



# THE

# FEEDBACK

Volume 05 Issue 03

March 2005

## THE AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLETTER

Laurel Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

PO Box 146, Laurel, MD 20725-0146

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### Upcoming Events:

Day	Date	Time	Freq	Event
Wed	02/23	1930		Monthly Meeting @ Woman's Club of Laurel
Wed	03/02	2030	147.225+	On-the-Air Net
Mon	03/07	2030	147.225+	Laurel PVRC Net
Wed	03/09	1900		Social Gathering at Sullivan's Steak & Beverage
Mon	03/14	2030	147.225+	Laurel PVRC Net
Wed	03/16	2030	147.225+	On-the-Air Net
Mon	03/21	2030	147.225+	Laurel PVRC Net
Wed	03/23	1930		Monthly Meeting @ Woman's Club of Laurel
Mon	03/28	2030	147.225+	Laurel PVRC Net
Wed	03/30	2030	147.225+	On-the-Air Net

All                    2100    147.540 simplex    Informal Net / Rag-Chew

Note: 147.225 PL tone is usually off during nets.

### Repeaters:

VHF: 147.225+ PL 156.7  
UHF: 442.500+ PL 156.7

### Simplex:

VHF: 147.540  
UHF: 445.975

**Next Meeting:  
February 23, 2005 1930 EST**

## Vice President's Ramblings

Well, you are stuck with me again this issue! Hope this isn't a trend....

Well things are starting to happen. Jeff, KB3EQH and Jim, WI3N manned the LARC table at the Laurel City Hall open House on February 13<sup>th</sup>. The ARRL video narrated by Walter Cronkite, KB2GSD was up and running along with a 2 meter rig. Attendance was quite good and just about all the club brochures made by Jeff as well as the membership drive letters and applications created by Diane, AA3OF were gone by the 4:00 p.m. closing.

73,

Kevin WV3D

## Past President's View

In my opinion, the Laurel Amateur Radio Club, Inc. can be viewed both as an organization which has a structure, elected officers and a legal document showing how we are organized, and also as an organism in the sense that it is a dynamic, living thing whose energy ebbs and flows through the years. I'm not trying to sound if it's some type of New Age being, however, it does seem to have a life of it's own, continually re-inventing and renewing itself, adapting to new circumstances and so forth while still being true to it's origins

The club was originally established as a public service organization in addition to being a place where people with a common interest could meet and exchange ideas and information. Shortly after organizing, the club became one of the small number of groups established nationally to take on the task of testing applicants for their FCC Amateur Radio licenses, and helping to make up the pool of questions from which the tests were to be derived. It sought out and took on the responsibility of helping local groups with communications for their public service events. This led to helping with the Main Street Festival, the Pallotti cross country event which hosted from 900-1200 participants, The Montpelier Festival, Riverfest, the Pallotti 5K run/walk, the American Cancer Society Relay for Life, the Fourth of July Parade and events, the City Christmas Tree Lighting and Parade, and several marathons and runs in the area. The Club has also participated in the ARRL sponsored Field Day exercise yearly, won some contests, does periodic hidden transmitter hunts, continues to give FCC licensing tests in Laurel and country-wide, has held classes for technician and general class, and provided its membership with the opportunity to really explore in depth the many facets of our wonderful hobby. While most of the original organizers are no longer with us, the spirit they embodied in the club continues on without their physical presence.

Now the Club is entering a new era, with a move of our Club shack and operations to the Laurel City Hall EOC, establishing a presence in the city's mobile command center, helping with emergency communications through many member's participation in the ARES/RACES program, all the while continuing to be engaged in our public service commitments. Members are stepping up to take on leadership roles for our activities and we have just completed a mailing to the local ham radio operators inviting them to take a look at what we're doing and to come on board. Amateur Radio is one of the few endeavors that I know where people are eager to share their knowledge and time so that others can benefit from their experience and enjoy the intellectual and social aspects of the world's greatest hobby.

73, Jim/WI3N

## Membership Drive

We are making a concerted effort this year to retain our current members and recruit more hams as members of the club. Renewal forms were sent out with the October and November editions of the Feedback. Renewal reminders were mailed in February to those who have not yet renewed. If you have not yet renewed your membership, please do – we want you to continue with the Club!

Diane, AA3OF is heading up the drive to recruit new members for the Club. She has put together an informative flyer for prospective members. A list of over 270 hams in the Laurel area was generated for the mailing. Diane got the crew together on February 15 at the new shack for an envelope stuffing party. Note that this was the first Club function at the new shack. It did not last long as the group stuffed the 270+ envelopes in less than 45 minutes!

## Missing Radio

A Kenwood SSB transceiver has been missing for some time now from the shack. If a member has borrowed this radio or knows where it may be please contact a board member.

## Basics I Skywarn Class

This class is essential for becoming a Skywarn Spotter. It is a 3-hour class that covers the basics of how Skywarn and the National Weather Service operate, what you need to report and how, and how to spot severe thunderstorms and tornadoes. **This class is a pre-requisite for all other classes.**

February 26th, 11:00 AM EST, University of Maryland Campus. For registration, either visit the website <http://www.atmos.umd.edu/~gcm>, or contact Melanie Follette at (301) 405-7677.

## Editor's Note

My apologies for this rather short edition of *The Feedback*. I messed up and did not get the January edition out on time and I did the same with the February edition. I felt it was important to get back on the regular cycle of publishing *The Feedback* so the time between publishing the previous edition and this one is quite a bit shorter than usual. That did not leave me much time to beg, plead, and cajole folks for articles. Thankfully, Diane, AA3OF, Jim, W13N, and Kevin, WV3D came through in the pinch.

## From the ARRL

==>FCC AFFIRMS \$4000 FINE FOR MISSOURI AMATEUR

The FCC has affirmed a \$4000 fine for Paul D. Westcott, KC0OAB, of Purdy, Missouri, for "willful and repeated failure to respond to Commission requests for information about his station." The Commission released a Forfeiture Order in the case on February 16. The FCC reports it has received "numerous complaints" alleging that KC0OAB for several months now has been transmitting CW "24 hours a day, 7 days a week" on 7.030 MHz. While complainants assert the transmissions constitute broadcasting, the FCC contends they interfere with other amateur communications "due to an apparent lack of station control." The FCC proposed the forfeiture November 30 in a Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture (NAL).

"A licensee cannot ignore the directives in a Bureau inquiry letter," the FCC said in the November NAL. "We, therefore, conclude that Paul D. Westcott apparently willfully and repeatedly failed to respond to Commission correspondence."

While Westcott did reply to an initial FCC Enforcement Bureau inquiry last June, the Commission says he failed to respond to a subsequent Warning Notice and Request for Further Information in early September, a Warning Notice--Failure to Reply in mid-October or to the November NAL, issued by the Commission's Kansas City field office.

FCC Special Counsel for Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth has told ARRL that Westcott assured him "some time ago" in an informal conversation that the transmissions were for Morse code practice, but neither he nor the FCC's Kansas City field office have received any formal responses from Westcott since last June.

A June 21, 2004, letter from Hollingsworth requested information from Westcott regarding an attached complaint about the KC00AB Morse code transmissions. In his response Westcott reiterated the code practice claim. The June FCC letter also asked Westcott when he had had begun the CW transmissions and for evidence that the transmissions--consisting largely of biblical text--were actually being used for that purpose. Hollingsworth further asked Westcott to address the complaint "as it related to allegations of religious broadcasting."

Hollingsworth says his office continues to receive complaints about the ongoing KC00AB transmissions on 40 meters.

The Commission gave Westcott 30 days to pay the fine or risk facing collection proceedings through the US Department of Justice.

## THE LAUREL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

<b>Officers:</b>	President:	Joe Craven	N3TZA	301-776-6398	n3tza@rcn.com
	Vice-President:	Kevin Craven	WV3D	301-498-2805	kevinc@erols.com
	Secretary:	Ed Herbrechtsmeier	K3QX	301-871-2698	k3qx@arrrl.net
	Treasurer:	Dennis Fitzgerald	KT3D	301-459-1247	dennis@dkf-naf.com
	VEC President:	Diane Zimmerman	AA3OF	301-937-0394	aa3of@arrrl.net
	Member at Large:	Dan Blasberg	KA8YPY	301-345-7381	ka8ypy@arrrl.net
	Past President:	Jim Cross	WI3N	301-725-6829	jcross3@juno.com

### Other LARC Positions and Contacts:

FAR Representative:	Dan Blasberg	KA8YPY	301-345-7381	ka8ypy@arrrl.net
PVRC Representative:	Bill Smith	N3XL	301-805-4211	n3xl@arrrl.net
LARC VE Testing:	John Creel	WB3GXW	301-572-5124	wb3gxw@arrrl.net
AutoCall Reporter:	Mona Singleton	NY7P	240-632-1492	mss@md.net
T-MARC/D-MARC Rep:	OPEN			
Public Information Officer:	OPEN			
Youth Programs:	Mark Doore	K3RAM	301-572-2385	k3ram@arrrl.net
Education and Training:	OPEN			
Technical Specialist:	Kevin Arber	W3DAD	301-725-0038	w3dad@amsat.org
ARES/RACES Coordinators:	Jim Cross	WI3N	301-725-6829	jcross3@juno.com
Official Emergency Station:	Pat Gormley	KK3F	301-864-4694	kk3f@arrrl.net
Official Bulletin Station:	John Creel	WB3GXW	301-572-5124	wb3gxw@arrrl.net
Official Bulletin Station:	Al Brown	KZ3AB	301-490-3188	kz3ab@arrrl.net
Official Relay Station:	Pat Gormley	KK3F	301-864-4694	kk3f@arrrl.net

### LARC Special Interest Groups and Mentors:

Antennas:	Kevin Arber	W3DAD	301-725-0038	w3dad@amsat.org
Packet Radio/APRS:	Mark Doore	K3RAM	301-572-2385	k3ram@arrrl.net
Repeaters:	John Creel	WB3GXW	301-572-5124	wb3gxw@arrrl.net

### ARRL Field Organization:

Atlantic Division Director:	Bernie Fuller	N3EFN	814-763-1529	n3efn@arrrl.org
Atlantic Division Vice Director:	William C. Edgar	N3LLR	814-362-1250	n3llr@arrrl.org
MDC Section Manager:	Tom Abernethy	W3TOM	301-292-6263	w3tom@arrrl.org
MDC Emergency Coord:	Mike Carr	WA1QAA	410-799-0403	bamcc@erols.com
Affiliated Club Coordinator:	Tony Young	WA3YLO	301-262-1917	tonyy@juno.com
MDC Section Bulletin Manager	Al Brown	KZ3AB	301-490-3188	kz3ab@arrrl.net

**The Feedback** is published monthly (except December) as the newsletter of the Laurel Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

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**Items to be published in *The Feedback*** should be submitted by the third Wednesday of the month. Email submissions may be made to **ed2000@gmail.com**

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