

Volume 31 Number 12 - December 2023

The Modulator

Newsletter and happenings of the Big South Fork Amateur Radio Club. Serving the Big South Fork Region since 1992.

If you enjoy reading our publication, be sure to open it fully or you will be automatically dropped from our mailing list in 6 months.



Congratulations to the 2024 BSFARC Board of Directors

President: Jamie N4XJS

Vice-President: Buddy W7BSF

Treasurer: Stephen KI4NG

Secretary/Membership: Kelly KI4JAV



Joe Cross KE4SJD

Bill Smith N5CFD

GET ON THE AIR!!

While not the ideal radio station kit it would be entertaining still. What's on your Christmas list?



Interested in emergency communications? We have team in Fentress, Morgan and Scott counties looking for volunteers.

ARES



Are you a YL (Young Lady) looking for your very own net? Look no further we have one for you!

YL NET

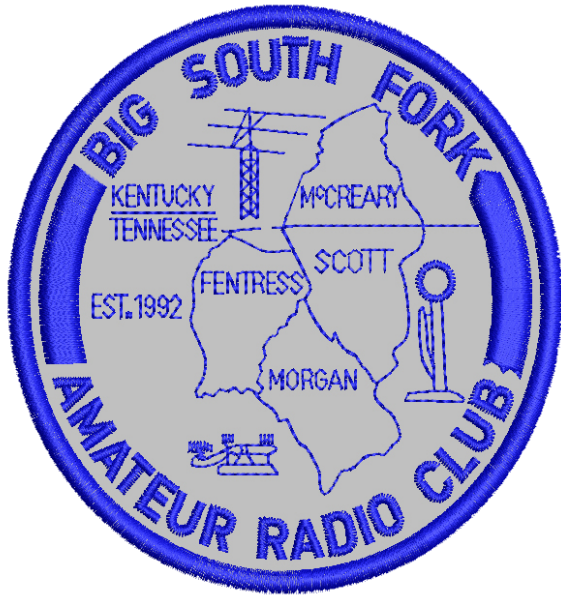
**VOLUNTEERS
ON THE AIR 2023**

VOTA (Volunteer On The Air) is a year-long event that everyone can participate in.

VOTA INFO

LEADERBOARD

UPCOMING EVENTS AND INFORMATION



Club Bi-Monthly Meeting

January 12, 2024

Our next club meeting will be held on January 9th - 2023 at 7:00pm Eastern at Roane State Community College. This will be our bi-monthly business meeting plus a meet & greet. We will start our planning for 2024.

Club Training Session

February 15th, 2023

At our last training session in December, we explored HAMRS, N1MM and N3JFP logbook programs. Here are the links we referenced during the training session:

<https://hamrs.app/RS>

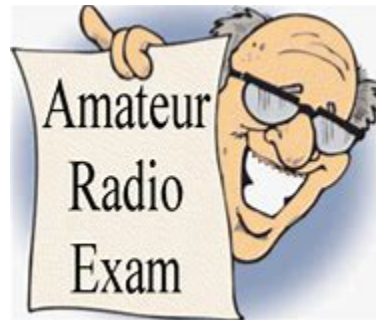
<https://n1mmwp.hamdocs.com/>

<https://www.n3fjp.com/>

Do you have knowledge to share? Are you already familiar with programming



We are searching for a volunteer for the Morgan County ARES EC position. Must be at least a technician level and have an interest in emergency communications. We can help with the training!



Local and In-Person Exams

The VE (Volunteer Examiner) team has made the transition to electronic submission for testing documents. While we still only do in-person testing the applicant can choose to take a paper exam or complete their test using a computer. Forms are emailed to the applicant, ARRL and to the FCC for faster processing. The ARRL testing fee is still \$15 for adults and under the age of 18 it is only \$5. The \$35 license fee is paid directly to the FCC and with the ARRL youth program they will reimburse the youths that fee! We will work with you to schedule an exam in your area at a convenient time. No more waiting or long drives or trying to take an on-line test with multiple cameras.

microcontrollers? How about a club project to teach the basics to other members? Or a demonstration on using Anderson Powerpoles? Or properly installing coax connectors? If so, why not share that knowledge and teach others!



Think of POTA as field day every day but you can spot on their website. New to POTA! We can help you get an account set up and even assist on your first hunting session or park activation.

POTA

ARRL

ADDITIONAL UPCOMING EVENTS

LICENSE EXAM

Extra Class Test Pool

The Amateur Extra class pool of questions will be changing on July 1, 2024 so start studying!!



Museum Ship Weekend

UPDATE

After the first of the year, we will start the sign-up process for volunteers. If you were 'on-board' with us in 2023 you will have first pick at some radio operator time slots. We will also be ordering QSL cards shortly to allow us to keep up with the requests as they come in.

Thanks again!

Kelly KI4JAV and Bill KF4TY

MSW Co-Coordinator

MUSEUM SHIP

Reminder!



Be sure to check out our new page on the web site for all the upcoming events!

UPCOMING

Radio Equipment Loaner Program



Through the generosity of some of our club members we have established a loaner program for radio equipment. We are in the process of completing a radio station in a box with everything you need for HF operation. This includes the radio (TenTec or a Kenwood TS820) the antenna and coaxial cable. This



Jerry Young was born on May 17, 1963, in Oneida, TN, to the late Kenneth and Charlene Young. He passed away November 16th, 2023 and was a lifetime member of BSFARC. He was married to his wife Missy for 35 years and was the father of Adam and his wife Abby, and Nicholas. He was the grandfather to Arlin, Abram, and Addie Kate. Jerry was the brother of Chris and the son of his second father, James McGee. Jerry served his country in the United States Army and was a member of the Bethlehem Baptist Church of Oneida. "Jerry's greatest love was evident in the way he lived his life, centered around family."

Jerry was not just a jack of all trades but also a master of them. He excelled in providing communications, either through his business or via one of the many ham radio repeaters he owned and maintained. Jerry was an accomplished pilot, licensed to fly both airplanes and helicopters, among many other hobbies that he loved to share with everyone he met. Jerry was truly loved, and his kind heart and gentle spirit will be deeply missed.

A quote from Jerry's family: "I think now, more than ever, Jerry would want everyone here to

loaner program is only available to club members. Let Jamie N4XJS if you would like to participate in this new program.

ARRL Insurance

Did you know that your home owners insurance may or may not cover your radio equipment? Did you know that a benefit of being an ARRL member is you can purchase specialized coverage at group rates? For about \$1.40 per \$100.00 dollars with a minimum of \$20.00 for the policy (approx \$1,400.00 in equipment) it can cover all of your gear up to a max of \$15,000.00 Equipment coverage for ham radios includes accessories, antennas, rotators and towers; data processing systems, computers and component parts; data and media. All Losses are settled on a replacement cost value. (Replacement cost is the full cost to repair or replace the damaged property or actual cost to reproduce property with other property of equivalent kind and quality). The policy offers a very low deductible of \$50 per claim making the loss a bit easier to handle.

ARRL

Less Than A Minute Lesson

Here is a new feature to our newsletter. Either learn something new or refresh your memory in under a minute!

[New to Amateur Radio?](#)

have a personal relationship with God and be able to lean on God's understanding rather than their own."

*Fly High Jerry, KB4PNG, until we meet again
God Speed and 73*

ARRL Sanctioned Hamfests and Conventions

HAM FEST

06/15/2024 - [Knoxville Hamfest and Electronics Convention, ARRL Delta Division Convention](#)

Previous copies of 'The Modulator' are now on our web site. You can also subscribe to the newsletter there too.

MODULATOR

10-Meter Contest

UPDATE!



We heard you and have collected some resources to help you along the way. Our Elmers (ham terminology for mentor) are ready to answer any questions you may and work with you to get your license.

NEW HAM



January 27-28, 2024

Saturday 2:00pm EST (1900UTC) to Sunday 5:59pm EST (1859UTC)

Objective: To set up an amateur radio field station and successfully make multiple contacts. Successful participants are those who can set up their equipment and correctly log the designated exchange during the operational period explained below. All participants are encouraged to complete as many objectives as possible and submit a log of stations worked.



The 2023 10-Meter Contest was held the 2nd weekend of December, and the band was open with solar cycle 25 in full swing. As a club we had 172 contacts (after duplicates were removed) with 77 multipliers (states/DX entities) for approximately 33,276 points (unofficially). Last year we had 13,860 points and our best year was in 2004 when we hit 36,354 points. Wonder if we will beat that this year after they tally up our scores and apply the correct adders. Already looking forward to next year's contest!

Contest Corner

January

1 Straight Key Night

7 Kids Day

7-8 RTTY Roundup

21-23 January VHF

February

13-17 School Club Roundup

18-19 International DX - CW

Class: your class is a number designated by the number of transceivers at your location that are capable of transmitting simultaneously. 1,2,3,4, etc. This means you have the people needed to operate the number of transmitters you choose. Don't count a transceiver if it has to be left unattended in order to make contacts on another.

Categories: A WFD operation, regardless of the number of stations operating under one call sign, must be in the same physical location. All station equipment, including antennas, feed lines, and accessories used, must be located within a circular area whose diameter does not exceed 1,000 feet (300m).

You must choose which category you are going to operate in. If operating as a group under one call sign, all stations in your entry must fit the category you choose.

The categories are:

H = Home station: is defined as any station participating from their permanent livable residence or within 500ft of their Home regardless of operating inside or outside.

I = Indoor station: is defined as any station operating away from Home but from inside an insulated, weather-protected building or structure on a permanent foundation. Indoor stations typically have plumbing, heating/cooling, and running water. Church, EOCs, a club shack, a cabin, and community centers are all examples of an Indoor station.

VOLUNTEERS ON THE AIR 2023

We are in the final stages of the year long program to recognize our ARRL volunteers. Below are some of our club members and what place they are in here in TN as of 12-14-2023.

KF4TY is 106th in TN with 6114 points

W4BSF is 189th in TN with 3131 points

KI4JAV is 298th in TN with 1576 points

KI4NG is 661st in TN with 90 points

Let us know if we missed you and your information and we will be sure to track it.

Stay positive, ignore the negative. Don't listen to those who insist that "Ham Radio is dying". Or better yet, go here <http://www.arrl.org/fcc-license-counts> where they'll find that the number of licensees is at an all-time high, Tennessee has 19,750 operators.

O = Outdoor station: Outdoor stations operate from a partly or fully exposed building or shelter that does not typically have plumbing, heating/cooling, or running water available. Operating from a picnic table, park pavilion, tents, or under pop-up canopies are all places that could be considered Outdoor. These are locations where you may have to provide your own heat source and/or protection from the elements.

M = Mobile / Mobile Stationary: These stations are defined as operations from a mobile or potentially mobile structure like an RV, car, van, sailboat, cargo trailer, mobile EOC, ETC. These are operating positions that may offer some sort of built-in heating/cooling. Mobile Stations do not have to be mobile during the event. They are defined as having the ability to be mobile should it be necessary to move during the event. RVs and Cargo trailers with external antennas set up are still considered Mobile.

Exchange & Additional Information: The designated Winter Field Day exchange is your call sign, your Class and Category, and your location identifier. US and Canadian stations will use the ARRL / RAC Section as designated by those organizations. Mexico stations will use MX, and all other stations outside of the US will use DX. The goal is to copy and record the full exchange accurately. Because we use the Exchange as a cross reference when looking at the logs, your Class, Category, and Identifiers must remain the same throughout the whole event. If your location changes sections during the event, such as a long-haul trucker, your section is the first section you made a contact from. Note: Signal reports and



Calendar of Events for 2024

DATE	EVENT
1/11/2024	BSFARC Meeting
1/27/2024	Winter Field Day
1/28/2024	Winter Field Day
2/9/2024	HamCation Orlando FL
2/10/2024	HamCation Orlando FL
2/11/2024	HamCation Orlando FL
2/15/2024	BSFARC Training/Meet & Greet
3/8/2024	International YL Day
3/9/2024	MTARS Tullahoma Hamfest
3/14/2024	BSFARC Meeting
4/11/2024	BSFARC Training/Meet & Greet
4/27/2024	BSF Spring Planting Festival
5/9/2024	BSFARC Meeting
5/17/2024	Hamvention Dayton OH
5/18/2024	Hamvention Dayton OH
5/18/2024	TN Mountain Laure Festival
5/19/2024	Hamvention Dayton OH
6/1/2024	KY QSO Party
6/1/2024	Museum Ship Weekend SES
6/2/2024	Museum Ship Weekend SES
6/13/2024	BSFARC Training/Meet & Greet
6/15/2024	Knoxville Hamfest/ARRL convention
6/27/2024	ARRL Field Day
7/1/2024	New Amateur Question Pool
7/11/2024	BSFARC Meeting
7/26/2024	TN POTA Weekend
7/27/2024	TN POTA Weekend
7/28/2024	TN POTA Weekend
8/8/2024	BSFARC Training/Meet & Greet
8/18/2024	Huntsville AL Hamfest
8/19/2024	Huntsville AL Hamfest

other additional information are not a required part of the exchange; however, it is encouraged to practice exchanging additional information, which may include- signal reports, temperature, weather conditions, antenna configurations, etc. In an emergency, you may be asked to relay anything from a list of supplies to GPS coordinates. Collecting and correctly copying down this information is an important skill that should be practiced during Winter Field Day.

WFD 2023

9/1/2024	Tennessee QSO Party
9/12/2024	BSFARC Meeting
9/21/2024	BSF Storytelling Festival
10/10/2024	BSFARC Training/Meet & Greet
10/19/2024	NB 100 Race (Tentative Date)
10/19/2024	POTA Support Your Parks Weekend
10/20/2024	NB 100 Race (Tentative Date)
10/20/2024	POTA Support Your Parks Weekend
11/14/2024	BSFARC Meeting
12/7/2024	Skywarn Recognition Day
12/12/2024	BSFARC Training/Meet & Greet
12/14/2024	ARRL 10-Meter Contest
12/15/2024	ARRL 10-Meter Contest

Special Event Stations

Contact these stations and help commemorate an historical occasion or other special event. Many special event stations provide a special QSL card or certificate.

Certificates and QSL cards: To obtain a certificate from any of the special-event stations offering them, send your QSO information along with a 9x12 inch self-addressed, stamped envelope to address listed in the announcement. To receive a special event QSL card (when offered), be sure to include a self-addressed, stamped business envelope along with your QSL card and QSO information.

January 2024

01/02/2024 | 18th Annual Straight Key Month

Jan 2-Jan 31, 0000Z-2359Z, K3Y*, Worldwide.
SKCC - Straight Key Century Club. 3.550 7.055
14.050 21.050. Certificate & QSL. SKCC c/o
Ted Rachwal - K8AQM, 6237 Twin Lakes Drive,
Smiths Creek, MI 48074. *K3Y/0 thru 9 plus

01/13/2024 | Last NVA MIG Shot-down by USS Midway F- 4 (12JAN73)

Jan 13, 1700Z-2359Z, NI6IW, San Diego, CA.
USS Midway Museum Ship. 7.250 14.320; PSK
14.070; DSTAR on PAPA System repeaters.

KH6, KL7, KP4 and DX member stations in six WAC areas operating straight key, bug and cootie keys. QSL card confirms one QSO per area, up to 19 for all-area sweep. See URL for op sched/map, stats, etc.

<https://www.skccgroup.com/k3y>

01/06/2024 | MRAC 107th

Anniversary

Jan 6, 1600Z-2200Z, W9RH, Milwaukee, WI. Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club. ~7.250 ~14.250 ~21.350 145.390. Certificate. Email specialevent@w9rh.org, to receive, certificate. Celebrating 107 years of continuous service to the Milwaukee amateur radio community. Also celebrating 105 years of affiliation with the ARRL. Work us on HF, our VHF repeater, or WiRES-X (#43588). Certificate available upon email request. See web page for details.

<https://www.w9rh.org/special-event-station>

01/06/2024 | Second

Seminole Indian War

Reenactment

Jan 6-Jan 7, 1300Z-2200Z, K2S, Bushnell, FL. Hog County Amateur Radio Association - K4HOG. 14.045 - CW 14.250-260 - PH 21.325 - PH 28.450 - PH. Certificate. Gene King, KI4LEH, 4655 NW 68th Blvd., Lake Panasoffkee, FL 33538. Times are daily. This event/reenactment commemorates Dade's Battle of 1835 during the Second Seminole War. Taking place at the current location known as the Historic Dade Battlefield State Park in Bushnell, Florida. This will be the first

QSL. USS Midway Museum Ship, 910 N Harbor Drive COMEDTRA, Omaha, NE 68101.

www.qrz.com/db/ni6iw

01/20/2024 | 110th

Anniversary of Cambridge Amateur Radio Association

Jan 20, 1600Z-2200Z, W8VP, Cambridge, OH. Cambridge Amateur Radio Association. 14.240. Certificate. Jim Shaw, 46006 King Street, Caldwell, OH 43724. The Cambridge Amateur Radio Association celebrated its 100th anniversary on December 4, 2023. A certificate will be available. Send certificate requests along with QSL info to ab8pjlshaw@yahoo.com. www.w8vp.org

01/22/2024 | Distance Challenge at QuartzFest

Jan 22-Jan 25, 0000Z-2359Z, W7Q, Quartzsite, AZ. Northern Arizona DX Association. All bands, all modes. Certificate. See, website, for instructions. This is an operating event happening during Quartzfest. No QSL or Certificate. www.nadxa.com

01/27/2024 | Discovery of Gold in California

Jan 27-Jan 29, 1700Z-0100Z, AG6AU, Coloma, CA. El Dorado County ARC. 7.248 14.248 21.348 28.348. QSL. El Dorado County ARC, PO Box 451, Placerville, CA 95667.

<https://edcarc.net>

time our association or any amateur club has set up a Special Event Station.

K4HOGFL@gmail.com or <https://k4hog.org>

01/13/2024 | 123rd Anniversary of the Lucas Gusher

Jan 13-Jan 14, 1400Z-2200Z, K5S, Beaumont, TX. Beaumont Amateur Radio Club. 14.250 7.250 3.870 14.074. Certificate. Beaumont Amateur Radio Club , 4839 Hwy 326N, Kountze, TX 77625. E-certificate also available. k5s.lucasgusher@gmail.com or www.w5rin.com

01/27/2024 | Winter Field Day with BARC

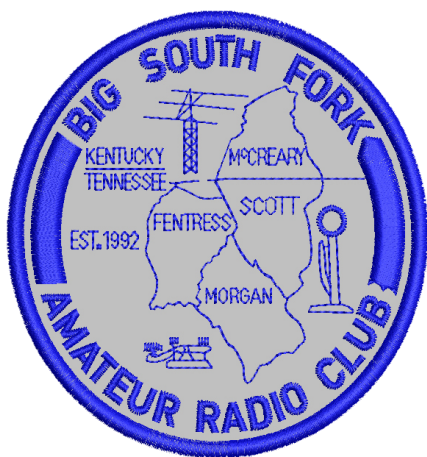
Jan 27-Jan 28, 1900Z-1859Z, W5BCS, Bryan, TX. Bryan Amateur Radio Club. 7.250 14.270. QSL. Bryan Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 4442, Bryan, TX 77805. <https://w5bcs.radio>

ARRL LINK

To learn more about and to search even more special event stations click the adjacent link:

We have a exam license page to our web site focusing on new hams. More pages are being developed and content will be added in the coming months. Come and visit us!

BSFARC.ORG



Be sure to like and follow us on FaceBook



Visit us on the web at
<https://BSFARC.ORG>

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Manage your subscription](#)