

The next meeting of Ocean County ARES will be June 21st at 7:00 PM at the Ocean County EOC, Robert J. Miller Airpark, Berkeley Township. Refreshments will be provided. There will be no training net held that evening due to the meeting.

On May 20 and 21, the MS-170 Bicycle Tour passed through Ocean County on the way to a finish at the Coast Guard Station at Cape May. Many ARES operators supported the tour both days at rest stops and SAG (support and gear) vehicles. I would like to thank the following operators in support of this event (If I left you off the list, my apologies. I did not have a complete list of operators for Day 1):

K2HES, KC2OON, KD2NAV, N2XW, N2LD, N2LSA, N2RPQ, WX2NJ, W2TET, KD2DMA, KD2NAW, KD2FFR, KC2MTF, KD2KVZ, WA2YSA, KC2AAY, KC2ZOM, KC2ONQ, N2CSA and KD2GGA.

Also we appreciate the use of the following repeaters for the event:

449.825, WA2RES/R in Toms River

147.045, W2GSA/R in Asbury Park

146.700, N2NF/R in Tuckerton

444.65625, KC2TGB/R in Atlantic City and D-Star REF020B

146.745, K2BR/R in Egg Harbor

146.985, W2HRW/R in Atlantic City

447.575, K2ACY/R in Atlantic City

147.240, W2CMC/R in Cape May

The Command Center was in Monmouth University for both days and we communicated directly by repeater or a relay in Ocean City into D-Star REF020B. On the second day of the tour, all five SAG vehicles had amateur radio operators and all but a few rest stops had operators. Thanks to John, N2LD, who shuttled between Day 2 rest stops to provide comm support. Per KC2OON, ambulance services were tracked and dispatched via Zello.



KC2OON at Monmouth University Command Center

As you can see, the MS-170 involves a lot of Amateur Radio resources, considering the cost of the gear for each of the operators.

I may have some good news for the Ocean County D-Star. As I have previously mentioned, the SNJ SCERN is evaluating conversion to a Fusion/D-Star/Analog FM system using a UDRC

module. The system uses a Fusion DR-1X repeater and we currently have an Icom D-Star repeater. Ocean County ARES is on the short list for a donated DR-1X from another county, so we may work on a similar conversion in Ocean County. Keeping my fingers crossed that it all works out.



The boring view of SAG 5, Tail End, following the last rider to the finish.

73 de WX2NJ
Bob Murdock
Ocean County Amateur Radio Emergency Service® EC