

ARCCC, Inc. Meeting Information & Announcements

From: **ARCCC, Inc.** | president@arccc.org

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ARCCC, Inc. Announcements, March 2020

In order to protect the health and well-being of our members and their families, ARCCC, Inc. will not hold a general meeting in March.

Please read below for informaton and announcements that would normally be provided during our monthly meeting.

The [Amateur Radio Club of Columbia County, Inc.](#) normally meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Columbia County Emergency Operations Center located at 650-B Ronald Reagan Drive, Evans, GA. The meeting begins at 7 PM, with fellowship starting at 6:30. We will resume our monthly meetings once it is deemed safe by public health officials to hold public gatherings.

During this period of social distancing and self-quarantine, someone from the

ARCCC, Inc. Board of Directors and Committee Co-Directors will be available during the "rag chew" portion of our Monday evening nets to address questions and comments from club members. We are tentatively planning to hold a general meeting in April. If it is still recommended that we not hold public gatherings at that time, which seems likely, we will come up with a process to use the repeater and online resources for a virtual meeting, so we can carry out essential club business. Until we have a forum for motions and votes, we will continue to pay for services essential to maintaining club operations.

ARCCC, Inc. membership dues are normally paid during the month of March every year. If you have already paid your 2020 dues we thank you for continuing your membership. Due to the unanticipated disruption of our meeting schedule from COVID-19, the Board of Directors has extended dues collection through the end of April. We have several options available for paying membership dues:

- [via PayPal from the ARCCC, Inc. website](#);
- mailing a check to: ARCCC, Inc. P. O. Box 285, Evans, GA 30809; or
- by check or cash to the Treasurer at the next club meeting.

Board of Directors Updates

Treasurer's Report

Funding available to support operations: \$1,443.97 (as of March 10th, 2020)

The meeting minutes for the [February 25, 2020 General Meeting](#) and the [March 10, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting](#) are posted on the ARCCC, Inc. website.

Repeater and Net Updates

The ARCCC, Inc. Repeater Committee has been hard at work and have recently installed GE Mastr II Repeaters on the 145.410 and 444.675 repeaters which are located at Doctors Hospital. Both repeaters have increased power outputs as well as new and shorter feed line to the antenna. Additionally, both repeaters are now controlled by an S-COM repeater controller. Please take a

moment to test the operations of these repeaters and let us know your comments using this "[Know of Repeater Issues?](#)" link.

The 147.120 KT4N Repeater in Wrens will implement a Tone Squelch of 71.9 Hz on April 1, 2020. The repeater currently transmits a tone of 71.9 allowing all radio operators to go ahead and program a Tone Squelch of 71.9 Hz (Transmit and Receive Tone) into their radios prior to the implementation.

An updated CHIRP codeplug has been placed on the [AugustaHam.net](#) website and is available for download and use. There is also an [Amateur Calendar](#) with local nets and events.

ARCCC, Inc. needs additional net controllers to add to the rotation of those who run a net each Monday night at 7:30 PM. Training will be provided for those operators who would like to learn how to become a "Net Control Operator". Please contact Devon at KM4PHT[at]outlook.com.

Every Monday at 2100 hrs (9:00 PM) there is an [AmRRON](#) net on the 146.985 repeater.

A [current list of area nets](#) can be found on the [Amateur Radio Club of Augusta](#) website.

VE Testing

Please listen to net announcements, and [check club websites](#) and emails for current status and information on VE testing sessions and other events.

[ARCCC, Inc. sponsors VE testing](#) for those interested in taking the Amateur Radio exams. Testing is held bi-monthly on odd-numbered months, on the second Saturday, at 9:00 AM. Testing will be held at Columbia County EOC 650 Ronald Reagan Dr. #B Evans, Ga. 30809. **The next ARCCC VE test session is scheduled for Saturday, May 9th, 2020.**

The [CSRA VE group](#) sponsors VE test sessions on the first Saturday of even-numbered months at 9:00 AM. Testing is conducted at Warren Baptist Church, 3203 Washington Road, at the corner of Washington Road and Fury's Ferry

Road. **The CSRA VE Team has cancelled their session scheduled for Saturday April 4th. The next scheduled session is Saturday June 6th, 2020.**

Please check the websites for other area VE teams for additional testing opportunities. A [list of area VE teams their websites](#) can be found on augustaham.net.

Events

The [Ridge Radio Club](#) Tailgate Party in Batesburg-Leesville, SC, originally scheduled for April 4th, will be postponed to a later date, possibly this Summer.

[Hamvention](#) in Dayton, OH has been cancelled for 2020.

The following hamfests, scheduled during the Summer and Fall, are still being planned. Please check the hamfest websites for updates on their status.

- [Atlanta Hamfestival](#), June 6th, 2020 in Marietta, GA
- [Huntsville Hamfest](#), August 22nd and 23rd, 2020 in Huntsville, AL
- [Shelby Hamfest](#), September 4th-6th, 2020 in Shelby, NC
- [Stone Mountain Hamfest](#), November 11th and 8th, 2020, in Lawrenceville, GA

The [Best Dam Ride](#), scheduled for Sunday April 19th, has officially been cancelled for this year.



[ARRL Field Day](#) is always held on the 4th full weekend in June. That is June

27th -28th in 2020. ARCCC, Inc. is monitoring the situation with COVID-19 very closely, and will follow guidance from public health officials regarding hosting of Field Day activities. Because of the unique circumstances presented this year, there could be an opportunity for the club to try something new. Field Day isn't about doing things the same way year after year. We can use this year to develop and employ a new approach that is in line with our current circumstances.

Other On-Air Events:

- The [Georgia QSO Party](#) will be held on the weekend of April 11th, 2020.
- The 12th Annual [13 Colonies Special Event](#) will be held from July 1st through 7th, 2020.

East Central/Columbia County ARES

[Georgia ARES](#) is running a health and welfare net nightly at 1900 on 3.971 MHz (alternate 3.923 MHz) for the duration of the COVID-19 crisis. This net will also be on DSTAR Reflector 30B at the same time. Also, GEMA WX4GMA is monitoring DSTAR Reflector 30B from 8 am to 6 pm everyday during the COVID-19 crisis. The reflector is open to normal amateur use, but you can contact them if you have any COVID-19 related information in your city or area (power outage, loss of any services, very sick persons, food shortage, etc.) you are encouraged to share it with GEMA on this reflector.

Due to the wide spread self isolation, quarantines, and travel restrictions, many hams world wide are now spending more time on the air and you can monitor the bands for information from other parts of the world. Many ham clubs across the nation and world are moving their meetings and to the ham bands.

This is an unprecedented period in our lifetimes, but there are many opportunities to use our skills and equipment to stay in touch while staying safe.

If you are interested in joining ARES, please contact Pete LaPierre (K1OYQ) or visit the [East Central Georgia ARES webpage](#).



When shopping on Amazon, please consider using smile.amazon.com and [designating the Amateur Radio Club of Columbia County as your charity](#). ARCCC, Inc. has received nearly \$600 in donations from Amazon through this program, and it doesn't cost you any extra!

Questions, Comments, Concerns, Suggestions?
[Please contact us!](#)



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P.O. Box 285
Evans, GA 30809

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