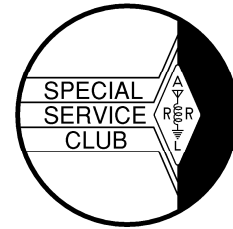




# STEWAL



de N1NC

June 2002 Volume 11 Number 6

## This Month's Meeting

**Please note that the June meeting will be held at the Pepperell Library. A dance is being held at the Community Center.**

This month's meeting will be a presentation by Lauri Kopmann Johnson from the Nashua River Watershed Association to make a presentation of their good works and goals. After her presentation there will be discussion of how we can be of service during river cleanups and the like.

Earl WR1Y will have a laminator for people who need their license or other card-sized items protected.

Bring your outgoing QSL's to the meeting and have the club send them out. See Bob W1XP.

Bring your short Shows-and-Tell to the meetings. They are always welcome. Its always interesting to see the variety of things people are working on.

## SKYWARN Training

SKYWARN training was held at the North Middlesex Regional High School Thursday May 30<sup>th</sup>. The training session was sponsored by Townsend Emergency Management and was given by meteorologists Glen Field and Bill Simpson of the National Weather Service Taunton.

The purpose of SKYWARN is to support the National Weather Service by providing reports of actual weather conditions to support what they believe is happening based on their instrumentation. In particular they look for data to support severe weather situations to improve the lead time and accuracy of advanced warnings and watches. The following NVARC members were present at the session; Ralph KD1SM, Stan KD1LE, Gary K1YTS, Ron KB1GID, and Den KD2S.

The training session covered the various cloud formations associated with storms and their relation to se-

vere weather like tornados. It also defined the specific criteria for reporting of weather to the NWS.

While our area has several thousand registered SKYWARN spotters the NWS would like more. Unlike the Midwest our terrain does not lend itself to long range spotting and storm chasing due to trees and hills. So the NWS relies on many spotters in fixed locations to provide information.

## ARRL EC-001 Study Group Scheduled

NVARC has scheduled a study group to assist people who want to be certified in Emergency Communications at Level I and are or wish to pursue it via self-study of the ARRL materials.

The group will meet four Thursday evenings starting July 11<sup>th</sup> at the Pepperell Community Center from 7 to 9 PM. The purpose of the group is to answer questions that arise while studying the written materials, add specific local information, and to run training exercises that develop practical skills. We will not be

An exam session will be scheduled to take place after the sessions end.

If you need more information contact Den KD2S, Stan KD1LE, or Ralph KD1SM. Information on ARRL on-line courses and course materials is available on the ARRL web site at <http://www.arrl.org/cce/>

In a related activity Ralph KD1SM and Stan KD1LE assisted at the Nashua Area Radio Club (NARC) emergency communications training. They acted as net control stations for two simulated emergency nets that were set up in the class for training.

## Boxborough Convention Coming Up

The semi-annual ARRL Boxborough Convention is coming up the weekend of August 24-25<sup>th</sup>.

## Last Months Meeting

Last months program was Slow Scan TV by Erik Johansson KA1EEC. Erik covered the history of amateur slow scan TV back to the beginning. He covered modes, equipment, and software that are used.



Here Erik (in the background at right) sets up his equipment for the presentation. Erik brought an HF station to take live pictures off the air.



Above, the crowd waits in eager anticipation.



## NVARC Coffee Club

After starting the Coffee Club when we moved our meetings to the Pepperell Community Center eight years ago I am retiring. I am looking for someone to take over the management of the enterprise after the June meeting. If no one is interested in taking the task there will be no refreshments when meetings resume in the fall.

Stan KD1LE

## Parker Classic Road Race

On May 19th we again provided course communications for the Parker Classic on Devens. Several changes took place this year. Due to the continued growth of businesses at Devens the course was confined to a more limited area. This minimized the distances to be covered. Also new this year the race became officially sanctioned which means the runners times count (for whatever runners times count for).



Above Bill NZ1D, Gary K1YTS, and Dwight AA1MT gather near net control at the race.



Above is the NVARC NCS transport vehicle.



Here Ralph KD1SM manning the 'official' net control station with the Devens Fire Station in the background. The course is small enough to allow successful handheld to handheld communications between most locations. We use a mobile radio and antenna from a central point as net control in case a relay is required. It is important when we participate in these events to be a professional and crisp as possible. The State Police, who are responsible for Devens, monitored our net with the scanner in their cruiser and a net full of unnecessary chatter would not give them the best impression.



There was also live entertainment on the racecourse provided by one of the course marshals. If getting yourself around a five-mile course isn't enough why not take two others along with you? These two pictures (above and below) courtesy of John KB1HDO.



Thanks to the following hams who supported this event.

John KB1HDO	Bill NZ1D
Ben KB1FJ	Pat N1VAW
Dave N1MNX	Greg N1VAV
Ralph KD1SM	Dwight AA1MT
Tom K1JHC	Stan KD1LE
Gary K1YTS	Barry W1HFN

### Adopt-A-Highway

On May 26<sup>th</sup> we performed our second road clean up. It was delayed from May 19<sup>th</sup> because we supported the Parker Classic Road Race on Devens and it didn't seem practical to try to cover both activities. T Special thanks to everyone who came out on Memorial Day weekend to help us catch up on this activity.

This month's cleanup crew.

Herm	WW1HR	Ralph	KD1SM
Larry	KB1ESR	Ben	KB1FJ
Erik	W1ZBT	John	KB1HDO
Stan	KD1LE	Earl	WR1Y

### Memorial Day Parade Support

In one of our annual non-radio public service activities, Earl WR1Y and Stan KD1LE provided audio communications support to the Groton Memorial Day Parade. Stan provided a mobile set up that moved ahead of the parade for invocations at the Firemans Memorial, the burial grounds behind the American Legion Hall where several Revolutionary War Veterans are buried, and the SOMETHING common where the war memorials are located. Earl set up a fixed site audio system at the Groton Cemetery where the largest crowd gathers and there are several invocations.

### June Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes of the NVARC Board Meeting held 6/13/2002

Members present: Ian, Erik, Ralph, Les, Russ, Den

Treasurers Report indicated the following:

- Income from Dues = \$115
- Foxfinder Income = \$46.97
- Powerpole Income = \$22
- Net Income = \$183.97

Stan, Ralph and Den will meet this week to set up plans for the upcoming Training Session for Emergency Communications.

Russ gave an update on the Memorial Day parade and the P.A. Support provided manned by Russ and Stan. This activity, while not Ham Radio related, is a valuable Public Service in the community. Russ has had questions from the Pepperell group to provide a similar service in Pepperell,

Speaker for the next meeting is from the Nashua River Watershed Authority and will speak on the history and development of the Nashua River as a community asset. There will also be a section on how the NVARC can help the authority meet its goals.

Les added that while the use of non Ham Radio related topics is valuable, he had three Ham Radio related speakers who could speak at future meetings. He was encouraged to bring them forward for future meetings.

It was agreed that the next meeting, June 20th, would be the last till the Fall and that the Annual Club picnic would be hosted by Den and held tentatively on July 20th (Den to confirm)

It was moved by Den, seconded Erik, that the club purchase six (6) copies of the 2nd Edition manual of Amateur Radio Emergency Communications @ \$10.00 each for a total of \$60.00

-Approved (when new version available)

Thehre being no further business, the meeting closed at 2000hrs.

Ian Norrish  
NZ1B  
Secretary

### Public Service List

Public Service Volunteer Opportunities in the New England Division

Date	Event	Location
Event Contact		Tel/Email

Jun 22- MS Bike Tour Boston to Provincetown MA  
John N1PYN 508-588-3250 23 to [n1pyn@arrl.net](mailto:n1pyn@arrl.net)

Jun 29 Longsjo Classic Princeton, MA  
30 Longsjo Classic Fitchburg, MA  
Ralph KD1SM kd1sm@arrl.net

MSPCC Yankee Tour

Jul 27	Marlboro to Amherst MA
Jul 28	Amherst to N.Adams MA
Jul 29	N. Adams MA to Poultney VT
Jul 30	Poultney to Burlington VT
Jul 31	Burlington to Killington VT
Aug 1	Killington to Keene NH

Aug 2 Keene NH to Marlboro MA

Sep 22 Ride for Hunger Grafton to Stow MA  
Bob K1IW 413-647-3060 [cpsg@amateur-radio.net](mailto:cpsg@amateur-radio.net)

Bruce KC1US 781-275-3740 [kc1us@net1plus.com](mailto:kc1us@net1plus.com)

This list is published periodically as demand warrants by Stan KD1LE and Ralph KD1SM. Our usual distribution is via packet to NEBBS, via Internet mail to the arl-ndiv-list and ema-arrl distribution lists, and on the World Wide Web (see URL below). If other mailing list owners wish us to distribute via their lists we will be happy to oblige. Permission is herewith granted to republish this list in its entirety provided credit is given to the authors and the URL below is included. Send comments, corrections, and updates to:  
(via packet) KD1SM@K1UGM.#EMA.MA.USA,  
(via Internet) KD1SM@ARRL.NET.

We make an attempt to confirm entries with the coordinator unless the information is from another published source. We very much appreciate the assistance we have been receiving from our 'scouts'; everyone is welcome to send us postings.

World Wide Web users: the most recent copy of this list is maintained as <http://purl.org/hamradio/publicservice/ndiv>.

### Groton Road Race Pics

Some late pictures of the crew setting up for the race at net control central for the Groton Road Race. We need three high antennas for good coverage and so that hand held radios will cover from most locations. Above right Stan pushes feed lines into the NCS tin tent. Below right Ralph hoists one of the antennas into the trees.



## From The ARRL Letter

### CC&R BILL "THE RIGHT AND FAIR THING," SPONSOR SAYS

The sponsor of a bill aimed at providing relief to amateurs faced with private deed covenants, conditions and restrictions--CC&Rs in erecting antennas--says he introduced the measure because "it's the right and fair thing to do." Freshman Rep Steve Israel (D-NY) introduced the "Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act" on May 14. The measure--H.R. 4720--would require private land-use regulators--such as homeowners' associations--to "reasonably accommodate" Amateur Radio communication consistent with the PRB-1 limited federal preemption. PRB-1 now applies only to states and municipalities.

H.R. 4720 has been assigned to the Telecommunications and Internet Subcommittee of the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

Israel, whose father, Howard, is K2JCC, told amateurs in his home district recently that he's already hearing from Commerce Committee members who have been contacted by their Amateur Radio constituents regarding H.R. 4720. His remarks May 29 during a special meeting of the Great South Bay Amateur Radio Club in Long Island, New York, marked his first public effort to drum up support for the measure within the amateur community. Members of other Long Island clubs also were on hand for Israel's visit.

Israel says the FCC currently does not apply the PRB-1 limited federal preemption policy consistently, a situation he called "patently unfair" to those living in developments, where they face antenna restrictions or even outright prohibitions. H.R. 4720, Israel explained, would require entities imposing private land-use restrictions--such as homeowners' associations--to enter into good faith negotiations with amateurs in an effort to "reasonably accommodate" Amateur Radio communication--just as they do now with public land-use regulators."

"In America, we are fair and consistent," Israel said.

Rep Greg Walden, WB7OCE (R-OR)--the only Amateur Radio operator in Congress--and Rep Pete Sessions (R-TX) have signed on as original cosponsors of H.R. 4720. Since its introduction, the bill also has attracted two additional cosponsors--Rep J.D. Hayworth (R-AZ) and Rep Patrick Tiberi (R-OH).

The measure, which ARRL assisted in drafting, contains a single sentence: "For purposes of the Federal Communications Commission's regulation relating to

station antenna structures in the Amateur Radio Service (47 CFR 97.15), any private land use rules applicable to such structures shall be treated as a state or local regulation and shall be subject to the same requirements and limitations as a state or local regulation."

The ARRL encourages its members to contact their congressional representatives and urge them to sign on as co-sponsors and to support H.R. 4720. Visit the US House of Representatives "Write Your Representative Service" Web page <<http://www.house.gov/writerep/>> for information on how to contact your representative.

The League requests those writing or e-mailing members of Congress--whether or not they are supporting this legislation--to copy ARRL on their correspondence--via e-mail to [ccr-bill@arrl.org](mailto:ccr-bill@arrl.org) or via US Mail to CC&R Bill, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. Correspondents should include the bill number, H.R. 4720, as well as their name and address on all correspondence.

### NEW YORK LEGISLATURE HONORS AMATEUR RADIO'S SEPTEMBER 11 RESPONSE

The legislature of the State of New York has formally recognized the more than 800 Amateur Radio operators from the Empire State who provided emergency communications following the World Trade Center disaster of September 11. The resolution notes that amateurs expended more than 15,000 work hours of volunteer service for more than two weeks to served agencies across the state that included the New York City Office of Emergency Management, the American Red Cross and The Salvation Army. The resolution specifically cites Amateur Radio's role in staffing more than 30 shelters set up to house stranded air travelers and those displaced by the World Trade Center destruction. Amateur Radio HF links also enabled New York City officials to maintain contact with state agencies near the capital city of Albany when conventional telephone service was unavailable. A copy of the resolution was on display at the ARRL booth at Dayton Hamvention. The resolution will be posted on the ARRL Hudson Division Web site <<http://www.hudson.arrl.org/>>.

### FIELD DAY GOING REGION-WIDE IN 2002; ON-LINE SOAPBOX AVAILABLE

For the first time in its 69-year history, Field Day officially will expand its scope beyond the borders of the US and Canada to include participation by amateurs in all of North and South America--including the Carib-

bean. Field Day takes place this year on the first weekend of

summer--June 22-23 (Field Day is always the fourth full weekend in June). Following this year's event, clubs, groups and individuals taking part will be able to upload photos and comments to the ARRL Contest Soapbox [Web site](http://www.arrl.org/contests/soapbox/) <<http://www.arrl.org/contests/soapbox/>>.

"We encourage interesting photographs that will give those visiting the site sense of the 'flavor' of a group's Field Day participation," said ARRL Contest Branch Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND. Henderson says he gets "hundreds of photographs" for possible use in QST, which typically has room for about a dozen. "The Online Soapbox gives groups the chance to display their best efforts for FD," he said.

The Field Day Soapbox area will open Sunday, June 23, at 2100 UTC. Anyone may post stories and photos, but these will be screened before posting.

Groups and individuals still are expected to submit Field Day reports--summary sheets, dupe sheets, proofs of bonus, etc--for the annual QST Field Day report. "Also, we still encourage groups to include their best photographs for consideration for QST," Henderson added. The complete--and official--rules for Field Day 2002 are available on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2002/rules-fd-2002.html>> and in the May issue of QST (page 108).

Field Day has a long tradition as an emergency preparedness exercise, operating equipment "in the field" using power sources other than the commercial mains. As ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, pointed out in his "It Seems to Us . . ." editorial <<http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2002/05/01/2/>> in June 2002 QST, Field Day also presents an ideal opportunity to showcase Amateur Radio to the general public and to local officials and to convey an important message in the process.

"No matter what, there will be hams and they will be able to communicate with one another. No matter what," Sumner wrote.

While contacts with amateurs around the world always have counted for credit, this year's event will mark the first formal participation by stations outside the US and Canada.

Another significant change this year is the new "Get on the Air" or GOTA station, which replaces the Novice station at Field Day setups. The idea is to give Novice and Technician licensees as well as generally inactive amateurs of any class and even unlicensed individuals

a chance to participate--under the supervision of a licensed control operator.

One persistent question Henderson says he's been getting concerns how the Field Day rules define a "generally inactive" licensee in terms of GOTA operation. "We do not want to get into hair-splitting or micromanaging a definition of that term," Henderson said. Instead, he points to the frequently asked questions information in the Field Day packet, which says, "Clubs should use their judgment in determining the operators of the GOTA station."

Examples in the Field Day packet include operators who have never been on HF or who have been off the air for the past couple of years. Any single GOTA operator is limited to a maximum of 100 contacts of the 400-contact for-credit contact total.

The first "International Field Day" was held June 10-11, 1933, billed as "just a test of portable equipment" for US and Canadian amateurs, according to former ARRL Communications Manager George Hart, W1NJM. Hart credits then-Communications Manager Ed Handy, W1BDI, with coming up with the idea of Field Day. It was not until Field Day 1934 that Handy's Field Day writeup in QST raised the aspect of emergency preparedness.

## **NEW MEXICO AMATEURS CONFRONT ANOTHER WILDFIRE EMERGENCY**

Amateur Radio operators in New Mexico once again found themselves on fire-related duty during May. On May 23, an incident command post was set up in Espaola in response to a so-called "sleeper fire"—a lightning-caused fire that smolders before bursting into flame--near the village of Truchas in north-central New Mexico. Over the Memorial Day weekend, more than 250 residents were evacuated from their homes in Truchas and the nearby village of Cordoba.

"Some residents were bused back into the area May 24 and given five minutes each to collect any medications and other important items they left behind and a chance to retrieve pets and livestock," said New Mexico Section Emergency Coordinator Bill Kauffman, W5YEJ.

Rio Arriba County Emergency Communications Manager Lonie Scott, AH2AZ, activated amateur communications support. Amateurs were dispatched to Red Cross shelters set up at two elementary schools in Chimayo, and The Los Alamos Amateur Radio Club's W5PDO provided support. By late on May 24, the wind had shifted, and the fire was burning away from Truchas. Residents were able to return home starting

at 9 AM the next day. Kauffman said the incident command post and the shelters closed later that day after all evacuees had returned home.

While the amateur turnout was not an official Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) activation, Kauffman said that Los Alamos County District Emergency Coordinator Bill Boedeker, NM5BB, and Santa Fe County DEC Alden Oyer, AG5S, did monitor the residents' return and remained available to provide additional resources if needed. "We're working on establishing an ARES group in Rio Arriba county but the amateur population is somewhat sparse so we'll continue to support that county from adjacent counties even when they get organized," he explained.

Kauffman said the fire was still burning as of May 29 in the Pecos Wilderness of the Santa Fe National Forest, but was not considered a threat to any homes or structures. Reports indicate the fire is nearly two-thirds contained and has burned more than 12,000 acres. As tinder-dry conditions persist in New Mexico, amateurs there have continued to be involved in efforts to deal with a number of other smaller fires.

#### **FCC RELEASES DETAILS OF 5 MHz, 136 kHz AND 2400-2402 MHz PROPOSALS**

The FCC has released the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in ET Docket 02-98, which proposes to create new amateur allocations at 5 MHz and 136 kHz and to elevate the status of Amateur Radio at 2400 to 2402 MHz from secondary to primary. In response to separate petitions filed by the ARRL, the FCC voted unanimously May 2 to adopt the NPRM in ET Docket 02-98.

The Commission announced in a Public Notice released May 9 that it would propose a new, secondary, domestic (US-only) HF allocation at 5.25 to 5.4 MHz and a new LF allocation 135.7 to 137.8 kHz. If eventually approved, the 5 MHz band would be the first new HF allocation since the early 1980s, when amateurs got 30, 17 and 12 meters. The LF allocation would be the first ever for US hams. The FCC said it received 87 comments on the 5 MHz proposal and 32 comments on the LF proposal.

"We agree with ARRL that propagation and interference conditions in the 3500 kHz and 7000 kHz bands could hinder effective amateur HF communications," the FCC said in its NPRM. "In particular, as ARRL indicates, the nature of the ionosphere prevents communications during certain portions of the day because of increased atmospheric noise levels at certain times on certain frequencies."

The FCC said ARRL's WA2XSY experimental operation "appears to support its contention" that the band could supplement 80 and 40 meters at certain times.

The FCC has proposed letting amateurs operate at full legal limit on a new 5 MHz allocation, but it left open for further discussion whether to restrict the band to Amateur Extra Class licensees or make it available to General and higher class licensees. The FCC also invited further comment on whether the band should be broken down into mode-specific subbands. The ARRL had proposed opening the entire band to RTTY, data (including CW), phone and image emission types.

Assuming the 5-MHz band eventually is authorized, it could be a few years before it actually becomes available. The band 5.250 to 5.450 MHz now is allocated to Fixed and Mobile services on a co-primary basis in all three ITU regions.

On 136 kHz, the FCC has proposed mirroring technical limits suggested by Canada during World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 preparations to 1 W effective isotropic radiated power (EIRP) and with a transmission bandwidth of only 100 Hz. The ARRL has asked for than 2 W EIRP and a maximum transmitter power of 200 W PEP.

The FCC proposed no restrictions on antenna size or design, saying it did not want to inhibit experimentation by hams. It proposed to limit access to the band to General and higher-class licensees, as ARRL had proposed.

The FCC said it was reluctant to also propose allocating an amateur band at 160 to 190 kHz--as ARRL had requested--because of concerns about possible interference to unlicensed power line carrier (PLC) systems in that band. The FCC noted it had turned down a 1978 ARRL petition for the same reason.

The FCC said ARRL's request to upgrade the 2400-2402 MHz band "has merit." It did not propose any changes in service rules or operational requirements.

The NPRM is available on the FCC Web site <[http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/FC-C-02-136A1.doc](http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FC-C-02-136A1.doc)>. The FCC is expected to soon make this proceeding available for comments filed via its Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS). Visit the ECFS site <<http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html>>, click on "Search for Filed Comments" and enter "02-98" in the "Proceeding" field.



## MIGRATING RV TV AMPLIFIERS BRINGING INTERFERENCE WITH THEM

As many recreational vehicle owners make their seasonal trek northward, unintentional radio interference may be hitchhiking. As reported in February 2001 <<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2001/02/14/3/>>, certain amplified TV antennas have been found to produce interference in the 400-500 MHz range that could cause problems for Public Safety and Amateur Radio systems. Winegard has been replacing its offending Sensor antenna units at no cost. See the Winegard Web site <[http://www.winegard.com/products/mobile/sensar\\_customers.htm](http://www.winegard.com/products/mobile/sensar_customers.htm)> for details. The FCC's Dave Galosky in the Office of Engineering and Technology says Winegard estimates there still may be thousands of defective units in the field. Boat and RV owners using these antennas may experience interference to onboard systems, such as GPS. According to the FCC, similar antennas from three other manufacturers also produce interference. The RadioShack RS 1624--made by TDP Electronics--transmits a spurious emission at 468 MHz and at its second harmonic, 936 MHz. The Shakespeare Seawatch 2050 antenna and an unspecified antenna model made by RCA/Thompson also have been reported to generate similar interference, the FCC says.

### \$May Treasurer Report\$

Income for May was \$115 in membership dues, \$46.97 net from the FoxFinder project, and \$22 from Power-Pole connector sales.

Membership income was higher than usual as two members renewed for more than one year. We did not hold the book raffle at the May meeting.

There were no expenses for May. Newsletter postage for May and June is still outstanding. Net income for the month was \$183.97.



Current balances:

General fund: \$5005.23

Community fund: \$1717.55

73, -Ralph KD1SM



## Nashoba Valley Amateur Radio Club

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Pepperell Mass 01463-0900

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V Pres.: Earl Russell WR1Y

Secretary: Ian Norrish NZ1B

Treasurer: Ralph Swick KD1SM

Board Members:

Den Connors 2000-2003

Bob Reif 2001-2004

Les Peters 2002-2005

Editor: Stan Pozerski KD1LE

Photographer: Ralph Swick KD1SM

PIO Ron Wood KB1GID

Librarian Peter Nordberg N1ZRG

N1NC Trustee: Bruce Blain K1BG

Meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of the month -  
7:30 p.m. - Pepperell Community Ctr. Talk-in 146.490  
simplex

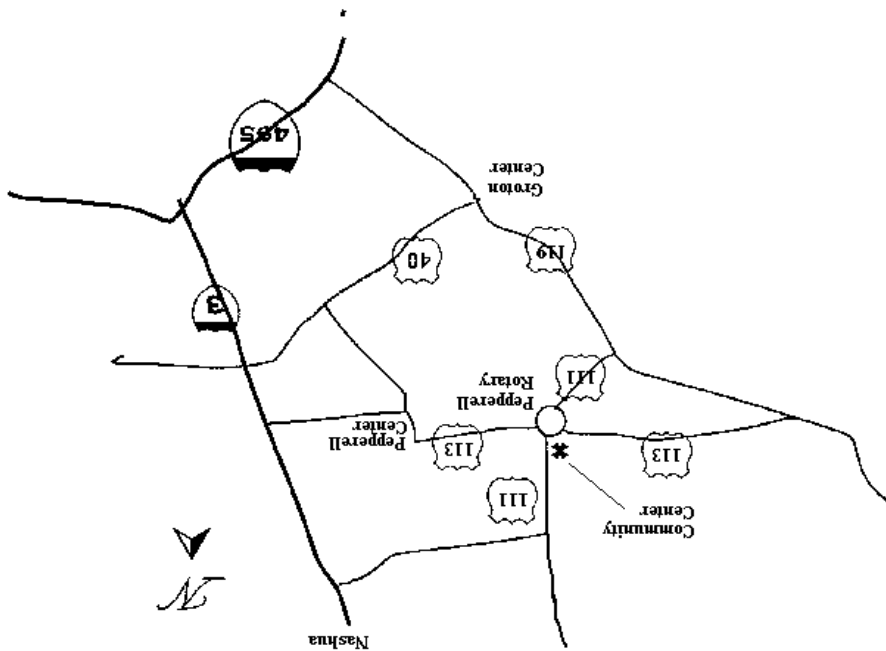
442.90 + 100Hz Repeater

53.890 - 100Hz Repeater

This newsletter is published monthly. Submissions, corrections and inquiries should be directed to the newsletter editor. Articles and graphics in most IBM-PC formats are OK. You can send items to

[pozerski@net1plus.com](mailto:pozerski@net1plus.com)

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