



SIGNAL

May 1994 Volume 3 Number 05

The President's Column

With the long campaign and close elections behind us (hihi) we're ready for another year. Things are looking better in the area of speakers. We seem to have a few planned in advance.

I attended the CEMARC meeting last week. That is the Council of Eastern Massachusetts Amateur Radio Clubs. They had a lot of good information on a variety of subjects like; lists of speakers, setting up information booths, legislative matters.

We still need a board member and a VP. to round out the officers.

The Treasurer's Report

In this, my first report as your new club treasurer, let me start by sending a great big Thank You to Ben, KB1FJ, for having done a fine job in this office for 2 years. Some of the newer members may not know that Ben is one of the founding members of our club. Ben has certainly earned this new treasurer's gratitude for all his efforts on our behalf.

As of the Board meeting on May 12, the club treasury held \$705.90 and our membership rolls listed 64 people. Since the club began operations near the beginning of the year (in 1992), many of the original memberships come up for renewal around this time. So we have a number of memberships now due (or overdue!) for renewal; please see the separate article to know how to determine if yours is one of them.

With the club getting more and more active in the schools, we might consider contributing new items such as educational and other reference materials to the schools and the public libraries. We'll need to build up our funds more in order to be able to do this. So please get those memberships in. I'd like also to encourage everyone to think about fun and interesting fund raising activities we might pursue. It never hurts to be prepared, so that we are able to support whatever ideas for projects may

come before the membership. Currently, the vast majority of our funds come from membership dues. The split-the-pot at the monthly meetings adds a little more. Our major expenses are the newsletter and the club liability insurance (important for Field Day!). One other way to (painlessly!) contribute to the club treasury is to renew your ARRL membership through the club. A portion of your ARRL dues (current \$2) goes directly into the club's funds! To take advantage of this ARRL opportunity, simply hand your ARRL membership renewal to me with the full ARRL membership fee in the form of a check made out to Nashoba Valley Amateur Radio Club and I'll take care of the rest. If you need ARRL renewal forms, I'll be happy to supply you one. If you are not yet an ARRL member, it's worth \$5 to the club treasury if you submit your new membership application through us; just follow the same procedure and bring your application and membership fee (again made out to NVARC) to me.

I'll end this report by saying thanks for asking me to serve you in this capacity for the coming year. Let's all show our support for the club by coming to the monthly meetings and suggesting fun activities we might do as a club.

73 de Ralph, KD1SM

This Months Speaker

In May get ready for Amateur Satellites, an introduction.

In June it's DX-Pedition time off the coast of Yucatan (XE Land).

Dues and Stuff

We have been notifying members when their dues expired only intermittantly. This is because it was being done manually and the Treasurer had to make out a postcard for each person. To make it simpler we will be including the membership expiration date as part of your address label. That way you will know when your "dues are due". If the date

is past your dues have run out, if the area is blank there is no record of your joining. We will start this month and allow a few months for everyone to catch up. The old way you would never have known you were behind. After the June meeting we will drop the names of those that have not renewed. That will give everyone two meetings to catch up.

Field Day 94

It's spring again, and every ham knows what that means. Field Day! For the newer members of the amateur fraternity, Field Day (FD) is an annual event sponsored by the ARRL. Disguised as a test of our emergency preparedness, FD is contest, a gathering, a picnic, an event, or any other group activity a ham club or group of hams wants to make it. Most of all, of all the ham activities I have personally been part of, it is the most fun.

The object of FD is "To work as many stations as possible on any or all amateur bands and in doing so, to learn to operate in abnormal situations under less-than-optimum conditions. A premium is placed on skills and equipment developed to meet the challenge of emergency preparedness and to acquaint the public with the capabilities of Amateur Radio." The operating part of FD is on the air contest. Clubs and groups set up stations under "emergency" conditions (emergency power, portable location). Different categories are determined by the number of transmitters on the air simultaneously. Numbers of contacts are added up for a total score, with a number of bonuses for things like 100% emergency power and publicity. A novice station, a packet radio station, and a VHF/UHF station are all encouraged, and do not alter the category you are entered in. (For complete rules, see May QST, pg. 132). Some clubs are very competitive, others use the "contest" as an excuse to get out and have a good time. As for other "good time" activities, it is up to us to decide on what we want. A cook-out barbecue with friends? Try out HF CW? Focus on "public relations"? Relax and get to know your fellow club members? These and other activities are all part of field day.

Field Day this year is on June 25 and 26. There will be plenty of work to do, depending on what we as a club decide on what we want. Come to the meeting Thursday night and find out more! If you can't make it, make sure you make the June meeting or get the June newsletter to find out more information.--Bruce K1BG

Found on Packet

FROM N1MNX TO ALL
SUBJECT: FIELD DAY WOULD LIKE TO GET IN TOUCH WITH ANYONE WHO IS INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN FIELD DAY I CAN'T

OPERATE BUT WOULD HELP ORGANIZE IT
CALL ME ON 146.73 OR 224.000 OR
446.175 OR 442.90 OR 433-2577[LAND LINE] OR
THIS MBX (PEPMBX..ed) 73'S TO ALL

FROM KL7Q TO QST @ARL
SUBJECT: MARS OPS ARMED FORCES DAY

FROM: Chief Navy Marine Corps MARS

Page 136 of May QST listed wrong time for Armed Forces Day Operation. We will in fact operate twenty-four hours from 211300Z May to 221300Z May. Please get word to your local Amateur Radio Clubs. Put this info on local repeaters and other nets. This applies to Army, and Air Force operations in addition to Navy and Marine Corps MARS

ARLB042 IT'S LAW IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

NEW HAMPSHIRE HOUSE BILL 1380, Recently signed into law by Governor Steve Merrill. exempts from real estate property taxes "radio towers, antennas, and related or supporting, structures used exclusively in the operation of an Amateur Communications Station under Federal Communications Commission Amateur Radio Service rules and regulationd." ARRL Counsel Chris Imlay N3AKD, called the bill "an important. precednt," saying that it may have far reaching effects throughout the US as amateurs continue to seek relief from local and state regulation ARRL New Hampshire Section Manager Al Shuman, N1FIK, who played a key role in the passage of the bill, largely crddits ARRL New Hampshire State Government Liason (and Representative in the State Legislature) Ralph Rosen W1HSB and a Team of ARRL Field Organization Volunteers, who testified numerous times before both House and Senate Committees.

ARRL Notes

There is a Bill in the Illinious House that will prohibit cities from enacting laws that fail to conform to PRB1. There is an equivalent bill in the Massachusetts Legislature. It is important for us to support this legislation. It is House Bill H-4201

Because of problems with comercial towers and cellular phone towers another bill has been introduced which would tightly control the installation of antennas, towers and transmitters. This one is not good for us since the bill makes no distinction based on use. I will bring more info to the meeting.

NVARC QSL Bureau

The NVARC QSL Bureau made a card shipment right after the last meeting. Thanks to Bruce K1BG and a few of us small time operators I now have enough cards for another shipment. I will

be collecting cards at the meeting and will send them out right after. If you need info or have some to send ,bring them (cards or questions) to the next meeting....Stan NVARC QSL Mgr. (Titles are cheap....)

Mark Your Calendar

Boxboro Convention -- Oct. 1,2

Newington Amateur League flea market Sunday June 5 at the Newington High School.

Mass QSO Party May 21-22

Toure De Lowell bike race June 12 8:30-11:00. Terry KA8SCP coordinating communications and will need volunteers.

There will be SkyWarn training for those interested in July or August. Since the National Weather Service has combined offices and move to Taunton it has been delayed. There will also be an open house at the Weather Service June 4-5 if some people are interested maybe we can make a field trip.

Framingham Flea Market Sept 25

Trivia

The answer to April's trivia question is:

In 1904 the standard in Italy was SSSDDD. But in 1906 international governments recognized CQD. Both were operating when the Titanic sunk. The Titanic used CQD.

May's Trivia Question:

What year was the first amateur satellite launch and what was the message they transmitted?

The Swap Shoppe

2 serial printer buffers, A/B switch box, 1200 baud ext. and 2400 baud internal modem, 2 daisy wheel and 1 wide carriage dot matrix printers. Stan KD1LE



Nashoba Valley Amateur Radio Club

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V Pres.: Scott Pyles, WX1J
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Treasurer: Ralph Swick, KD1SM
Editor: Stan Pozerski KD1LE

Meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of the month - 7:30 p.m. - Pepperell VFW hall.

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 acceptable.

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