



# SIGMA



de NINC

July 2010 Volume 19 Number 7

## This Month's Meeting

No Monthly meetings in July or August.

Club cookout July 31<sup>st</sup> at the KA1JVU and W1XP QTH. Standard format. Bring your food to grill. Soft drinks and condiments will be provided.

## From The President

I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable summer and we hope to see everyone back in September. Remember we still have one more road clean up this summer.

Stan KD1LE

## Last Month's Meeting

The June meeting presentation was on SWR by Bob W1XP. Bob did a whiteboard presentation explaining SWR at various points on a feedline and antenna. Attendees were Bruce K1BG, Leo K1LK, Skip K1NKR, Jim K1PTF, Gary K1YTS, Wolfgang KA1VOU, George KB1HFT, Stan KD1LE, Ralph KD1SM, John KK1X, Dave N1MNX, Les N1SV, Roland NR1G, Joel W1JMM, Bob W1XP, Erik W1ZBT, and Rod WA1TAC.

## Pepperell 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade

Jim N8VIM, Joel W1JMM, and Lynda N1PBL staffed the Pepperell 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade making sure the marchers got to the staging area and were in the correct order as the parade formed up.

Thanks to Jim, Joel, and Lynda for supporting this public event.

## Field Day Preparations

Everyone wants to have a fun and successful Field Day. Planning and testing helps to get us there. The SSB/CW antenna team had several areas to test before the big day. The work was being done to share antennas minimizing the work for the two stations.



Peter N1ZRG in the lower left corner

First an improved mounting system for the 20 meter yagi was tested with only the driven element attached. This antenna has a 26 foot boom and the longest element is 36 feet long. So ease of mounting is a big plus. This allowed the antenna to be assembled on the ground, then tipped up on end and

slipped over the tower mast without having to fuss with aligning and tightening U-bolts. This worked well both in the test and at Field Day.



Bob W1XP sets up the transceivers and filters to be used in the test.

Then tests between the 20 meter, 40 meter and the permanent 80 meter antenna on the garage were made to determine what interference we might have with close spaced antennas. The tests consisted of transmitting on one band and listening on the others. This was important as we had decided to run the SSB and CW stations on one set of shared antennas that were to be close spaced. This was to reduce the support structures and number of antennas we were going to put up for Field Day.

### NVARC Field Day 2010

NVARC Field Day 2010 – Wrap-up

Location: Heald Street Orchard, Pepperell, MA  
Lat, Long: 42.67, -71.6275, Entrance Lat, Long: 42.6715, -71.6282



Courtesy NR1G

Field Day Sunrise

Well another Field Day has come and gone. I hope that everyone that participated had a great time. According to our logs and observant participants we had 57 participants. Some are the Field Day regulars, some are friends and neighbors, and some are random visitors that came and had a FUN time.

As you know we operated 3A. That meant we had a three simultaneous transmitters possible. In addition, we also had a free VHF/UHF/Satellite station. We did not put up a GOTA stations this year and in hindsight. We probably should have had this option. We had at least two individuals visit (13 year old Elizabeth, KB1SWY, made 17 QSOs with Jill, KB1SWV; and Sean, KB1NXI) could have had this station to themselves, but since my focus for Field Day wasn't about points, but opportunity. This was an opportunity lost.

Dave, N1MNX,; helped with the Public Information Officer duties. Our press releases appeared on the Pepperell Cable station, the Time Free Press website and in the Pepperell Free Press newspaper.

That said, I will say the team did a fantastic job at setup. We were ready a full 2 hours before the start of Field Day. Can you imagine a Field Day where you can actually rag chew with Les, N1SV who was holding a frequency for Field Day? This didn't even involve getting up at 6 AM as originally planned.





Courtesy K1NKR

### Ready to Go

Because Gary, K1YTS and Nancy, KB1KEF were on site overnight. The large tower trailer was moved on site Friday evening and the beams were assembled and ready to go in the morning. So a few decided to have a quick breakfast at Charlottes and then came on site around 7:30 AM or so. The rest is NVARC history. Preparation is also important with Bob, W1Xp, and Stan, KD1LE doing some advance antenna setup and testing (apologies to anybody who helped, you're the silent heroes.)

The site was arranged around the knoll in the Orchard. The first thing you saw when you drove in was the Information booth, setup and manned by Roland, NR1G, and standing off in the distance was the Porta Potty, arranged by Gary, K1YTS.



Courtesy NR1G

### NVARC Information Booth

We had CW, SSB, Digital and VHF/UHF/Satellite stations arranged around it. Many thanks to our Station Captains for their diligence in assembling the necessary equipment; on CW: Stan, KD1LE, and Bob, W1XP; on SSB: Bruce, K1BG; on Digital: George, KB1HFT and Larry KB1ESR; and on VHF/UHF/Satellite: Skip, K1NKR and Jim, K1PTF.



Courtesy NR1G

### VHF/UHF/Satellite Natural Power Station

The Power and Networking infrastructure: Jim, N8VIM; with spare generator from Larry, KB1ESR, network cables from John, KK1X, power distribution cables from Stan, KD1LE, and Ralph, KD1SM. Jim also provide a Solar Panel and Deep Cell Battery for the VHF/UHF/Satellite station to provide our Natural Power Bonus.





Courtesy NR1G

Main Field Day Generator, a lot quieter



Courtesy NR1G

Backup Field Day Generator, thanks Larry

The Food tent and tables were provided by Leo, K1LK and Bob, AB1CV came out with two large coolers of Lemonade to keep us cool and many dozens of chocolate chip cookies. He kept these coolers full for us right to then end.

And let's not forget about the food. Lynda, N1PBL made a very nice lunch for the Saturday setup people. Karen, KA1JVU and Jeannie, N1QIT made a fine Saturday Dinner (the leftovers were excellent!) And Larry, KB1ESR and Cindy took care of the over-nighters and early arrivals on Sunday with a made to order breakfast (can I have fresh blueberries with that!) Jim also provided an APRS weather station that gave local Field Day weather conditions to fellow Hams and the Web. Sadly, we were unable to get a working Internet bridge to provide local Internet access.



Courtesy NR1G

Let's Eat

We had a site visit by Groton Police Chief, Don Palma, who also let Larry borrow an impressive Community Service vehicle that was used for the Digital Station. I also received regrets from Ashby Police Chief, Edward Drew. He was unable to attend. Rod Hersh, WA1TAC, a local Ham and Groton Electric Light Commissioner also visited and participated.



Courtesy KD1SM

(L-R) Roland NR1G, George KB1HFT, Don Palma Groton Police Chief, Larry KB1ESR, and Gregory

The high point for me was that we had 5 youths, Gregory (Larry's grandson,) Elizabeth, KB1SWY, Araon, Joe and Ben come out and spend some time with us. While Elizabeth was the only one brave enough to use the microphone (17 QSOs, remember, Helped by Jill, KB1SWV (Skip's daughter)) the rest appeared to have fun. Thanks to Bruce for his help (he's in every shot, what a Ham.)



Bruce K1BG and Elizabeth KB1SWY on the Air. Jill KB1SWV standing

On Sunday after a great breakfast we finished off Field Day strong with more QSOs. These went right to the last minute. And in another Field Day first (so I'm told) we completed the take down by 4:00 PM. That was operating right up to the last minute! The saying is true many hands make light work. Thanks to all that helped with the teardown.

A special thank you goes to Dave Pease, former Ham, who volunteers for the Pepperell Cable Advisory Committee. He spent a most of Saturday and part of Sunday video taping (alright it was all digital) Field Day and he has put together a Video that will be shown on the Pepperell Cable and Groton Cable stations. DVDs are available.

So how did we do?

**Bonus Points:**

|  |   |              |
|--|---|--------------|
| 100% Emergency Power                         |   | 300          |
| Media Publicity                              |   | 100          |
| Set-up in Public Place                       |   | 100          |
| Information Booth                            |   | 100          |
| NTS message to ARRL SM/SEC                   |   | 100          |
| W1AW Field Day Message                       |   | 100          |
| Natural power QSOs completed                 |   | 100          |
| Site Visit by invited elected official       |   | 100          |
| Site Visit by invited served agency official |   | 100          |
| Youth participation                          |   | 20           |
| Youth operators                              | 1 |              |
| Youth participants                           | 5 |              |
| Submitted via the Web                        |   | 50           |
| <b>Total Bonus Points</b>                    |   | <b>1,170</b> |

| Band                  | CW          | RY         | PH         |             |
|-----------------------|-------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| 160                   | 0           | 0          | 0          |             |
| 80                    | 109         | 0          | 0          |             |
| 40                    | 181         | 0          | 109        |             |
| 20                    | 562         | 78         | 55         |             |
| 15                    | 75          | 0          | 68         |             |
| 10                    | 0           | 0          | 20         |             |
| 6                     | 0           | 0          | 50         |             |
| 2                     | 0           | 0          | 4          |             |
| 1.25                  | 0           | 0          | 0          |             |
| <b>QSOs:</b>          | <b>927</b>  | <b>78</b>  | <b>306</b> | <b>1311</b> |
| <b>Points:</b>        | <b>1854</b> | <b>156</b> | <b>306</b> | <b>2316</b> |
| <b>Claimed Score:</b> |             |            |            | <b>4632</b> |

|                             |             |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Total Claimed Score:</b> | <b>5802</b> |
|-----------------------------|-------------|

I personally want to thank everyone that participated in any way with this year's Field Day. There is always a lot of behind the scenes work that goes into a successful Field Day and I appreciated any and all help I received.

73, Roland, NR1G (this is my last change, I promise.)

### Public Service

Some members supported the MAXX Triathlon in Winchendon July 18<sup>th</sup>. Stan KD1LE, Gary K1YTS, and Bob AB1CV helped support this event. This has become a big event with the last two years sold out with 800 participants.

### NVARC Net

The NVARC net meets on 442.900 N1MNX repeater Mondays at 8:00 PM. The net is for sharing information and asking questions. Recent topics software defined radios, upcoming events

Recent check ins Jim N8VIM, Les N1SV, Stan KD1LE, Gary K1YTS, Skip K1NKR, Dick W1LTN, Bob W1XP and Roland NR1G.

### PSLIST

Every event needs communications volunteers



- Memory Ride for Alzheimer's Research - 24 July

See [www.n1nc.org/Events](http://www.n1nc.org/Events) for the latest information

### Board Meeting

John submitted to the ARRL to renew our ARRL affiliation. We still hold Special Service Club status. They are having some problems with their databases being reflected on the Website.

Field Day expenses were approved by member vote at the June meeting. Ralph will pay based on the receipts he receives.

Bruce offered the tower for use at Boxboro for the special event station but there has been no confirmed interest and it may be too late to plan for setting it up.

In attendance were Stan KD1LE, Larry KB1ESR, John KK1X.

### Adopt A Highway

The July road clean up took place on July 17th. We moved to Saturday because some members had a public service event on Sunday.

The following members helped make the clean up a success.

Roland NR1G, Larry (Roland's brother) John KK1X, Stan KD1LE, Bob W1XP, and Peter N1ZRG

The next road clean up will be Saturday August 21st at 9:00 AM or shortly after since we will be coming from breakfast.

### Treasurers Report

Income for June was \$45 in membership renewals and 2 new memberships and \$20.78 in bank interest. Expenses were \$17.60 for newsletter postage, \$327.40 for Field Day food and porta-john leaving a net expense of \$279.22 for the month. Some additional Field Day reimbursements are expected to be submitted.

An additional \$20 was collected from proceeds of auctioning N1OFX's equipment donation. This was added to the Community Fund.

Current balances:

|                |            |
|----------------|------------|
| General fund   | \$4,155.01 |
| Community fund | \$4,336.41 |

As of 18 July we have 42 members who are current with their dues and 28 renewals outstanding. Please check your renewal status on the roster circulated at the monthly meeting or ask Ralph.

If your ARRL membership is ready for renewal, you can let Ralph mail it in for you and the Club will get a commission. If you're interested in joining the ARRL and do so through Ralph the Club will get a bigger commission. ARRL membership checks should be made payable to NVARC so that our commission can be deducted before we forward your membership to Newington.

Ralph KD1SM

### ARRL Letter

#### First Half of 2010 Sees Upswing in New Amateur Radio Licensees

As of June 30, 2010, the number of new licenses issued by the FCC in 2010 is outpacing the January-June 2009 totals by almost 8.5 percent; at this time last year, the FCC had issued 16,844 new licenses.

With more than 18,000 new Amateur Radio licenses issued in the first half of this year -- 18,270 to be exact -- 2010 is shaping up to be a banner year for Amateur Radio. So far, the number of new licenses issued by the FCC in 2010 is outpacing the January-June 2009 totals by almost 8.5 percent; at this time last year, the FCC had issued 16,844 new licenses. As of June 30, 2010, there are 694,346 licensed Amateur Radio operators in the US, an almost 1 percent rise over all of calendar year 2009. Broken down by license class at the end of June 2010, there were 16,299 Novices, 342,064 Technicians, 154,284 Generals, 60,059 Advanced and 121,640 Amateur Extra licensees . Read more here.

#### E-mails Asking for Personal Information Are Not from ARRL

We have received several reports from ARRL members with arrl.net e-mail accounts who have recently been contacted via e-mail asking for personal information, such as user names and passwords. Please be assured that these e-mails are fraudulent attempts at phishing and did not originate from ARRL. "This is a very crude attempt at phishing, using an easily determined spoof of the originating/return address," said ARRL Chief Financial Officer Barry

Shelley, N1VXY. "There is never a time when we would ask via mass e-mail for user names and passwords of arrl.net users. There is simply no need to ever do so." If you receive an e-mail asking for personal information and it looks like it originated

### Legislative: HR 2160 Now Counts 40 House Sponsors

Last month, another Congressional Representative -- Mike McIntyre (D-NC-7) -- pledged his support for HR 2160, The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009, bringing the total number of cosponsors to 40, including original sponsor Sheila Jackson-Lee (D-TX-18). HR 2160 is also sponsored by W. Todd Akin (R-MO-2), Michael Arcuri (D-NY-24), Roscoe Bartlett (R-MD-6), Jo Bonner, (R-AL-1), John Boozman (R-AR-3), Madeleine Bordallo (D-Guam), André Carson (D-IN-7), Geoff Davis (R-KY-4), Bob Filner (D-CA-51), Jeff Fortenberry, (R-NE-1), Scott Garrett (R-NJ-5), Bart Gordon (D-TN-6), Brett Guthrie (R-KY-02), Maurice Hinchey (D-NY-22), Michael Honda (D-CA-15), Mary Jo Kilroy (D-OH-15), Ron Klein, (D-FL-22), Tom Latham (R-IA-4), Zoe Lofgren (D-CA-16), Blaine Luetkemeyer (R-MO-9), Thaddeus McCotter (R-MI-11), Michael E. McMahon, (D-NY-13), Cathy McMorris Rodgers, (R-WA-5), Charlie Melancon (D-LA-3), Candice Miller (R-MI-10), Dennis Moore (D-KS-3), John Olver (D-MA-1), Bill Posey (R-FL-15), Denny Rehberg, (R-MT), Dana Rohrabacher (R-CA-46), Aaron Schock, (R-IL-18), Bennie Thompson (D-MS-2), Michael Turner (R-OH-3), Greg Walden, W7EQI (R-OR-2), Peter Welch (D-VT), David Wu (D-OR-1), C.W. Bill Young (R-FL-10) and Don Young (R-AK). On the Senate side of Capitol Hill, S 1755 -- also called The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009 -- cleared the Senate by unanimous consent in December 2009 and now sits in the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. Click here for information on how to encourage your Congressional representative to sponsor HR 2160.

### 2010 Flea Markets/Conventions

August  
27-29 ARRL NE Convention, Boxborough

### Advertisements

Your advertisement could be here.

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

### Upcoming Operating Events

July  
10-11 IARU HF World Championships

For further info on these and other contests refer to;  
<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html>.



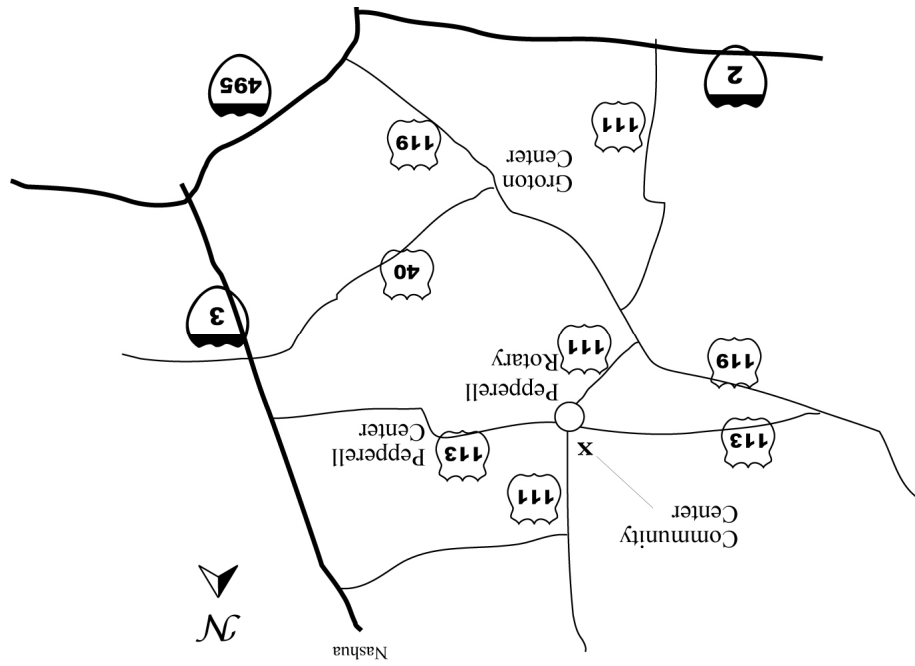
### Nashoba Valley Amateur Radio Club

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<http://www.n1nc.org/>

President: Stan Pozerski KD1LE  
Vice President: Bruce Blain K1BG  
Secretary: John Griswold KK1X  
Treasurer: Ralph Swick KD1SM  
Board Members:  
Skip Youngberg K1NKR 2008-2011  
Joel Magid W1JMM 2009-2012  
Bob Reif: W1XP 2010-2013

Editor: Stan Pozerski KD1LE  
Emergency Coordinator: Larry Swezey KB1ESR  
Photographer: Ralph Swick KD1SM  
PIO: Dave Peabody N1MNX  
Librarian: Peter Nordberg N1ZRG  
Property Master: John Griswold KK1X  
N1NC Trustee: Bruce Blain K1BG  
Annual membership dues are \$15; \$20 for a family  
Meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of the month  
7:30 p.m. - Pepperell Community Ctr.  
Talk-in 146.490 simplex  
442.900 + 100Hz Repeater battery power  
147.345 + 100 Hz Repeater  
53.890 - 100Hz Repeater battery power  
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corrections and inquiries should be directed to the  
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