



SIGNAL



de NINC

September 2010 Volume 19 Number 9

This Month's Meeting

Regular club meetings resume. This month's meeting is Thursday September 16 7:30 at Community Center.

Road Cleanup Saturday September 18th at 9:15 after breakfast

From The President

Now that we are back to regular meetings there are a couple of things I will poll about at the September meeting.

Do we want to resume the CW net? Should we hold road clean ups on Saturday or Sunday? Also there are several activities listed in the newsletter with time frames of a few weeks to a year that you should think about.

Stan KD1LE

New England Wireless and Steam Museum

We are planning a field trip to the New England Wireless and Steam Museum on Saturday October 2. We plan to leave after Saturday breakfast. The reason we chose this date is they have live steam operations twice a year and this is one of those days. Museum admission is \$15. We plan to carpool and share expenses.

For more information about the museum see <http://www.newsm.org/>

Last Month's Meeting

There was no August meeting.

ARRL Boxborough Convention Fox Hunt

The Boxborough Convention organizers ask us to run the FoxBox at the convention for fox hunters. Ralph KD1SM and Stan KD1LE put the fox out both Saturday and Sunday and several hunters found the fox. The one person who found the fox both days was VK3MD. He was awarded an NVARC Coffee Mug at the Awards Ceremony. Some may remember that he did a presentation at NVARC on Radio Sport radio direction finding a while back.

Alzheimer's Memory Ride

On Saturday July 24 a crew of 17 Amateur Radio Operators provided communications support for the Alzheimer's Association Massachusetts/New Hampshire Chapter 2010 Memory Ride for Alzheimer's disease research.

This was the 14th year for the event and the third year that NVARC has been asked to lead the Amateur Radio support. Our involvement began when the event moved to its current course starting in Devens.

250 bicycle riders were assisted by 125 volunteers, including 6 NVARC members. The riders raised over \$300,000 in donations. There were three routes for the cyclists: a 100 mile route, a 62 mile route, and a 25 mile route. This year the routes shared most of the same course, with two cut-offs where the shorter routes short-cut a portion of the longer routes.

The courses start and end at Devens, proceeding through many towns down through Clinton and up to Amherst, NH. The 5 pit stops were located in Berlin, Sterling, West Groton, Amherst, and Hollis NH.

Thanks to NVARC members Bob AB1CV, Gary K1YTS, Larry KB1ESR, Stan KD1LE, Ralph KD1SM, and John KK1X. They were joined by Tom K1JHC, Jim KB1JKJ, Ray KB1LRL, Ross KB1MGD, Dave KB1MVN, Charlie KT1I, Mary N1RKO, John N2YHK, Barry W1HFN, Paul W1SEX, and Mark WB1ARZ.

We have already been asked to help with the 2011 Memory Ride. The date is Saturday, July 23 2011.



Lantern Battery Challenge Sign-up Time

Sign-up sheets for the second annual Lantern Battery Challenge will be available at the September meeting. As a correction to the information in the article last month, I would like to collect the entrance fee at the September meeting, so please come prepared to pay the \$15 dollar fee. This covers the cost of the batteries and any surplus goes toward the awards ceremony. If you can't attend the September meeting, contact me and we will make arrangements for your entry. I'll be ordering the batteries the week after the meeting so we can get the battery packs prepared for distribution at the October meeting. This should be a fun event again this year so let's all join in.
73 Bob W1XP

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 Post Field Day discussions, Boxborough Convention, antennas.

Recent checkins Jim N8VIM, Stan KD1LE, Gary K1YTS, Skip K1NKR, Dick W1LTN, Bob W1XP and Roland NR1G.

PSLIST

No events currently listed.

See www.n1nc.org/Events for the latest information

Board Meeting

Ralph reported that Field day pins had arrived .

Bob had previously reported that on a recent trip to ARRL Headquarters he inquired about our listing as an Affiliated Club and the issue was corrected. We need to monitor the listing.

Meeting programs were discussed. Skip is working to schedule programs. We are always looking for a short subject or show-and-tell to add to each meeting. October is the traditional QSL Card Sort. December will be Homebrew Night.

Bob discussed the NVARC Lantern Battery Challenge. Signup will be at the September meeting and batteries will be passed out at the October meeting.

The Board discussed Bruce's suggestion to put a lighthouse on the air for next year's International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend. The Board believes this could be an excellent activity. See <http://illw.net/> for more information.

In attendance were Stan KD1LE, Ralph KD1SM, Skip K1NKR, and Bob W1XP.

The next road Clean up will be Saturday September 18th at 9:15.

Adopt A Highway

The August road clean up took place on August 20th. We moved to Saturday for the summer clean-ups.

The following members helped make the clean up a success.

Gary K1YTS, Stan KD1LE, Bob W1XP, and Ralph KD1SM. We picked up 13 bags of trash

The next road clean up will be September 18th at 9:15 AM or shortly after since we will be coming from breakfast.

Treasurers Report

Income for August was \$75 in membership renewals, \$5.90 in bank interest, and \$5 from Worked All Mass Counties Awards (actually received in June). Expenses were \$17.60 for newsletter postage and \$145 for Field Day pins leaving a net expense of \$76.70 for the month.

Current balances:

General fund	\$4,025.60
Community fund	\$4,336.41

As of 2 September we have 41 members who are current with their dues and 29 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

Public Service: Colorado Hams Assisting Wild-fire Relief Efforts

This image from NASA's Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) shows the city of Boulder lying in the path of the smoke. MODIS captured this image at 12:15 p.m. local time (18:15 UTC) on September 6, 2010. The red outline corresponds with the unusually high surface temperatures associated with an active fire. A river of thick smoke flows eastward. Over the plains northeast of Denver, the smoke plume casts a shadow to the north. The MODIS is located on NASA's Terra satellite. Click here for a larger image.

A fire that began on Monday, September 6 in Emerson Gulch located in Four Mile Canyon -- just northwest of Boulder, Colorado -- has members of Boulder County ARES® providing communications support to the Boulder County Sheriff's Office and the American Red Cross. According to a 911 call, the fire was started when a truck collided with a large propane tank.

"Amateur Radio operators are located at the Red Cross shelter set up at the University of Colorado Event Center and also at the Boulder County Emergency Operations Center," ARRL Colorado Section Manager Jeff Ryan, K0RM, told the ARRL. "Amateur Radio operators are providing voice and ATV communications between forward fire units, the Incident Command post and the Emergency Operations Center, as well as voice and packet communications for the Red Cross."

Public Service: GAREC 2010 to Convene Next Month

The 2010 Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference (GAREC) -- supported by the ARRL, the IARU and all three IARU Regions -- is scheduled for October 11-12 in Curacao. With its theme of Learning through Practicing, this year's conference is an opportunity for emergency communicators to discuss recent events, discover technical solutions to problems and how to cooperate with professional partners. One of the highlights of the 2010 conference will be an actual EmComm exercise during the conference, exploring how information sharing across borders can be improved.

FCC: ARRL Goes Another Round with ReconRobotics

The Recon Scout -- manufactured and marketed by ReconRobotics -- is a remote-controlled, maneuverable surveillance robot designed for use in areas that may be too hazardous for human entry. ReconRobotics was recently granted a waiver by the FCC for the device to operate between 430-448 MHz, a portion of spectrum available to the Amateur Radio Service on a secondary basis.

As reported earlier, on August 16, ReconRobotics -- manufacturers and marketers of the Recon Scout, a remote-controlled, maneuverable surveillance robot designed for use in areas that may be too hazardous for human entry - filed with the FCC an opposition to the ARRL's Petition to Deny Applications. The ARRL petition asked the FCC to deny dozens of pending Public Safety Pool license applications for the Recon Scout device, which operates in the 430-448 MHz band. On September 1, the ARRL filed its reply (see below).

FCC: ARRL Comments in FCC Review of CB Rules

In June the FCC opened a proceeding -- WT Docket No. 10-119 -- "to simplify, streamline, and update the Part 95 rules to reflect technological advances and

changes in the way the American public uses the various Personal Radio Services." The Citizens Band (CB) Radio Service is one of several Personal Radio Services regulated by Part 95. Three of the CB-related issues raised in the Notice of Proposed Rule Making are of interest to the Amateur Radio Service. On September 3, the ARRL filed comments limited to these issues.

FCC: ARRL Seeks to Protect 2304 MHz Operation

In May, as a partial implementation of its National Broadband Plan, the FCC adopted amendments to its rules for Wireless Communications Services in the 2.3 GHz band to permit mobile broadband services, in addition to fixed services, in the bands 2305-2317.5 and 2347.5-2360 MHz. The Report and Order in WT Docket No 07-293 was published in the Federal Register on August 2, 2010, triggering a 30 day window for petitions for reconsideration. On September 1 the ARRL filed a Petition for Clarification or Partial Reconsideration, asking the FCC to "clarify, or partially reconsider a single aspect" of its Report and Order.

On the Web: Finding Your Section Information

When ARRL members log on to the ARRL Web site, their ARRL Section information automatically appears right below the "Your Favorites" drop-down menu. By clicking on the "Section News" link (see the red arrow below), you can then conveniently go directly to your Section page for news and events in your Section, as well as find contact information for your Section Manager and the Section Cabinet.

ARRL members can immediately find out what's going on in their Section when they click on the "Section News" link, located directly under the "Your Favorites" drop-down menu.

When your Section Manager has important news to share, you will see an alert on your homepage, located below the Section News.

If you're looking to get in touch with your Section Manager or another Section official, go to www.arrl.org/sections where you can find Sections listed by state and by ARRL Division. You can sign up for news alerts from your Section Manager or Division Director using the "Edit Your Profile" link.

MARS: New Interim Chief Takes Over Air Force MARS

The Air Force Military Auxiliary Radio System (AFMARS) organization has a new interim Chief. Outgoing USAF MARS Chief Allen Eiermann, K3LSR, retired at the end of May and was replaced by Technical Sergeant Jason Sandifer. Sandifer is a systems manager stationed at the Air Force Network Integration Center (AFNIC) at Scott Air Force Base in Illinois, just outside St Louis, Missouri. AFNIC is the headquarters of the national Air Force MARS organization.

ARRL Introduces First Challenge Coin

The front of the new ARES® 75th Anniversary Challenge Coin.

This month, the ARRL and the Amateur Radio community celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service®, or ARES®. To help commemorate this milestone, the ARRL has introduced an anniversary Challenge Coin. The die-struck, 1.5 inch brass coin depicts the ARES® 75th anniversary logo in gold with red, white and blue color fill, while the reverse shows the ARRL diamond logo against a hemisphere of the world.

Around the perimeter of the ARES® logo are the words Ready, Resilient and Responsive. "These words represent the critical need that ARES® activities have provided, and will continue to provide into the future," said ARRL Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager Mike Corey, W5MPC. "The Challenge Coin honors the service of ARES® volunteers and all Amateur Radio operators who respond to the call of public service. We hope ARES® volunteers will enjoy the honor of having the first Challenge Coin issued by the ARRL."

On the Air: New D-STAR Repeater Now in Place in ARRL Laboratory

ARRL Test Engineer Bob Allison, WB1GCM, has some fun on the new D-STAR repeater -- located in the ARRL Lab -- on his lunch break. [Photo S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA]

The ARRL Lab has installed a D-STAR (Digital Smart Technologies for Amateur Radio) repeater in the Lab at the ARRL Headquarters building. Operating with an output of 147.390 MHz, positive offset, the W1HQ D-STAR repeater is a local repeater with a modest footprint covering the Hartford-New Britain, Connecticut area. The antenna is on the roof of the Headquarters building with the repeater located in the Lab. With its gateway, the repeater is accessible to any D-STAR user on the planet. The Lab's call sign is W1INF.

"The purpose of the repeater is to better educate the Lab staff on D-STAR technology," explained ARRL Test Engineer Bob Allison, WB1GCM. "In turn, we will have the ability to handle some of our members' questions on the matter. We also intend to use this new technology when emergencies occur where D-STAR technology is deployed." Read more here.

On the Air: Discover the Fun of 6 Meters (and Up!) in the ARRL September VHF QSO Party

September is here, and according to ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, that means the VHF bands are getting a workout: "If you've never experienced the fun of VHF+ operating, the ARRL September VHF QSO Party is a great place to start. With many HF radios now offering at least 6 meter SSB/CW capabilities -- and some offering 2 meters and 70 cm as well -- any amateur with a Technician class license or higher can experience long-haul communication on the VHF bands." Read more here.

FCC: New Rules for Employee Participation in Drills Begin September 3

Beginning September 3, the new, revised wording of Section 97.113 goes into effect. As of this date, the FCC will permit government entities that sponsor disaster and emergency drills to hold these drills without applying for a waiver. Additionally, employees who wish to participate in non-government-sponsored drills and exercises may do so under certain conditions. Part 97 is the portion of the Commission's rules that govern the Amateur Radio Service. Read more here.

FCC: FCC Reaffirms 2x2 Call Signs Are Only for Advanced, Amateur Extra License Classes

In May 2010, John Gottschalk, KB1DDK, of Westwood, Massachusetts, requested a new call sign via the FCC's vanity call sign program. Gottschalk, a General class licensee, requested KK1CQ -- a 2x2 call sign -- and a waiver from the Commission allowing him to hold the call sign. The FCC denied both requests on Tuesday, August 31, 2010. Read more here.

ARRL in Action: What Have We Been Up to Lately?

This feature -- including convenient Web links to useful information -- is a concise monthly update of some of the things ARRL is doing on behalf of its members, including advocating for and representing

Amateur Radio at the local, national and international level, facilitating elections for Directors, Vice Directors and Section Managers, putting W1AW on the air, holding operating events and more. This installment covers the month of August. Read more here.

AWA Recognizes: QST Columnist Recognized for Documenting Radio's Past

AWA Houck Awards Administrator Barney Wooters, W5KSO, presents the Houck Award for Documentation to John Dilks, K2TQN. [Photo, Bill Zukowski, N2YEG]

John Dilks, K2TQN -- who pens the "Vintage Radio" column in QST every month -- was awarded the AWA Houck Award for Documentation by the Antique Wireless Association at their 2010 World Convention, held August 17-21 in Rochester, New York. This award is presented each year to an AWA member who has written original articles on radio development or history in the AWA Journal, AWA Review or other publication.

2010 Flea Markets/Conventions

September

12 Western CT Hamfest Newtown CT
18 Annual 76 Auction and Flea Market
19 MIT

October

10 Connecticut State Convention Wallingford CT
17 MIT

November

6 Interstate Repeater Society Londonderry NH
13 FARAfest Bourne MA

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

September

18

Connecticut QSO Party

South Carolina QSO Party

19

North American Sprint SSB

25

CQ Worldwide DX Contest RTTY

Texas QSO Party

UBA ON Contest 6M

October

2

EPC Russia DX Contest

Oceania DX Contest SSB

F9AA Cup CW

California QSO Party

3

Germany Telegraphy Contest

RSGB 21/28 MHZ Contest

9-10

Makrothen RTTY Contest

Oceania DX Contest CW

Scandinavian Activity Contest SSB

EU Autumn Sprint CW

Pennsylvania QSO Party

Arizona QSO Party

FISTS Fall Sprint

North American Sprint RTTY

16

JARTS WW RTTY Contest

Iowa QSO Party

New York QSO Party

Worked All Germany Contest

17

Illinois QSO Party

23

Stew Perry Topband Challenge

W/VE Islands QSO Party

30

CQ Worldwide DX Contest SSB

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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President: Stan Pozerski KD1LE

Vice President: Bruce Blain K1BG

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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

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.

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Members

The current membership of NVARC is:

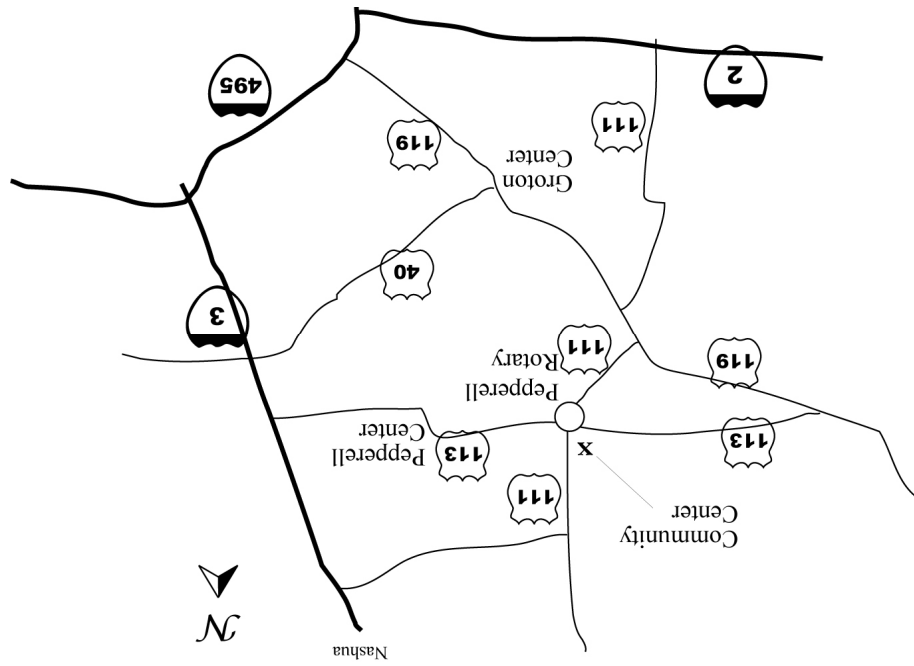
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WW1HR	Herman	Raymond	Groton	MA					
KA1JVU	Karen	Reif	Groton	MA					
W1XP	Robert	Reif	Groton	MA					
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AA1PO	James	Western	Groton	MA					
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NR1G	Roland	Guilmet	Pepperell	MA					
AB1X	Mark	Hald	Pepperell	MA					
N8VIM	James	Hein	Pepperell	MA					
K1LK	Leo	Hunter	Pepperell	MA					
W1JMM	Joel	Magid	Pepperell	MA					
W1LLB	Peter	Morley	Pepperell	MA					
N1ZRG	Peter	Nordberg	Pepperell	MA					
N1MNX	David	Peabody	Pepperell	MA					
KD1LE	Stan	Pozerski	Pepperell	MA					
N1PBL	Lynda	Pozerski	Pepperell	MA					
W1ZBT	Erik	Stromsted	Pepperell	MA					
KB1FJ	Ben	Akins	Shirley	MA					
K1NNJ	Tom	Farnsworth	Shirley	MA					

Your call and name could be here too! Dues are \$15/year for an individual and \$20/year for a family.

Benefits include a Club patch, callsign badge, discounts on PowerPole connectors, and of course this wonderful newsletter.

Contact the NVARC treasurer, Ralph KD1SM to join. The membership application (no testing involved!) can be found on the Club Web site. Look for the 'membership' link at the top of the home page:

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



Nashoba Valley Amateur Radio Club

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