

# ACARC

Azalea Coast Amateur Radio Club

September 2017  
Edition

## ACARC

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Amateur Radio Club**  
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## From The Editor

The club newsletter came out a little late this month. I had shoulder surgery August 28<sup>th</sup> before I was able to complete the September issue and I am just now able to have use of my right hand again to hunt & peck on the keyboard to finish it. As of writing this, hurricanes are active so I will include some info on monitoring or to get active on the ham bands. Be safe!



## Upcoming Important Events

- Sep 9th** Virginia Beach Hamfest
- Sep 19th** Monthly club meeting 7:00pm  
CFCC North Campus
- Every Monday** 2 Meter Rag Chew, 9:00PM  
147.18MHz, +0.600 offset, 88.5 tone  
Norman (KI4YSY) is net control

## New NCVEC Form 605

With a revised FCC Form 605 — Quick-Form Application for Authorization in the Ship, Aircraft, Amateur, Restricted and Commercial Operator, and General Mobile Radio Services — soon going into effect, the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) has updated its unofficial NCVEC Form 605 that's used at volunteer examination sessions. The revised NCVEC Form 605 must be used at exam sessions starting on August 21. Both the new FCC and NCVEC forms ask applicants if they have been convicted of a felony in any state or federal court. This conforms with FCC requirements to evaluate an applicant's qualifications to hold any FCC-issued license. The FCC has been asking "the felony question" on other forms, and its omission on Form 605 was an apparent oversight.

An applicant's response and explanation to the felony question — now included on NCVEC Form 605 — will be used to determine eligibility to be a Commission licensee. If the answer to the felony question is "yes," the applicant must submit to FCC — separately from NCVEC Form 605 — a statement (the FCC calls it an "exhibit") explaining the circumstances. Such applications will be held for a basic qualification review, something the FCC already does for other licensed radio services. The FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau has said that an affirmative answer to the felony question does not mean that an application will be denied automatically.

An applicant's answer to the felony question and their exhibit will be publically viewable via the Universal Licensing System (ULS). The applicant can request that all or part of the exhibit be kept confidential, and it will not be visible to the public.

VECs will not handle exhibits and confidentiality requests; these must be filed with the FCC by the applicant.

Applicants must answer the felony question only when filing NCVEC Form 605 or FCC Form 605 for a New, Amendment, Modification (upgrade or call

sign change), or Renewal/Modification (changes at renewal time). The question does not have to be answered if the applicant is filing a renewal or an administrative update (change of address, name, e-mail address, etc).

New NCVEC 605 Forms and an Applicant information sheet for use at ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator exam sessions starting on August 21 have been published. VEC teams should discard all existing versions of the NCVEC Form 605; they no longer will be valid and cannot be used going forward.

The FCC has indicated that all VECs must begin submitting this additional data starting on September 7. NCVEC decided to make August 21 the effective date to accommodate mail schedules and the Labor Day holiday.

NCVEC Form 605 has not been revised since the Commission restructured Amateur Radio license classes 17 years ago.

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## Hurricanes & Amateur Radio

Hurricane Harvey has come & gone leaving massive destruction in its wake, mostly from rainfall and resulting floods. Irma now has her sights on the US mainland but promises much more in the way of wind damage. And yes, amateur radio is still a major player during disasters. Here is some important information:

**Hurricane Net ([www.hwn.org](http://www.hwn.org))** – *Net will remain in continuous operation until further notice. Daytime operations on 14.325 MHz will begin at 7:00 AM EDT (1100 UTC) each day continuing for as long as propagation allows. Nighttime operations will be on 7.268 MHz starting at 6:00 PM EDT (2200 UTC) and continue overnight. If propagation dictates, we will operate both frequencies at the same time.*

*Note: Operations on 7.268 MHz will pause at 7:30 AM ET, and, if required, resume at approximately*

8:30 AM ET. This will allow the Waterway Net to conduct their daily net.

Any change in Net Operation plans will be noted on their website, the networks of 14.300MHz, and many additional amateur radio networks and media.

**VoIP Hurricane Net (www.voipwx.net)** - The VoIP Hurricane Net will activate for Hurricane Irma no later than 6 PM EDT/2200 UTC Tuesday Evening 9/5/17 and WX4NHC, the Amateur Radio Station at the National Hurricane Center, will activate at 600 PM EDT/2200 UTC Tuesday Evening 9/5/17.

Hurricane Irma is a Category-IV hurricane and is expected to remain a major hurricane for the next several days as it moves across the area along and north of the Caribbean islands and into the Turks and Caicos Islands and Southeast Bahamas. For that reason, the VoIP Hurricane Net for Irma could be a very prolonged activation because of Irma's track affecting multiple land areas. Impacts to the US East Coast remain uncertain but some impacts to Florida and the Florida keys look possible at this time and other portions of the US East Coast should monitor closely as we are in the peak of the Atlantic Hurricane Season.

Any Amateur Radio Operators in the affected area of Irma or with relays into the affected area of Irma are asked to provide surface and damage reports into the VoIP Hurricane Net for relay into WX4NHC, the Amateur Radio station at the National Hurricane Center. Any SKYWARN Nets active in the local area as Irma moves into Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands that can pass reports to the VoIP Hurricane Net for relay into WX4NHC are welcome to send a net liaison or connect directly at their discretion to the *\*WX\_TALK\** Echolink conference node: 7203/IRLP 9219. Stations on All-Star can connect to the Echolink side of the system by dialing \*033007203. We appreciate any and all support from Amateur Operators in the affected area or Amateur Operators with relays into the affected area. We are looking for reports based on the National Weather Service SKYWARN Reporting criteria. This can be seen on the VoIP Hurricane Net web site at the following link:

<http://www.voipwx.net/node/236>

Advisories on Irma can be seen off of the Main Menu of the voipwxnet web site, via our Facebook and Twitter feeds, and off the National Hurricane Center web site via the following link:

<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov>

Stations outside the affected area who would like to listen into the VoIP Hurricane Net can use any of the following systems for listen-only purposes and can connect on either Echolink or IRLP:

*\*NEW-ENG3\** Echolink conference node: 9123/IRLP 9123

*\*Starlink\** Echolink conference node: 357087/IRLP 9255

Stations outside the affected area who would like to listen into the VoIP Hurricane Net can use any of the following systems for listen-only purposes on Echolink:

*\*KA1AAA\** Echolink conference node: 269929

*\*WASH\_DC\** Echolink conference node: 6154

Stations outside the affected area who would like to listen into the VoIP Hurricane Net can use any of the following systems for listen-only purposes on All-Star by dialing \*033270177 or \*033009123.

An audio livestream has been setup on Youtube through the efforts of W5YAG-Chad Yaggie. That link is listed below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pEd-Mh5hK2c>

**SATERN: Salvation Army Team Radio Network (www.satern.org)** – SATERN is currently in Delta II mode (monitoring) and encourages that everyone monitor the Hurricane Net to stay updated. Check back often on the SATERN website as they will update their status as Irma moves closer to the US mainland.

**From the ARRL website:** IARU Region 2 Emergency Coordinator Cesar Pio Santos, HR2P, has compiled a list of emergency frequencies, subject to change, for use in the Caribbean in anticipation of Hurricane Irma:

*Puerto Rico: 3.803, 3.808, 7.188 MHz. Radio amateurs in Puerto Rico also will cooperate with the HWN on 7.268 and 14.325 MHz.*

*Cuba: Daylight hours, 7.110 MHz (primary) and 7.120 MHz (secondary); Provincial Net — 7.045, 7.080 MHz, and on other lower frequencies as necessary. Nighttime, 3.740 MHz (primary) and 3.720 MHz (secondary) and on other lower frequencies as necessary.*

*Dominican Republic: 3.873 MHz (primary), 3.815 MHz (secondary), 7.182 MHz (primary), 7.255 MHz (secondary); 14.330 MHz (primary), 21.360 MHz (primary), 28.330 MHz (primary).*

*Caribbean Emergency and Weather Net (CEWN): 3.815 MHz and 7.162 MHz (when necessary). NOTE: Net will activate continuously starting this evening until the hurricane has passed through.*

*The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has announced that several FEMA Regions will activate the 5 MHz/60-meter band interoperability frequencies in support of a possible response to Hurricane Irma on September 5. Direct communication between federal and Amateur stations is permitted. FEMA stations are:*

- Region 1 — KF1EMA*
- Region 2 — KF2EMA (includes Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands)*
- Region 3 — KF3EMA*
- Region 4 — KF4EMA*
- Region 6 — KF6EMA*
- Maynard MERS — NF1EMA*
- Thomasville MERS — NF4EMA*
- Denton MERS — NF6EMA*

*These suppressed-carrier reference frequencies, also known as dial frequencies or window frequencies, 5330.5 kHz (data), 5346.5 kHz (voice), 5357.0 kHz, 5371.5 kHz, and 5403.5 kHz, may be*

*used as part of the event. The FEMA point of contact is Dave Adsit, KG4BIR, FEMA Spectrum Manager, (540) 272-4605.*

*The FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) reminded licensees this week that FCC rules address operation during emergencies. “These rules allow licensees to provide emergency communications during a period of emergency in a manner or configuration not specified in the station authorization or in the rules governing such stations,” the FCC said. The FCC contact for Part 97 (Amateur Service) rules is Mike Regiec, (717) 338-2603. During non-business hours, contact the FCC Operations Center, (202) 418-1122.*

**As always, keep an ear open on our own local nets as well!**



## Reported Bug in HRD

Hutch (NK0S) has reported that he discovered a software issue with Ham Radio Deluxe and has reported it to the company.

“If you are using Ham Radio Deluxe with a K3S radio NO NOT install the latest version: 6.4.0.780

I discovered the problem this AM after downloading/installing the latest version. It will NOT read the frequency from the radio giving you an error message. The problem has been assigned #2229 and once the problem has been resolved it will be announced on the HRD website.”

Thanks for the heads up Hutch!

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## Bravo Zulu to the Battleship Crew

A ham operator recently provided feedback to a visit he made to see and operate on the Battleship North Carolina (BB-55):

Wow - what a kick! Can't thank you guys enough, not only for taking the time to spend with me (and do the logging) but for sticking around on a hot summer day to show me the Xmit room. Awesome stuff.

Congratulations on all the work you have done preserving and maintaining the ship's radio gear. It's important work – especially considering that so much of that Bureau of Ships tube gear has gone to its maker. All was lost on our own ship museum, the USS New Jersey, since it was reactivated in the 80s and all the old stuff was dumped.

Again, thanks. Once I get the photos retouched I will send them along.

Take care and 73.

Sam  
KB2DMU

## From N3FJP Software

Amateur Contact Log 6.0 is now available! I wasn't planning for a new release of AC Log just now, but the unrelenting requests to add FT8 to the mode drop down list (even though it could easily have been typed in) finally made my cry uncle! There are a few other goodies I had been working on that you'll find in this upgrade as well! Enhancements include:

- You can optionally display digital modes in the DX Spots list based on the frequency of the DX Spot (Click Settings > DX Spotting > Configure > More Filtering > Display Digital Modes to enable). You'll also need to download the latest BandPlan.txt file by clicking File > Download Country Files from AD1C.

W3XY	50.3130	USA	6	FT8
K4FJW	50.3130	USA	6	FT8
VK3XQ	3.7960	Australia	80	SSB
YC1BY	7.0760	Indonesia	40	JT65
CO8CY	7.0740	Cuba	40	FT8

- AC Log now uses ARRL's LoTW User's list to identify LoTW users (an L is placed in the DX Spots list). Click eLogs > LoTW Users > ID LoTW Users to enable the feature. If you already have enabled the feature in AC Log 5.9, AC Log 6.0 will detect that you don't have the new LoTW user list on start up and download it for you with a single click.

- The last LoTW upload date of the station contacted is optionally displayed when tabbing from the call field. (Click eLogs > LoTW > ID LoTW Users on Call Tab). If the station you are working has a recent upload date, that will give you a better sense if he is really active with LoTW or not.

Call	Date
W1AW	2017/08/23

- Added FT8 to the mode drop down lists.

- Ability to update mode drop down lists without requiring a new release.