

# Metroplex Amateur Radio Club

## W2MPX REPEATER NEWSLETTER

P.O. BOX 3094, FORT LEE, NJ, 07024

145.450/144.850 MHz - Minus 600KHZ - 100.0 Hz PL

443.950/448.950 MHz - Plus 5 MHz - 136.5 Hz PL



Metropex  
is an ARRL  
Affiliated Club

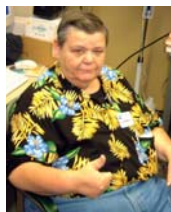


April, 2006

Volume 3

Number 2

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Are you tired of this wacky weather yet? Not sure if you should put away the snow shovel and snow blower until next winter? Join the crowd, this year's weather is like a high-pressure hose which the nozzle has come off, flip flopping all over. One day it's in the fifties, the next two feet of snow. Will March come in like a lion and go out as a

lamb? I for one would not be surprised if Mother Nature had a few more curve balls to throw at us. I can see spring on the horizon.

Well I hope you had a nice, festive, and sober Saint Patrick's Day. As you may know our meeting was on this Holy Irish Day, by the way, a National Holiday in Ireland. This day gives me time to reflect on all my memories of my trip to the Irish Holy City, Dublin, Ireland. I can still recall all those wonderful people with their rustic looks, and their Irish charm. I also visited with some really nice English people in Chorley, England. Dave Tricia, Damien, and have course Cleo the Cocker Spaniel provided some English charm of their own.

I love the spring maybe because my allergies have ceased to be a problem, maybe because I know there will be plenty of amateur activities. I enjoy the ham fests, you get to walk around and see what's on all the tables and tailgates and trunks or maybe a blanket placed on the ground. For me, the best part is meeting all the other hams I have gotten to know over the years and maybe a new one now and then. Spring is usually a good time for High Frequency contacts with less violent weather.

I think for me it is the magic of putting up a piece of wire, attaching it to your radio and talking over thousands of miles. Yeah, I know you can do this on a telephone or over the internet. But believe it or not they are using something very similar. That cell phone is only traveling a short distance to the nearest cell site. Your Internet service uses long phone lines back to the central office. If you live too far from the central office, you may have trouble getting service.

Now in my case, I have a piece of copper wire 26 feet long hanging in my back yard, no central office, no satellite to beam up to, just a piece of copper wire. The other day on 20 meters I spoke with a person from Russia, Siberia in fact. Each and every time I make a contact I get a feeling that this is some magic system working between them and me. I like working HF much more than I did when I was younger and don't exactly know why that is. I am beginning to think it has a lot to do with Field Day.

For many years I did not participate in Field Day and did not miss HF. Now we do Field Day at the Ramsey, NJ Office of

Emergency Management, and it is always a great time, even when we have some of the same little problems everyone has with either a piece of equipment, or a tuner, or an antenna, or a connection. We have a great Technical Committee who figures out the problem and keep us on the air making contacts. I am sure glad we don't have many of those.

By the way, Field Day is June 24 through June 25 this year. All of last years rookies are now seasoned Field Day operators ready to help someone else get on HF. Come on over.

Metroplex is an ARRL affiliated club. This means that at least 50 per cent of our membership belongs to the ARRL. We have a higher percentage, and we fully support the ARRL. We have an ARRL supported Volunteer Examiner Team. We also use the ARRL club reimbursement forms, which allow affiliated clubs to keep a percent of all ARRL renewals, and a larger part of a new ARRL membership. It is very simple to do. Either get a form from me or go the ARRL website and download it. Write a check for the full amount of the renewal or new membership and make it payable to Metroplex ARC. When we get it we take the \$2.00 club reimbursement and then forward your form along with a check to the ARRL for your renewal. We are not going to get rich doing this but, every bit helps since dues is our only source of income.

If you have an article you want to submit bring it on and we will try to get it in the newsletter. We like to hear what you are working on and what you are doing with the hobby. I do enjoy reading other folks articles. Also please submit questions to me for my Ask Tom column, I will answer just about anything that is ok for general audiences. Until next time,

73

Tom

### UP COMING EVENTS

#### ARRL Exam Session

**April 01, 2006**

**Sponsor:** East Coast DX Association

**Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

**Contact:** Joyce Birmingham, KA2ANF

**Phone:** 201 445-5924

**Email:** [ka2anf@arrl.net](mailto:ka2anf@arrl.net)

**VEC:** [ARRL/VEC](http://ARRL/VEC)

**Location:** Paramus Congregational Church-Basement

205 Spring Valley Road

Paramus, NJ 07652

See Metroplex website for driving directions.

## Hamfests

May 27, 2006

**Sponsor:** Bergen Amateur Radio Association

<http://www.bara.org/>

**Talk-In:** 146.19/146.79 (PL 141.3)

**Time:** 8:00AM

**Contact:** James Joyce, K2ZO

**Phone:** 201-664 6725

**Email:** [k2zo@arrl.net](mailto:k2zo@arrl.net)

**Location:** Westwood Regional High School  
701 Ridgewood Road  
Township of Washington, NJ

### METROPLEX ARC 2006 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Just a quick reminder to renew your membership if you have not done so already. Metroplex ARC values your membership and looks forward to your continued affiliation with our club.

Yearly dues are \$20.00, all of which goes towards paying the rent for the repeater site; maintaining our two repeaters; publishing a online newsletter six times a year; as well as paying the hosting fee for our internet website: <http://www.metroplex.org>

Please complete the 2006 renewal form and send it along with your check at your earliest convenience to:

Metroplex ARC  
P.O. Box 3094  
Fort Lee, NJ 07024-3094

### THE IMPORTANCE OF ARRL MEMBERSHIP

The Metroplex Amateur Radio Club is an ARRL affiliated club. As such, our membership roster must have a minimum of 51 percent ARRL members. We must maintain this requirement in order to remain an ARRL affiliated club.

If you are not presently a member of the ARRL, or if your membership has lapsed for more than two years, there is a good way to join the ARRL and benefit your club as well. ARRL Membership Application forms can be obtained from the Metroplex web site: <http://www.metroplex.org> or from Tom, W2TAB at the Red Oak Diner most Saturdays from 1 to 3 PM.

Please follow the instructions on the form carefully, then send the completed application with a check or money order made out to Metroplex ARC for the amount of your ARRL membership to:

Metroplex ARC  
P.O. Box 3094  
Fort Lee, NJ 07024-3094

### MINUTES OF MEETING OF MARCH 17, 2006

The following Metroplex ARC members were present at our January club meeting: Tom - W2TAB; Walt - AE2AA; Armand - WA2SHA; Frank - KB2VVP, Tim - KC2KET, John - KB2VVO, Paul - KB2SQ, Joe - K2BAT, Betty - N2ELB, Bob - NE2BB, Chris - WA2RJC. A warm welcome to new members Kevin N2GCT, and Dave KC2EMF who were among those attending. Thank all of you for attending the meeting. We hope that more

### folks will try to make our next club meeting in May

Thanks to Tom and Armand for providing the coffee and refreshments. The meeting was called to order by Tom Bennett, Club President at 7:30 PM.

#### Old Business

The treasurer's report was given by Armand, Club Treasurer. As of March 17, 2005, the Metroplex ARC has approximately \$3,000.00 dollars in regular funds and equipment funds

#### New Business

Tom W2TAB, and Walter AE2AA discussed our continued participation in the bi-monthly VE session now sponsored by the East Coast DX Association. Tom mentioned that we now have Metroplex ARC information sheets to hand out to persons passing their exams. We are also mailing similar information to new Hams in our local area as well.

Tom discussed the 440 repeater and asked several persons as to how we might be able to improve its performance by finding a new location for it. The present consensus of opinion is to try it at a few different locations prior to deciding on a permanent location.

Bobby NE2BB, mentioned that the two meter repeater "ears" seemed a little down from its normal receive sensitivity. We will continue to monitor this situation and schedule a maintenance visit to the repeater if required.

Walter asked those members present if there was an interest in having a HF column in our newsletter. The response was 75 percent in HF so he will try to have a HF Corner or Tech Corner in every issue.

Walter asked if there was any interest in having a Metroplex cap with the club name and members call sign on it. There was enough interest that both Tom and Walter will look into the subject further.

Walter also mentioned that we would like to see some license upgrades within our club. If you need help, or have questions regarding test questions, please let one of the technical folks know about it.

The next Metroplex ARC meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 19th, 2006. Our club meetings are normally held at the Fort Lee Recreation Center, located on Stillwell Avenue, Fort Lee, NJ 07024. The talk in frequency is 145.45 MHz, minus offset, 100Hz PL. Check our website for the latest information regarding our next meeting.

The meeting was closed by Club President Tom Bennett at 8:45 PM.

Walter Lange - AE2AA  
Club Secretary

#### ASK TOM

**Question:** I am wondering what your views are on the Metroplex 440 repeater. Will it be working better for the membership sometime this year?

**Answer:** This may come as a surprise to you, but before we enabled the 440 repeater we had many comments as to why we did not have it on the air. Now it is on the air, and there have been very few if any comments on the 440 repeater. We have performed some tests at the site and everything was operating, as it should, yet the signal from the repeater is horrible at best. We believe that more testing should have been performed be-

fore locating our repeater at this location.

There were many reasons for our haste to place the repeater at the present location. Unfortunately I cannot go into them as of yet. We are in the planning some more tests from an alternate site.

**Question:** Many members of MARC have never been to the Red Oak Diner. Could you explain the format and ambiance that keep some of us coming back time after time?

**Answer:** The format of the Red Oak diner is a very casual atmosphere where members and non-members alike gather for a cup of coffee or lunch or some just come and have desert. We are almost always situated in the right hand side of the diner in the back. This is the non-smoking section of the diner. It is like the furthest outpost from the front door where the din of our many diverse conversations usually doesn't bother any of the other patrons.

We always seem to get the newer waiters and waitresses almost like they lost a bet and got us. We are different than most of the diners guests, we always get separate checks so if you just have to leave, it's not a big deal, just get your check and leave, and we are always there longer than anyone else.

The Red Oak's owner George N2ROI is a Metroplex Director, and probably is the reason we get to hang out all afternoon usually without any interference by the rest of the staff. What keeps us coming back time after time is that it is like a ham fest, where you get to see the people you talk to on the radio, or do the VE examinations with in a different atmosphere. There are some folks who use the diner as an opportunity to come and pay their dues in person, or some have a particular question about the hobby.

We have a very talented group of members. I will not get into the details, as they would require much more space to list all their qualifications. I can say our group answers many questions. I do believe that one of the most common new questions is: how do I get Echolink to work on my computer? Needless to say, we have many of our members using Echolink where RF doesn't make it. One of our talented members works for the folks who bring you DSL, and has helped folks without a clue get on board with Echolink.

Personally, I prefer HF to get my long distance contacts, but if I didn't live almost right on top of the repeater and had difficulty getting to the Metroplex repeater, I most certainly would be using Echolink. We have folks who regularly check in to the repeater from distances away. Many used to live in the area and want to keep in touch with what is going on our side of the Country or the World. Others are just exploring, in fact we have a member living in the UK or England as I call it. When I went there for a visit, I talked on the Metroplex repeater. Now how cool is that, being thousands of miles away talking on your home repeater?

This and many other exciting things are discussed at the Red Oak Diner. See what the rest of you are missing?

**Question:** Tom, What's going on with BPL?

**Answer:** BPL is Broadband over Power Lines, and is a real threat to all hams everywhere. This mode, if you call it a mode, utilizes the power lines that you see on almost ever street unless you live in cities like Las Vegas, NV where the power lines are mostly underground.

What they do is use these lines instead of cable for Internet

broadband service. You may want to know what is the threat. The real threat is harmful rf interference that the power lines already create without using them for broadband. Tests, which were conducted in the areas using this service, have found very harsh levels of interference emanating from the power lines. This level of interference really hampers our ability to use our high frequency radios to communicate with the world. Even the strongest anti Echolink amateurs would have to embrace this mode as the only source of long distance communications if this BPL becomes a larger entity.

Recently the FCC has stepped in and is enforcing FCC part 15 rules where a BPL system is not adhering to the rule not keeping interference below 20 db. In this case it was an amateur who complained about the system. He was talking on 40 meters and there was a "giant fuzzy mute" from the BPL which was operating between 4 to 30 megahertz. In this case, the Amateur was in conversation and ran into a city using BPL and wham no signal. This is why we have to keep letting our Public Officials that BPL is not a good idea any time.

Keep those questions coming

73,

Tom

## GOOD AND WELFARE INFORMATION

Submitted by Paul Morton, KB2SQ

Our best wishes go out to the following club members:

**Tommy - KR2I**, hope your back is better Tommy.

**Carlos - W2CGW**, hope you are feeling better Carlos.

**Paul - KB2WEE**, hope you are feeling better Paul.

**Chris - WA2RJC**, whose close friend Anne, is recovering from surgery. Hope you are feeling much better Anne.

Our sincere condolences and heart felt sympathy go out to:

**Nathaniel - W2NAF**, whose father passed away recently.

**Matt - W2NIW**, whose faithful canine companion of 12 years, Zac passed away recently.

73,

Paul

## TEN REASONS TO GO TO ARRL FIELD DAY 2006

Submitted by Michael Adams, WA2MWT

pictures, vividly describing a whirlwind twenty four hours of total amateur radio activity, excitement, and accomplishment. The American Radio Relay League Field Day 2006 will be my eleventh field day in a row that I plan on attending. There have been years where I eagerly awaited the big weekend for months in advance, and there have been other times when I really did not even feel like going. There have been field days where I sat around and socialized most of the weekend away and then, again, there have been years where I was active from start to finish, trying to earn as many points as possible.

ARRL Field Day 2006 is shaping up as my most anticipated and involved weekend to date and the lure of the first week-

end of summer has nothing to do with it. I fully expect to be exhausted by late Sunday afternoon and after a good night's sleep, spend the following week sending out press releases, replete with

Since a successful field day requires the preparation, participation, and perspiration of a great many amateur radio operators, I have decided to share my ten reasons for setting aside the last weekend in June, this year, in the hope that many of my fellow hams will follow suit.

**Reason One:** Dan Henderson, N1ND, ARRL Contest Branch Manager, says: "Turn back the clock of your mind to your very first field day experience..." I have done that and I remember thinking, at my first field day, that it was amazing that fifty hams could create a miniature village of 13 stations, sleeping and eating accommodations, with emergency power and antennas that were safely installed and functioned flawlessly. Eventually, 100 people would be gathered for a game plan that flowed seamlessly. Since it was a county facility, strict rules were adhered to and at the conclusion, there was not a donut crumb left behind.

**Reason Two:** The airwaves are not as busy as they used to be. Quite frankly, we have all been drawn to the allurements of cable and dish television, computers and cell phones. A lot of ham equipment is starting to gather dust. It is time to dust it off, pack it up and take it to field day. Let the spectrum again crackle with the voice and CW of thousands upon thousands of rigs. A hoarse voice and stiff fingers Monday morning will be good things.

**Reason Three:** Emergency Preparedness is back at center stage. Since 9/11, this nation has been at a state of heightened alert. I will be hosting a Class F Emergency Operations Center, for the third year in a row. The Ramsey, NJ, Office of Emergency Management (of which I am the director) will play host to the Metroplex Amateur Radio Club (of which I am the Public and Government Relations Officer). A Class 4F site will be in operation for the entire twenty-four period. The Mayor and Council have turned their Municipal Building over to the group, with their blessings, realizing the importance of emergency communications.

**Reason Four:** Site visitation by an elected government official. We need the support of our local, county state and federal officials if we are to exist. Last year, the Mayor, County Executive, an Assemblyman and an Assemblywoman, and representatives from the Governor's and Congressman's office presented resolutions, proclamations and commendations, in person, at the Class 4F Station, operated by the Metroplex Amateur Radio Club and also at the Class 10A Station, operated by the 10-70 Repeater Association. The dignitaries all knew how to get to the Municipal Building and they were then escorted to the Campgaw County Park Ski Area, in Mahwah, NJ, where they witnessed the 10-70 Club kick-off the contest at 2:00 PM. Some will be back this year.

**Reason Five:** Public Location. Amateur radio needs to be showcased for the general, uninformed public. In the weeks leading up to Field Day, 2004, the Ramsey Fire Department's aerial ladder truck was seen extended over the municipal complex, as new antennas and hard wire were installed. A permanent antenna was placed in the attic and UPS started delivering

new radios. It did not take long for local residents to inquire as to what was going on, and we were only too happy to personally show them. The public, again, this year, will be invited to stop by for a tour and a demonstration.

**Reason Six:** Get-On-The-Air (GOTA) Station. There is nothing sadder than to see a GOTA Station, usually next to a Public Information Table, drawing no visitors and getting little use. After a while, there is a tendency to use the GOTA radio as a talk-in rig for the bored ham with nothing else to do. This year, we are going to invite the local Boy Scout troop to visit the Campgaw ski lodge and possibly camp-out. Other groups will be invited to the EOC and with the inducement of the Youth Element Bonus, it is anticipated that several, young aspiring hams will try a qso, under the watchful eyes and control of our veterans.

**Reason Seven:** Location, location, location. Do you want a rugged, outdoors experience with absolutely no frills (i.e. no bathroom or kitchen facilities)? We will invite those Bergen County hams to join the Ramapo Mountain Amateur Radio Club (RMARC) at the New Jersey State Forest Fire Tower, high in the Ramapo Mountains. The mosquitoes have been known to lick the Deet off of the "49" operators and then move in for the kill. Do you want to set up camp at a beautiful and rustic ski lodge, nestled among hundreds of unspoiled acres of county parkland? Then, you belong with the 10-70 Repeater Association amateurs (and an occasional bear). Do you want to be in the security and structure of a government building? Those hams will be invited to join the Metroplex Amateur Radio Club, at the Ramsey Municipal Building.

**Reason Eight:** Emergency power and temporary antennas. There are few areas in the United States that do not feel the wrath of the seasonal violent storm. The recent devastating tsunami challenged our foreign ham brothers and sisters to the ultimate and in the finest tradition, they responded and performed in a stellar manner. I have heard hams say, "If my power goes out, I'll go sit in my car and operate." Maybe. Field Day gives us the yearly opportunity to operate generators, after maintenance and safety checks have been completed, and install temporary antennas, from the sophisticated to those shot up in a tree. The Ramsey EOC is wired to operate on 12-volt battery power for an extended period of time, with a charger hooked-up to a generator. The system was tested for a twenty-four hour period, by MARC, and performed flawlessly. The fire tower and ski lodge sites will utilize large generators provided by local Offices of Emergency Management.

**Reason Nine:** Practice makes perfect. Logbooks and ARRL radiogram pads are no longer big sellers. Many National Traffic System nets generate little if any traffic. We stopped running the Simulated Emergency Test (SET) because no one wanted to file the paperwork with Newington. ARES/RACES nets draw little participation, with hams saying, "If the Big One occurs, give me a telephone call and I'll help out." Field Day weekend is a great chance to polish up rusty practices and "do things by the book." Make no mistake about it; there is A LOT of paperwork involved in a successful club field day. All activity must be documented, there are several pages of rules and regulations, which must be adhered to closely, and the final reports must be at ARRL Headquarters within 30 days. And almost every year, there are new categories to be considered. I look forward to copying the W1AW Bulletin and composing ten radiograms to

send to ARRL officials. And I am willing to assist in preparing the final reports, because we can all use a yearly refresher in pencil pushing.

**Reason Ten:** The Ultimate Reunion. Remember what Dan Henderson said about thinking back to your very first field day experience. And your second, and third. This is the only time of the year when I get to meet and chat with all of the hams that I have known over the years. Since I will be going to three field day sites, it is going to be a challenge remembering names, let alone call signs. True, I do see the same diehards at club meetings and ham fests, but there are literally hundreds of hams in Bergen County that I have 'rag chewed' with over the past ten years.

As I approach a field day site, I like looking at license plates for familiar call signs. Often the eclectic antennas on the cars bring back fond memories. And many amateurs are still sporting the same hats, only laden with more pins. And I will be prepared to listen to a lot of health stories, for it seems that while amateur radio operators age, their equipment never seems to. Yes, I am definitely looking forward to Field Day 2006, on June 24 and 25 and I am only hoping that an awful lot of hams feel the same way that I do.

73

Mike

## SKYWARN SPOTTER TRAINING CLASSES

Please be advised that the NWS Upton NY has posted its initial Spring 2006 SKYWARN Spotter Training Schedule. Information on these Classes can be found at: <http://www.erh.noaa.gov/er/okx/Skywarn/spottertraining.html>

Information is also available on the BergenSkywarn Website at: <http://www.bergenskywarn.org>

There will be classes in both Bergen and Passaic Counties, as well as several other locations as noted on the Websites listed above.

### Passaic County Class

Tuesday - May 2 2006 - 7:00-9:00 PM

Passaic County Public Safety Academy (Auditorium)  
300 Oldham Road  
Wayne, NJ 07470

For more Information contact: Ken Nieglos, Passaic Skywarn Coordinator via E-Mail: [WX2KEN@arrl.net](mailto:WX2KEN@arrl.net)

### Bergen County Class

Wednesday - May 3 2006 - 7:00-9:00 PM

Bergen County Law and Public Safety Institute  
Hall of Heroes  
281 Campgaw Road  
Mahwah, NJ 07430

For more Information contact: Mike Adams, Bergen Skywarn Coordinator via E-Mail: [WA2MWT@arrl.net](mailto:WA2MWT@arrl.net)

You DO NOT need to be a resident of the County in which a Class is being held to attend! SKYWARN Training Classes are open to all who have an interest. You DO NOT have to be a licensed Amateur Radio Operator to attend!. The more trained and observing eyes we have in the field the better for our com-

munities!. Please pass this information along to your family, friends or others you know who might have an interest in SKYWARN participation.

Remember, the NWS Upton NY requests that all Spotters renew their Training at least once every 3 years in order to remain current in the database. To know when you were last trained, you can check your SKYWARN Spotter ID number. The first 2 numbers indicated the year you were trained: 02-xxx means you were trained in 2002, 03-xxx means you were trained in 2003, etc). If your number begins with a 97, 98, 99, 00, 01, 02 or 03, please plan now to attend one of the 2006 Classes.

If you have any questions on the SKYWARN Program please let me know. For more information contact: George Sabbi, ARRL NNJ Section ARES DEC Skywarn via E-Mail: [KC2GLG@arrl.net](mailto:KC2GLG@arrl.net)

## SCIENCE CORNER

Submitted by Armand Lucceshi, WA2SHA

A print-out of the estimated number of atoms in the visible universe using 12 point Courier typeface (ten characters to the inch) would take up about one line on a letter size page. It is generally accepted that the largest number that can be represented in an expression using only three digits is:

9  
9  
9

Now, this is for you; can you calculate the length of THIS number if printed out using a character spacing of ten per inch?? E-mail your answers to me at: [wa2sha@hotmail.com](mailto:wa2sha@hotmail.com). I will publish the answer in the next newsletter along with the names of those who got the correct answer, or at least close to it.

Happy computing.

Armand

## METROPLEX HF CORNER

Submitted by Walter Lange, AE2AA

HF contesting is a fun way to make a lot of QSOs in a relatively short period of time, usually 24 or 48 hours. Some contests are specialized as to type of emission used such as (CW, SSB, RTTY, or Digital) modes.

Depending on the type of contest, you can participate as a multiple or single operator entry. DX contests are even more demanding, requiring much skill and patience on the part of the operator. Many entries are multi-operator and usually require some advance preparation.

HF contesting usually attracts club participation utilizing skilled operators and top of the line equipment. Some stations chose to set up at exotic locations allowing us an opportunity to work some rarely heard call signs.

The method of scoring varies for each contest so be sure to read the contest rules carefully and submit your logs on time.

If you are a paper hunter (QSL and awards collector), HF contests are a good way to get them. Many contest operators have QSL managers whose job is to match a received QSL card to the operators log and send out a confirming QSL card.

73,

Walt

## NEW MEMBER & LICENSE UPGRADE REPORT

The Metroplex Amateur Radio Club continues to be a growing amateur radio club. Want to join us and have some fun with ham radio? Please contact Tom, W2TAB on the air; or via e-mail at [w2tab@arrl.net](mailto:w2tab@arrl.net); or via our internet website [www.metroplex.org](http://www.metroplex.org) for additional information.

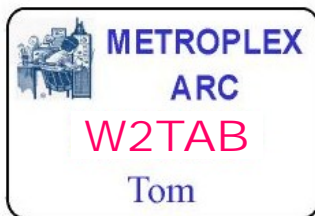
We welcome the following new Metroplex members to our club.

Anthony Notar - KA2FBK  
David Smith - KC2EMF  
Kevin Heckman - N2GCT  
Carlos Wormley - W2CGW  
Justin Mattes - KC2GIK  
Nathaniel Frissell - W2NAF  
Stephen Adams - KC2GRW  
Lou Janicek - N2CYY  
Herb Van Den Houten - N2OPJ  
Peter Van Den Houten - K1VDH  
Thomas Guida - KC2PEJ  
William Stagg - KC2BLN

There were no license upgrades to report. There was one change of call sign to report. Kevin Heckman, from KC2PDE to N2GCT, congratulations on the new call Kevin.

## METROPLEX BADGE INFORMATION

Some members have asked how to obtain a name badge with the Metroplex Amateur Radio Club information printed on it. Thanks to the efforts of Nick Bernice, W2NAB, we have an official Metroplex name badge. See the sample below.



The Metroplex name badge template is on file with "The SignMan of Baton Rouge". This makes it easy for each club member to order their own name badge directly. The Sign-Man is a quality maker of amateur radio signs and name badges. He is reliable, easy to deal with and wants your business. You can contact him directly at his internet website: [www.thesignman.com](http://www.thesignman.com)

Or you may contact him via the following information:

The Sign Man of Baton Rouge  
879 Castle Kirk Drive  
Baton Rouge, LA 70808  
Phone: 1 888-426-8241  
Fax: (225) 766-9387

The Metroplex ARC logo appears in the top-left corner of the badge with the CLUB NAME (blue letters), your CALL SIGN (red letters), and your NAME (blue letters). The Metroplex ARC name badge is \$11.50 and includes standard safety pin fastener as well as S&H.

## METROPLEX MASTHEAD

### OFFICERS

President: Tom Bennett, W2TAB  
Vice President: John Acovino, KB2VVO  
Trustee/Treasurer: Armand Lucchesi, WA2SHA  
Secretary: Walter Lange, AE2AA

### DIRECTORS

Director: Dominic Benjamin, W2OV  
Director: Nick Bernice, W2NAB  
Director: Frank Ferrer, KB2VVP  
Director: George Lafasakis, N2ROI  
Director: John Ludewig, AB2UP  
Director: Paul Lynch, KB2WEE

### OEM

OEM Director: Michael Adams, WA2MWT  
Assistant OEM Director: Bruce Greenwood, K3OEM

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To contact the Metroplex Amateur Radio Club please write to:

Metroplex Amateur Radio Club  
Post Office Box 3094  
Fort Lee, NJ 07024-3094

The "W2MPX Repeater Newsletter" is edited by:  
Walter Lange, AE2AA

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The "W2MPX Repeater Newsletter" is published six times a year by the Metroplex Amateur Radio Club. The Metroplex Amateur Radio Club is a not-for-profit amateur radio repeater club headquartered in Fort Lee New Jersey and is dedicated to the promotion and advancement of Amateur Radio. The Metroplex two meter repeater provides wide range coverage of the greater New York metropolitan area.

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We encourage both members and non-members to submit articles and letters for publication consideration. Deadline for copy/or letters is the middle of the month prior to the publication of the newsletter. News letter articles in Word file format may be submitted to the editor via e-mail at [ae2aa@arrl.net](mailto:ae2aa@arrl.net) All material sent to Metroplex becomes the property of Metroplex Amateur Radio Club.

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