as guest on the QSO Today podcast, episode #487. Taylor is also author of the NTS 2.0 Radiogram Portal web application. From QSO Today: “Jonathan Taylor, K1RFD, has reached his 50th year as a ham radio operator, is the creator of Echolink, one of the first amateur radio Voice ...

nts2.arrl.org

This national news:

2025 ARRL Ham Radio Open House Zoom session is

scheduled for Wednesday, March 19, 2025, at 8:30 PM Eastern.

Hello from ARRL Headquarters!

This message is being sent to all ARRL Section Managers, Affiliated Club Coordinators, Public Information Coordinators, and Public Information Officers.

I'd like to invite you and others involved in the amateur radio public information space to participate in a publicity workshop for [ARRL Ham Radio Open House](#).

The interactive Zoom session is scheduled for Wednesday, March 19, 2025, at 8:30 PM Eastern. A recording will be available shortly after for those who cannot attend live.

Members of the ARRL Public Relations Committee and ARRL Headquarters staff will guide you through some best practices on generating press and publicity for your club's local event. We'll cover strategy for traditional and social media, as well as generating buzz with local officials. You'll be able to ask questions and get advice from these seasoned PR professionals.

Registration is required via this link:

<https://uso6web.zoom.us/meeting/register/hUUtUwHeTfSea5XR6W8ocQ#/registration>

All amateur radio public information volunteers are welcome to participate. Feel free to share the link within your clubs, as necessary. ARRL Ham Radio Open House is designed to help promote amateur radio science and technology, and to honor the 100th anniversary of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU). ARRL is inviting radio clubs and schools to organize a Ham Radio Open House in April, centered around World Amateur Radio Day on April 18, 2025. The event is intended to highlight the Amateur Radio Service for its development and practice of the latest radio communications and technology, and as a hands-on pathway into science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields for the next generation. ARRL has been working with [HamSCI](#) and [SciStarter](#) to develop and promote this event as a way for members of the public to engage with local amateur radio clubs as part of [Citizen Science Month](#). SciStarter is hoping to generate and document 1 million acts of science — HamSCI and ARRL see ham radio as a great way to accomplish that.

[At this link](#) (PDF), you will find a publicity kit for 2025 ARRL Ham Radio Open House. It will give you the tools to build your club's media and outreach strategy.

We look forward to having you participate in the PR Workshop for ARRL Ham Radio Open House. As always, we are here to support and serve you as we all work to promote amateur radio. Feel free to reach out to me directly at sharrop@arrl.org if there's ever anything we can do.

See you Wednesday!

73,

Sierra Harrop, W5DX

Public Relations and Outreach Manager

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sharrop@arrl.org

Other Notes of Interest:

This from Andy, N1MRE

This setup could go into any vehicle fast with a magmount antenna. FTM 6000 2m/70cm, public service, GMRS, CMP 800 MHz monitor, aircraft band

Powered by ryobi 40v lithium pack, 30 amp victron DC-DC converter for adjustable 12 volt output. I set mine for 14.4 volts. Battery pack is rated up to 10 amps out at ~40 volts. Pack runs down to about 32 volts and the converter operates in pack range to supply the radio. Great fit for a mobile radio power requirements. Today was first run in vehicle. I've had it powering my IC-7100 in testing at home. Had some issues with HF RF getting into either the battery BMS or the converter and shutting down power to rig.

Have Velcro on the radio bracket. In this car it sticks to the floor mat. In the Bolt it stuck to the carpeting nicely for quick in and out



of car. It didn't want to stick to the equinox carpeting to my surprise.

Today's road trip used about 25% of battery pack.

State of Maine Meeting Notes:

State ARES EC Meeting

Thursday 27-Feb-2025

Called to Order 1804hrs

Jim KY2D introduced himself

SteveKB1TCE Derrick introduced him.

- I. If you have not done end of year report please do so. Do not have to send a copy of the report, but if you can he would like to have a copy.
- II. Made progress with Canada EMO, 2 MOUs one for state ARES and one for Aroostook ARES, they have been sent to Bert with IRG and EMO. They have been looked at and are moving forward.
- III. Agreement with EMO and AK EMA waiting on state.

- IV. Can-AM James spoke on what can am was and how things work. If anyone is interested in helping next year let him know and he will make sure you get on the list. Derrick mentioned how it is not tied to ARES but is great practice.
 - V. MECN – 4th Sunday of the month 4:30 in the winter. Radio grams were sent out to us to join, as well as other counter parts to try to get some non-ARES members involved. Jim also put the radiogram information out on the seagull net to invite people to join. Jim ran it this weekend and had about 12 check-ins.
 - VI. NTS – ARRLs 2.0 or the RRI. Jim filled us in on the benefits of having NTS integrate with RES. NTS- National Traffic System. ARRL and RRI are looking to start collaborating a lot more. Radio Gram is same as old telegraph, but over radio. Formal Traffic, it has very strict format 4 parts:
 - A. Preamble,
 - B. Addressee,
 - C. Body,
 - D. Signature.
 - VII. Jim went through all the parts of the radio gram.
 - VIII. Nets are used to transfer radio grams from location to location till it reaches the final destination 4 levels of messaging, local, section, region, area, and TCC.
 - IX. Discussed how a message from Maine would be sent to Texas through the hierarchy this is voice or CD
 - X. Digital traffic network works the same but only 2 levels, area digital hub and regional hub.
 - XI. Mentioned there is a way to put a 213 form inside a radiogram.
 - XII. Over the next couple months Jim will be doing some training on air on 3940 everyone is welcome to join.
 - XIII. Andrew recognized K1XI Randy Lewis SK and spoke about him.
 - XIV. Adjourned 1857hrs
- Respectfully Submitted
James Jalbert KC1ECV ME-ASEC