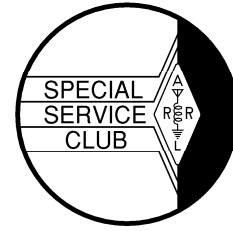




SIGNAL



de N1NC

May 2003 Volume 12 Number 5

This Month's Meeting

Please Note Location Change For Meeting

As usual the Pepperell Library has its book sale at the Community Center this month so we will be meeting at the library. The Library is on 113 west of the rotary; heading west, it is on the left two houses before Town Hall. If you reach the blinking light at Park Street you've gone past it.

This month's program will be a video presentation called "Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Antennas".

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

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.

Member Short Presentations

The Board believes that every member has something interesting to share with the general membership. It may not be the kind of thing that warrants an hour and a fancy presentation, but that doesn't mean it can't be interesting. We believe that what makes our club particularly interesting is the large number of presentations generated from within. Visitors often comment that we always have great meeting programs and we think they are right.

We have scheduled the November meeting program to be "Member Short Subjects". We need three or four members to each do a ten or fifteen minute presentation on a topic of interest to them.

These presentations don't have to be radio related. It could be what you do when you're not "playing radio", or some other hobby you have. If you have a short subject of ten or fifteen minutes that you would like to present contact a Board member. If you need help putting together the slides, need handouts copied, or need equipment we can probably help.

Adopt-A-Highway

Again this month we have a conflict. The Parker Classic Road Race is the Sunday after the meeting. This month we will try a cleanup following breakfast at Tiny's. We will meet at the same time and place as usual, the Groton school complex at 9:00 AM.

Last month we resumed the monthly cleanup on our stretch of Route 119. Since it has worked well in the past we will continue to do the cleanup on the Sunday after our regular club meeting. In April that fell on Easter but since it would have been difficult to re-schedule due to other events we went ahead any way. Six folks turned out and we picked up 18 bags of trash that had accumulated over the winter. Thanks to John KB1HDO, Ralph KD1SM, Earl WR1Y, Stan KD1LE, Pat N1VAW, and Rod WA1TAC for their help. Our eagle-eyed crew even found a dollar and change along the way; see the Treasurer's report.

May Board Meeting

The May Board of Directors Meeting was held May 10th at the KD1LE QTH. Ralph KD1SM, Stan KD1LE, Bob W1XP, Les N1SV, Peter N1ZRG, John KB1HDO, and Dave N1MNX were in attendance.

Ralph presented the monthly Treasurers report to the Board and the details are published later in the newsletter. He should have the annual report for the next Board meeting.

The Board meetings will continue to be the second Thursday of the month but will now be held at the KD1LE QTH. The meetings start at 1930.

This was the first meeting of the new Officers and Board members so there was some discussion about roles and responsibilities.

John KB1HDO has received the Secretaries material from Ian. John will follow up on missing Thank You letters from some of the groups for whom we have provided communications.

Ralph gave a brief wrap up report on the Groton Road Race that took place April 27. There were 42 volunteers for the race.

The Board approved the Field Day funding request and it will be brought to the membership at the meeting for approval.

There was a discussion on the summer cookout and the members will be polled at the meeting on interest and for a host.

Stan suggested the club have an appointed position of Emergency Communications Coordinator. A description of the position will be drafted. The intent is to have a person who will maintain contact with the ARES and RACES organizations in the area and report activity to the club. The appointee would also work within the club to improve preparedness with the objective of being able to provide additional communications services to local towns and emergency service providers such as the Red Cross. Ralph, Stan and Den have written a draft memo defining such a team.

The Board discussed having more member presentations and is soliciting three or four members to do a ten or fifteen minute presentation on a "Member Short Subjects" night.

From the President

I want to thank the outgoing Officers, Board member, and appointees and those who are continuing to serve in a position. We have a lot of good things going in the club including a high activity level, lots of public service events; great meetings and we are in great financial condition. This is due to the steady guidance and contributions of the members; especially those who take an active roll in managing the club.

I want to particularly thank Erik KA1RV for being willing to take on the Presidency for the past seven years. Yes, it has been seven years. I hope that's a record

that is never broken since it would be better to have more people involved than lifetime officers. I also want thank Earl WR1Y who stepped down from the Vice President position after two years, Ian NZ1B who had been the Secretary for five years, and Den KD2S who was a Board member for the past five years.

Then I want to thank everyone who stepped up to a position, new or repeat this year. "Somebody else" can't always do the work and they have stepped up to the tasks at hand to keep us moving forward.

The new NVARC administration is as follows;

President Stan Pozerski KD1LE
Vice President Peter Nordberg N1ZRG
Treasurer Ralph Swick KD1SM
Secretary John Griswold KB1HDO
Board 2001-2004 Bob Reif W1XP
Board 2002-2005 Les Peters N1SV
Board 2003-2006 Dave Peabody N1MNX
Librarian Peter Nordberg N1ZRG
PIO Ron Wood KB1GID
Property Manager John Griswold

KB1HDO

Signal Editor Stan Pozerski KD1LE
Photographer Ralph Swick KD1SM
Yearbook Editor Stan Pozerski KD1LE

Stan KD1LE

Last Month's Meeting

Last month we had elections for Club Officers. The results are listed in a separate article.

It was decided to go ahead with the road cleanup Sunday at 9 AM even though it was a holiday.

The members voted \$600 to purchase NVARC logo mugs. Den had a quote for 75 mugs at \$525 but Dennis K1LGQ said he knew of a vendor who would better that price, with a minimum order of approximately \$560. Den will purchase mugs based on the best deal he can find for the \$600 he has to work with.

Stan reported on the Townsend Canoe Race (see separate article).

Ralph reported on the Athol Canoe Race for which he and John KB1HDO volunteered.

Den brought up for discussion whether we were interested in running a class on Emergency Communications. Several members expressed interest in having another class.

Les N1SV and Dave N1MNX are organizing a small effort to take member equipment up to Hosstraders for sale. Contact Dave or Les for more information.



The meeting program was by Mike Goldberg K1LJN on the ARRL Official Observer (OO) program. Mike had an interesting presentation covering the history of the program and the role of the OO's with respect to the self-monitoring aspect of Amateur Radio.

After the formal meeting Les had a brief Field Day meeting. Les went through each of the planned stations including where the equipment was coming from and any additional equipment required. He also went through the Field Day rules covering the bonus points and what would be required to fulfill each of the requirements.

RACES

THE TOWN OF PEPPERELL IS IN NEED OF YOUR SKILLS

Pepperell Emergency Management Agency would like to get you involved as an Emergency Communications volunteer. R.A.C.E.S. Communications. Any time or equipment level accepted. We need your help, even from your home.

If you know anyone that does not have a ham license that would like to help in the "Communications Unit" refer him or her to Dave N1MNX. Example: Persons familiar with gas engines, gas generators, gas-driven water pumps, lighting and electrical, automobile drivers, C.B. radio, FRS radio, computer or networking.

If you're not from Pepperell and would like to help your own community, you are welcome to call me and I will

help you to contact the appropriate person for your town.

All RACES appointments must submitted June 1st.

For further information on helping your community and country please contact:

David Peabody
Pepperell E.M. Communications Officer
E mail n1mnx@n1mnx.com
Phone 978-433-2577

Or snail mail at
P.O. Box 1309
Pepperell, Ma. 01463-3309

PSList March 2003

Listing public events at which Amateur Radio communications is providing a public service and for which additional volunteers from the Amateur Community are needed and welcome. Please contact the person listed to identify how you may serve and what equipment you may need to bring.

The most up-to-date copy of this list is maintained as <http://purl.org/hamradio/publicservice/nediv>

Every event listed is looking for communications volunteers

Date	Location	Event	Contact	Tel/Email
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May 18	Parker	Classic Road Race	Stan KD1LE	978-433-5090 kd1le@arrl.net
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Jun 1	Boston MA	AIDS Walk Boston	Bruce KC1US	781-275-3740 kc1us@net1plus.com
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Jun 8	Wakefield MA	ALA Walk	Bruce KC1US	781-275-3740 kc1us@net1plus.com
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Bicycle Trek Across Maine				
Jun 13	Bethel to Farmington	ME		
Jun 14	Farmington to Waterville	ME		
Jun 15	Waterville to Belfast	ME	Bill W1LEE	207-624-3044 W1LEE@arrl.net

Jun 21	Quincy to Sandwich MA	MS	John N1PYN	508-588-3250 n1pyn@arrl.net
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Jun 22	Sandwich to Provincetown MA	MS	John N1PYN	508-588-3250 n1pyn@arrl.net
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Jun 28	Princeton MA	Longsjo Classic Bike Race	Ralph KD1SM	978-582-7351 kd1sm@arrl.net
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Jun 29	Fitchburg MA	Longsjo Classic Bike Race		
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Ralph KD1SM 978-582-7351 kd1sm@arrl.net

Sep 12 Provincetown to Dennis MA MS Challenge Walk John N1PYN 508-588-3250 n1pyn@arrl.net

Sep 13 Dennis to Truro MA MS Challenge Walk John N1PYN 508-588-3250 n1pyn@arrl.net

Sep 14 Dennis to Brewster MA MS Challenge Walk John N1PYN 508-588-3250 n1pyn@arrl.net

Sep 21 Madison to Moodus CT Bike Tour for MS Scott AA1WM 203-676-1016 n1pyn@arrl.net

Sep 21 Moodus to Madison CT Bike Tour for MS Scott AA1WM 203-676-1016 n1pyn@arrl.net

Oct 17-19 Boston MA Head of the Charles Regatta Jeff N1FWV 978-536-2842 rwjeffa@attbi.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 arrl-nediv-list and ema-arrl distribution lists, and on the World Wide Web (see URL above). 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.

Public Service Activities

With spring and better weather the public service activities are cranking up also. As you can see from the PSList there are many events looking for help. I encourage everyone to support our locally run events such as the Groton Road Race (past), Parker Classic, etc. Another thing I like to do is try an event or two out of our area such as the Marathon or Walk for Hunger. It's meaningful work, good experience, and a check on how well we run our events. There is always the possibility you might pick up a good idea for us.

The weekend of April 12-13 two area canoe races drew NVARC support. The Townsend Lions Canoe Race was supported by NVARC members Gary K1YTS, Den KD2S and Stan KD1LE. The Athol to Orange Athol Lions Club River Rat Race in Athol had the benefit of Ralph KD1SM and John KB1HDO. The following pictures are of the Townsend race thanks to Gary K1YTS.



When the canoe race is going well this is how it should look. The canoes are paddling down stream and the Hams are communicating. Below Gary K1YTS at checkpoint three along the Squannacook River.



Going well doesn't only apply to the race participants. Sometimes the support crew needs to be rescued.



At the net control site near Townsend center ten of the 51 canoes swamped. You should notice from the pictures that there is still snow on the ground so dumping into the Squannacook was a chilling experience.

April 21th was the 107th running of the Boston Marathon. Stan KD1LE and Ken K1JKR worked with the crew of about 40 hams coordinating activities at the starting line in Hopkinton. After the starting gun went off it took thirty minutes for all the runners to cross the starting line. Ralph KD1SM worked with the crew of 50 hams providing communication at the finish line to prepare for the needs both comfort and medical of the runners when they arrived. While a bit warm for the runners it was great volunteer weather. There were over 20,000 numbered runners in this year's event.

On May 4th the Walk for Hunger took place in Boston. Ken K1JKR, John KB1HDO, Ralph KD1SM and Stan KD1LE helped provide communications for the event. Approximately fifty hams supported this event.

Groton Road Race

de Ralph KD1SM

Sunday, April 27 2003 was a beautiful New England spring day; a wonderful day to spend outdoors. This was but one of the carefully pre-planned elements that made the work of the forty two hams who supported the twelfth annual Groton Road Race all the more pleasant.

A total of 2050 runners participated in three races. The first race was a 2k race that served as warmup for the race officials. This race was held entirely on the Groton/Dunstable school grounds and proceeded without Ham communication support. The 5k race started promptly at 11:50am and the 10k race started at 1:03pm.

Forty-two Amateur Radio Operators were spread around the course, the start/finish area, and as shadows to several race officials. NVARC members, Gary K1YTS, Karen KA1JVU, Larry KB1ESR, Ron KB1GID, John KB1HDO, Stan KD1LE, Ralph KD1SM, Den KD2S, Dan N1LLG, Dave N1MNX, Don N1NWE, Lynda N1PBL, Peter N1ZRG, Jim N8VIM, Ian NZ1B, Bob W1XP, Rod WA1TAC, and Scott WX1J were joined by Bob N1RXV from Acton, Fay KB1CKB, Art NF1A, and Ken WO1N from Billerica, Rob N1ICB from Carlisle, Darrell K1EJ, Pete K1SUB, Mike K1TWF, Ed N1IWV, and Bob W1OJP from Chelmsford, Steve N1BDA from Concord, Jim WK1V from Dracut, Chuck N1LDL from Groton, Gary KD1TE from Maynard, Tom NF1D and William K1WD from Nashua, Gerry K1GCM from Shrewsbury, Bruce W1LUS from Tewksbury, Dave W1TQ from Tyngsboro, Eric KA1EEC from Westford, Justin KA1ULT from Winchendon, and Mark WB1ARZ, Joel KB1ILP, and Ron N1VR from Worcester. The Squannacook River Runners Association, or-

ganizers of the Groton Road Race, thank each and every one of you.

At the post-race debrief, Mark Graf, race co-Director, reported that Groton Lt. John Rooney, the Officer in Charge, was "ecstatic" about the way the races went. This was Lt. Rooney's inaugural year coordinating the 50 to 60 Officers and Auxiliary that are required for this event. The Hams are to be congratulated for the part we play in making this event successful and safe.

There were no critical medical situations but there were the normal couple of unusually impatient drivers who failed to notice the race signs posted weeks ahead of time notifying local residents of road closings.

Mark your calendars for 2004! The Race Date has not yet been chosen, but following the pattern of previous years it is likely to be the Sunday after Patriot's Day (and after the Boston Marathon).

Pepperell 2 Meter Repeater

With the better weather we were able to put up a new 2 meter antenna at a higher location. After we wrapped up from the Groton Road Race we finished the job by installing a new feedline for the antenna. This should have improved the coverage of the repeater. Dave would probably like reports of any coverage changes.



There are many things to keep track of before and during the races so the two operators running net control have a few items at their fingertips. Above (clockwise from the left) are the roster of course assignments, maps of the course with the locations of all the hams, another roster with assignments, and logs of the radio traffic. The detailed color maps were a nice improve-

ment this year and were the result of hard work by Larry KB1ESR.



Above is net control with the three radios, speakers and various documents and maps used to keep track of the activity on the three nets we use. Ralph's spot is empty because he would rather take the pictures than be in them.



Above is Larry in the Command Vehicle with Groton Police Lt. Rooney, the Officer in charge of the event. Through the Net Lt. Rooney coordinated the closure and opening of the roads. For the 10k race that meant the twenty seven points that we staff were his ears and voice.



Out on the course everyone was working hard too! Here Bob demonstrates his three most important pieces of equipment a chair, a radio, and a safety vest not necessarily in the order of importance.



With lots of help, set-up and take down doesn't take a long time. After the runners were done we completed our cleanup quickly. Above (l-r) Ralph KD1SM, Bob W1XP, Karen KA1JVU, Stan KD1LE, and Ron KB1GID

are working on disconnecting and taking down the three antennas and rolling up the 400 feet of coax.



Above Ron, Eric KA1EEC, Stan, and Bob disconnect and disassemble an antenna.



Above is a post race "meetin"g before we took down the antennas and equipment. From the left; Karen KA1JVU, John KB1HDO, Stan KD1LE, and Larry KB1ESR.

We also supported two additional events this past month. First there was the Walk for Hunger 2003 in Boston. Ralph KD1SM and Stan KD1LE provided communications support from the major walker support

area at Daly Field in Newton. Over 40,000 walkers participated in this years event raising over \$10,000,000 for Massachusetts soup kitchens and food pantry's. NVARC also provided all the communications for the Parker Classic Road Race at Devens. Pictures and information on these events will be in next month's newsletter.

Advertisements

Tell them you saw it in the Signal. Advertisers should contact the NVARC Treasurer for information.

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From The ARRL Letter and Bulletins

HAMS ABOUND ON UN WORLD FOOD PROGRAM'S IRAQ "FAST INTERVENTION TEAM"

Several radio amateurs—including some of the world's top operators—are among United Nations World Food Program (WFP) "Fast Intervention Team" (FITTEST) personnel already in Iraq or poised nearby and expected to be inside the war-ravaged country very soon. FITTEST is responsible for building technical infrastructure to ensure WFP can move relief food supplies rapidly and safely. Any ham radio operations would be secondary to the WFP's efforts in Iraq, however.

Peter Casier, ON6TT--who's expected in Baghdad as early as next week—says the WFP will have a critical role in the post-conflict era in Iraq "where 60 percent of the population is dependent on external food aid." In ham radio circles, Casier may be better-known as a top contester and one the operators of Afghanistan's YA5T after the US-led military action there in 2001.

Other YA5T alumni expected to soon be in Iraq as part of the WFP effort include Robert Kasca, S53R--the last UN international staff person evacuated from Iraq before the conflict--Mark Demeuleneere, ON4WW, and Mats Persson, SM7PKK. Casier and Demeuleneere paired up at World Radiosport Team Championship

(WRTC) events in 2000 and 2002. Kasca was director of competition for WRTC 2000. Casier says he, Kasca and Dane Novarlic, S57CQ, were on the air from Iraq until just before the war broke out.

Casier reports that Diya Sayah, Y11DZ--one of the primary operators at the Baghdad Radio Club's Y11BGD and the WFP's Baghdad telecommunications officer--is safe and well in Iraq.

FITTEST also has a mandate to install or build basic technical networks, Casier said, including such systems as VHF repeaters, satellite communications and HF fixed and mobile stations. The team also will set up radio rooms, rework administrative procedures, and assign call signs for all UN humanitarian-aid workers and non-governmental organizations (NGOs)--other international aid organizations.

Others ready to go include Ed Giorgadze, 4L4FN, who's in Turkey. Until last November Giorgadze had operated from North Korea as P5/4L4FN while on a WFP assignment in Pyongyang. Patrick Pointu, F5ORF, and Mark Tell, VK4KMT, among several other FITTEST team members who are radio amateurs.

The Daily DX <<http://www.dailydx.com>> reported this week that Willie Mohnney, Y1/KV4EB, has been operating daily on 15 meters at or around 21.270 MHz, moving to 20 meters--perhaps around 14.255.

FCC OPENS RECEIVER INTERFERENCE IMMUNITY INQUIRY

The FCC wants to know how it can incorporate receiver interference immunity specifications within its overall spectrum policy. In a Notice of Inquiry (NOI) in ET Docket 03-65, released March 24, the FCC seeks public comments on possible methods and means of improving receiver performance. The Commission suggests that these could include incentives, guidelines or regulatory requirements--or a combination of all three.

"From a technical standpoint, a radio receiver's susceptibility to interference is largely dependent on the interference immunity of the device, particularly with regard to its rejection of undesired radio frequency (RF) energy and signals," the FCC said in its introduction to the NOI. While expressing its reluctance "to implement a new regulatory regime" of mandatory receiver standards, the Commission said it believes incorporating receiver performance specifications could "promote more efficient utilization of the spectrum and create opportunities for new and additional use of radio communications."

The FCC said the NOI builds upon the recent work of its Spectrum Policy Task Force, which looked at ways to improve overall radio spectrum management. The ARRL commented on the Task Force report and plans to comment in the receiver interference immunity NOI as well.

While the NOI does not specifically address interference from Amateur Radio transmitters to consumer TV and radio receivers, the FCC does seek information describing the interference immunity characteristics of "receivers used in the various radio services." With respect to broadcast sets, the FCC suggests in its NOI that set manufacturers have been doing a pretty good job all along.

The FCC seeks comments on "the desirability of developing minimum interference immunity performance specifications for broadcast receivers." But it added that the Commission has no plans to reverse its "long-standing practice of allowing the market to determine the performance of broadcast receivers, with the Commission stepping in only where obvious deficiencies appear" that could disrupt reception.

FCC Chairman Michael Powell said he'd prefer that the Commission "rely on market incentives and voluntary industry programs to establish receiver immunity guidelines."

The FCC Notice of Inquiry in ET Docket 03-65 is available on the FCC Web site <http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-03-54A6.doc>. Although it has not formally been posted for the filing of comments via the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS), the system is accepting comments. The formal comment period concludes 75 days from publication of the NOI in the Federal Register, which has not yet happened. The FCC does not post such dockets for electronic comments until publication occurs.

\$May Treasurers Report\$

Income for April was \$160 from member dues, \$13.40 in savings account and CD dividends, \$24 from newsletter advertising, and \$1.26 from two eagle-eyed road cleanup volunteers.

Expenses for March were \$14.80 for newsletter postage, leaving a net income of \$183.86 for the month.

Current balances:

General fund: \$5289.28
Community fund: \$1842.55



April is our peak month for membership renewals, as it is the Club's anniversary date. Check the mailing label on your newsletter to see when your renewal date comes. If you get your newsletter electronically, check the member roster that I circulate at each meeting. If you miss the meeting, I'll be happy to give you the information on request.

If you are not yet an ARRL Member and are thinking of becoming one, consider letting NVARC handle the paperwork for you. ARRL rebates a portion of new membership dues back to the Club. (There is no longer an ARRL rebate for membership renewals handled through the Club.)

73,
Ralph KD1SM



Nashoba Valley Amateur Radio Club

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President: Stan Pozerski KD1LE
Vice President: Peter Nordberg N1ZRG
Secretary: John Griswold KB1HDO
Treasurer: Ralph Swick KD1SM

Board Members:

Bob Reif 2001-2004

Les Peters 2002-2005

Dave Peabody 2003-2006

Editor: Stan Pozerski KD1LE

Photographer: Ralph Swick KD1SM

PIO: Ron Wood KB1GID

Librarian: Peter Nordberg N1ZRG

Property Master: John Griswold KB1HDO

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

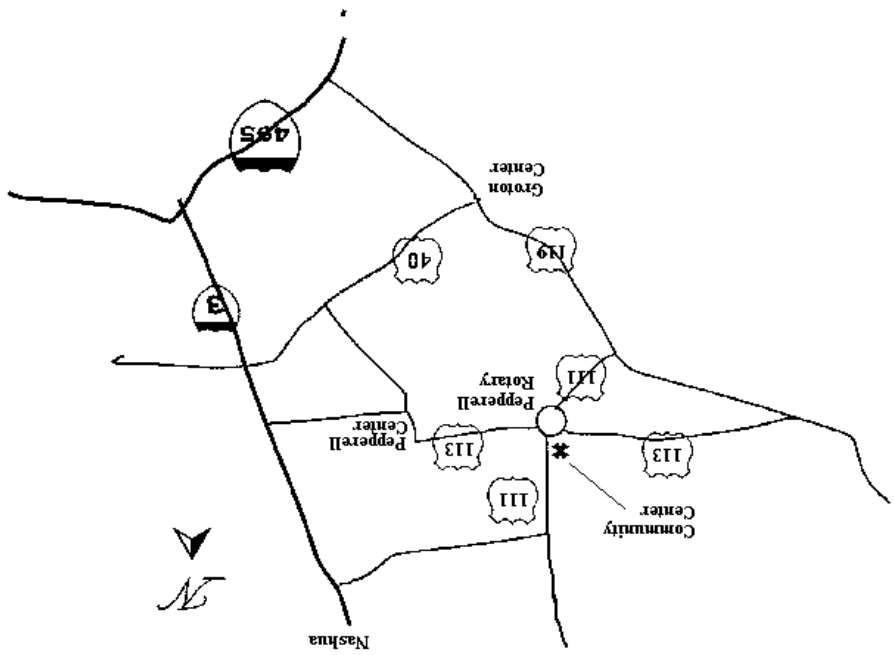
147.345 + 100 Hz Repeater

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

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