

Volume 32 Number 02 - February 2024

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.

GET ON THE AIR!!



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! If your OM is licensed, he can be your control operator for you to get on the air with us.

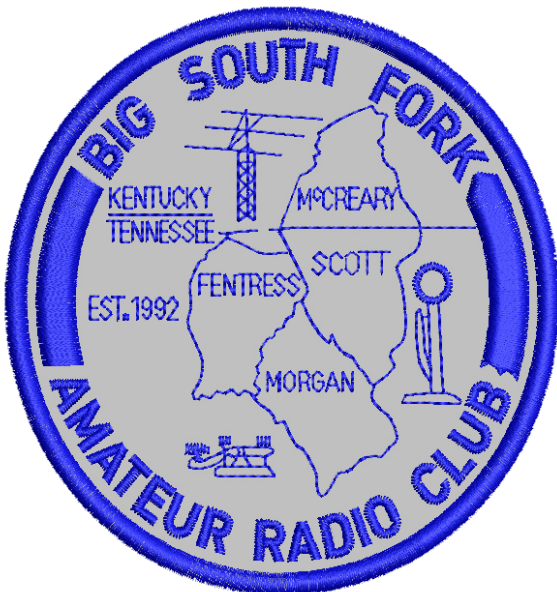
YL NET



ARRL has announced free membership for full-time students aged 21 and younger.

ARRL

UPCOMING EVENTS AND INFORMATION



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!

Club Bi-Monthly Meeting

March 14, 2024

Our next club meeting will be held on March 14th - 2023 at 7:00pm Eastern at Roane State Community College. This will be our bi-monthly business meeting plus a meet & greet.

Club Training Session

April 11th, 2024

We have pre-ordered a nice spring day for our field training on fox hunting. See information below as we will be meeting at 7:00pm eastern in the parking lot of Roane State Community College - Huntsville for an interactive training session.

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

ADDITIONAL UPCOMING EVENTS



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.

LICENSE EXAM



Congratulations to Tom Goodin KT4FLY/AG on passing his general class exam. We would also like to congratulate Avery Honeycutt as he passed the technician class exam this month as well.

Reminder!



Be sure to check out our new page on the web site for all the upcoming events! It is updated for 2024.

UPCOMING

Hamfests and Conventions

HAM FEST

03/09/2024 - [MTARS](#)
[Tullahoma Hamfest](#)

03/16/2024 - [Sevier County](#)
[2024 Hamfest](#)

03/16/2024 - [West TN](#)
[Hamfest and Swapmeet](#)

04/20/2024 - Greenville
Hamfest



Museum Ship Weekend

June 1st and 2nd, 2024

UPDATE

We have a couple of volunteers on-board already and can use some more still. Looking for radio operators and for help logging the contacts. We have been approved to operate from the actual museum and hope to surpass the 1,200 contacts we made last year. Let us know if you can join us.

Thanks again!

Kelly KI4JAV and Bill KF4TY

MSW Co-Coordiators

MUSEUM SHIP

Calendar of Events for 2024

| | |
|-----------|------------------------------|
| 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 |

04/27/2024 - 1st Annual Short Mountain Repeater Club Hamfest

06/15/2024 - Knoxville Hamfest and Electronics Convention, ARRL Delta Division Convention

Contest Corner

March

4-5 International DX - Phone

April

16 Rookie Roundup - Phone

May - No ARRL contests

June

1-2 International Digital Contest

8-10 June VHF

15 Kids Day

22-23 Field Day

Big Sout Fork NRRRA Spring Planting Festival

April 27, 2024

| | |
|------------|---|
| 3/16/2024 | Sevier County 2024 Hamfest |
| 3/16/2024 | West TN Hamfest Trenton |
| 4/11/2024 | BSFARC Training/Meet & Greet |
| 4/20/2024 | Greenville TN Hamfest |
| 4/20/2024 | POTA Support Your Parks Weekend |
| 4/21/2024 | POTA Support Your Parks Weekend |
| 4/27/2024 | BSF Spring Planting Festival |
| 4/27/2024 | 1st Annual Short Mountain Repeater Club Hamfest |
| 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 |
| 7/20/2024 | POTA Support Your Parks Weekend |
| 7/21/2024 | POTA Support Your Parks Weekend |
| 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 |
| 9/1/2024 | Tennessee QSO Party |
| 9/12/2024 | BSFARC Meeting |
| 9/21/2024 | BSF Storytelling Festival |
| 10/10/2024 | BSFARC Training/Meet & Greet |
| 10/18/2024 | Ghost-Mine Festival BSFNRRRA |
| 10/19/2024 | POTA Support Your Parks Weekend |
| 10/20/2024 | POTA Support Your Parks Weekend |
| 10/25/2024 | NB 100 Race |
| 10/26/2024 | NB 100 Race |
| 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 |



Come and join Jamie N4XJS and Kelly KI4JAV as they will be setup as a demonstration booth for this year's spring planting festival. They will be activating W4BSF as a POTA station and you have the opportunity to join in on the fun and get on the air. We will be promoting amateur radio, our club of course and emergency communications (ARES). Kelly will also be recruiting YLs for her NET too.



Fox Hunting Workshop

April 11, 2024

On March 21, 2024, Tennessee Homeland Security District 2 will host a tabletop exercise for Public Health, Healthcare, and other similarly situated agencies focused on regional preparedness for and prevention of cyber incidents. This tabletop exercise will take place at Jubilee Banquet Facility, 6700 Jubilee Center Way, Knoxville, TN 37912 from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM and will be facilitated by CyberProtex. Let Kelly KI4JAV or Bill KF4TY know if this is of interest to you as it is geared to healthcare cyber attacks.



The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program is a nationally supported, locally implemented initiative that teaches people how to better prepare themselves for hazards that may affect their communities. CERT trains them in basic disaster response skills such as team organization, disaster medical operations, fire safety, and light search and rescue. Local CERT programs train and organize teams of volunteers to assist their families, neighbors, co-workers, and other community members during emergencies when professional responders may not be immediately available to provide assistance. Before, during, and after disasters, CERT volunteer teams perform basic response activities, including checking in on neighbors, distributing information to the public, supporting emergency operations centers, and helping to manage traffic and crowds. The ability for CERT volunteers to perform these activities frees up professional responders to focus their efforts on more complex, essential, and critical tasks. CERT volunteers also support their communities by organizing, promoting, and

Last fall we built our small tape measure antennas for fox hunting and now we will have the chance to learn how to use them. Come and join us as we have a workshop on fox hunting (hidden transmitter). This will be conducted outside in the Roane State parking lot weather permitting. Bring a cold beverage and a comfy chair to catch some of the action. We will have a antenna and radio to try if you don't have your own.

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

MODULATOR



The second annual [Georgia State Parks on the Air](#) will be held April 6 - 7, 2024. ARRL member and event coordinator Claude Ray, AC4SH, said that the first event was a success and that participants insisted on having another one.

"For both activators and hunters, the event went far beyond our expectations. Of the 50 listed parks, 48 were activated, with 109 activators making nearly 20,000 contacts with over 4,000 hunters," said

participating in emergency preparedness events, activities, and projects.

You may ask why CERT is in our newsletter and that is a great question. If you got this far we have done our job and given you some of the many reasons why we all need CERT in our communities. Ham radio provides communications for many CERT teams, and this works well with our ARES teams as well. We will be discussing CERT at our March meeting so come and learn a bit more! There are no CERT teams in our area (Fentress, Morgan McCreary or Scott) with the closest being in Roane County.

Ray. He added that the 2024 event promises to be even better, with the addition of two new Georgia parks and, based on feedback from participants, the rules have been tweaked to add new opportunities receiving awards.

As a hunter all you need to do is register at the link below as the activators will log and the system will assign points based on number of parks contacted and number of QSOs.

GA POTA

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.

March 2024

03/08/2024 | American
Legion 102nd Birthday

Mar 8-Mar 10, 1500Z-0300Z, K4L, Sevierville,
TN. American Legion Post 104 Amateur Radio

03/16/2024 | 16th
Anniversary Solivita Car
Show

Club - AL4US. 20 Meter - 7.250 MHz 40 Meter - 14.250 MHz. Certificate. AL4US, 403 W.Main Street, Sevierville, TN 37864-4242. All Contacts can request an E-Certificate with a valid email address. tnpost104.org/al4us

03/08/2024 | International Women's Day YL POTA Party

Mar 8, 0000Z-2359Z, Your call, Any POTA Park (or hunt POTA from home!). Young Ladies Radio League. All modes, any frequency within your license class. QSL. QSL to operator, contacted to receive, QSL. This is a world-wide event. Submit POTA activations to the POTA database. www.ylrl.net

03/09/2024 | 120th Anniversary of the Adoption of the Current Maryland Flag

Mar 9-Mar 10, 1800Z-0300Z, N3APS, Orinda, CA. Expatriate Marylanders Radio Club. 28.440 21.440 14.320. QSL. M.G. Vurek, P.O. Box 617, Orinda, CA 94563. <https://www.grz.com/db/N3APS>

03/09/2024 | Commemorating launching of USS Midway on 20MAR45

Mar 9, 1700Z-2359Z, NI6IW, San Diego, CA. USS Midway Museum . 7.250 14.320 14.070 PSK31 DSTAR on PAPA system repeaters. QSL. USS Midway Museum CONEDTRA, 910 N

Mar 16, 1400Z-2000Z, N4SRC, Kissimmee, FL. Solivita Radio Club. 14.255 28.435. QSL. Solivita Radio Club, 307 Bell Tower Crossing West, Kissimmee, FL 34759. This is a non-commercial event held by our community for car enthusiasts and open to the public free of charge. <https://solivitaradioclub.weebly.com>

03/16/2024 | Cherry Blossom Special Event Station

Mar 16, 1400Z-2000Z, W4BKM, Macon, GA. Macon Amateur Radio Club. 14.240 7.225. Certificate. Macon Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 4862, Macon, GA 31208-4862. www.maconamateurradioclub.wordpress.com

03/17/2024 | GERATOL NET ANNIVERSARY

Mar 17-Mar 23, 0100Z-2359Z, W1G, Wheelwright, MA. Geratol WAS Net. 3.668 SSB 40 Meter SSB. QSL. Kevin Lynch, POB 124, Wheelwright, MA 01094. The GERATOL (Greetings Extra Radio Amateurs Tired of Operating Lately) WAS Net, will operate special event call sign W1G to commemorate 50 years as a Worked All States Net N1KL@ARRL.NET

03/23/2024 | Baker to Vegas Relay Race for Law Enforcement

Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92101.

www.grz.com/db/ni6iw

03/12/2024 |

Commemorating Buckingham Army Airfield

Mar 12-Mar 14, 1421Z-1421Z, W4LX, Fort Myers, FL. Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club. 14.240 21.350 28.340. Certificate & QSL. FMARC, PO Box 061183, Fort Myers, FL 33906. Please send a SASE to handle a certificate. fmarc.net

03/14/2024 | PI Day

Mar 14, 0000Z-2359Z, N3P, Burlington, NJ. David Sarnoff Radio Club. 14.031 MHz 14.314 MHz 7.031 MHz 7.227 MHz. QSL. Donald Corrington, 7 Pinewald Lane, Burlington, NJ 08016-3421. n2re.org

03/15/2024 | Celebrating the 105th Birthday of the American Legion

Mar 15, 1600Z-2200Z, AF4CB, Cartersville, GA. Carl Boyd Post 42 American Legion Amateur Radio Club. 7.242 SSB 14.342 SSB 7.074 FT8 14.074 FT8. QSL. Joel Myers, 513 Cassville Rd., Cartersville, GA 30120. www.post42cartersvillega.org

Mar 23-Mar 24, 1600Z-0000Z, N6A, Amargosa Valley, NV. Ham Radio Outlet Anaheim. 7.225 14.225. QSL. Glenn Arrant, 14723 Puma Trail, Valley Center, CA 92082.

03/23/2024 | Celebrating 50 Years as a Club

Mar 23-Mar 24, 1700Z-0100Z, VC3GB, OwenSound, On. Georgian Bay Amateur Radio Club. 14.263. QSL. Georgian Bay Amateur Radio Club, 142 Paradise Bay, Annan, ON N0H1B0, CANADA. gbarc.ca

03/30/2024 | Total Solar Eclipse in Hunt county Texas

Mar 30-Apr 10, 0000Z-2359Z, W5E, Greenville, TX. Sabine Valley Amateur Radio Association. 7.235 14.280 21.400 28.450. QSL. K5GVL Sabine Valley Amateur Radio Association, PO Box 843, Greenville, TX 75403-0843. The Sabine Valley Amateur Radio Association will be celebrating a once in a lifetime solar event. On April 8th 2024 our favorite star the sun will be totally eclipsed for over 4 minutes! This will allow direct observation of the suns corona in real time. The SVARA will be operating W5E "Whiskey 5 Eclipse" from March 30th until April 10th to celebrate this unique and magical event! <https://k5gvl.com/w5e-total-solar-eclipse-special-event-station>

ARRL LINK

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

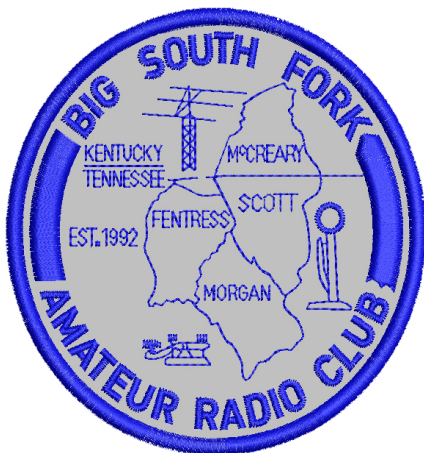
03/15/2024 | K4KDJ

(Virginia Tech Amateur Radio Association) 100 Year Anniversary

Mar 15-Mar 16, 2100Z-2100Z, K4KDJ,
Blacksburg, VA. K4KDJ Virginia Tech Amateur
Radio Association. 14.256 7.220 14.340
7.150. QSL. Virginia Tech Amateur Radio
Association, 290 College Ave, Blacksburg, VA
24060.

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!

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