



SIGNAL



de NINC

March 2006 Volume 15 Number 3

This Month's Meeting

This month's meeting presentation will be by Steve Cloutier WA1QIX and will be on Class E Amplifiers.

Upcoming event
Boston Marathon April 17th
Townsend Canoe Race April 22nd
Groton Road Race April 30th

Last Month's Meeting

Stan announced that Larry KB1ESR and Peter N1ZRG volunteered to chair the NVARC Field Day. Larry asked for everyone's help and suggestions.

Last month's meeting presentation was by Skip K1NKR on the Global Positioning System.



Skip talked about the Global Positioning System, its components, satellites, and operation. He explained how it works to provide us with accurate time and position information.



Courtesy KD1SM

Present at the February meeting were; AA1MT, K1CMF, K1LGQ, K1LK, K1NKR, K1YTS, KA1VOU, KB1ESR, KB1JKL, KB1JLA, KB1KEF, KB1LZH, KB1MBR, KD1LE, KD1SM, KK1X, N1MNX, N1SV, N1ZRG, W1JMM, W1TRC, W1XP, WA1TAC, WR1Y, W1ZZ Ed Stratton (guest).

NVARC Speakers Get Around

Last month Stan KD1LE gave a presentation on batteries at the Montachusett Amateur Radio Association (MARA) meeting. This month Joel W1JMM presented there on satellites.

Area Ham Population

As a last minute thought before the last meeting I looked up the number of hams in a few area towns. Below is a more complete list of local ham populations. The list does not include inactive calls or club calls.

Town	# of Hams
Ashby	17
Ayer	20
Brookline	43
Chelmsford	178
Dunstable	10
Groton	65
Harvard	44
Hollis	58
Littleton	55
Lunenburg	32
Nashua	352
Pepperell	73
Shirley	30
Townsend	39
Westford	139

N1MNX Repeaters

Thanks to all who donated to help with the N1MNX Repeater last year. It is time to ask for help again. Financial donations help to pay the Electric bill which ranges from \$28-\$32 dollars a month or about \$336-\$384 a year. All donations are appreciated.

Thank You
David Peabody N1MNX

General Repeater use and Courtesy

1. Prior to transmitting listen on frequency per FCC rules.
2. To access the repeater key radio wait several seconds then speak giving your call sign. Repeaters have circuits that must be completed before transmit occurs.
3. **Priority communications, in this order**
 - A. Emergencies
 - B. HT's
 - C. Mobiles
 - D. Base
4. To interject with an emergency message we will use "break break break". Anyone hearing this call will cease communications immediately! Listen for the Emergency message, and if you are needed by the emergency communicator please render assistance. (If you are not able render assistance just cease transmitting) until emergency communication is complete. It is common courtesy to check periodically to see if anyone else needs to use the repeater or is trying to interject.

5. On round table conversations, the person talking should hand the repeater over to a name or call sign to avoid doubling.

6. At intervals of ten minutes and at the end of a conversation your callsign is required by FCC rules.

Advertisements

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

BERNIE PEABODY N1IMO
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2006 Flea Markets and Conventions

- | | |
|-------|--------------------------------|
| March | |
| 26 | Spring Flea Market, Framingham |
| April | |
| 8 | IRS Hamfest and Flea Market |
| 9 | Londonderry, NH |

Treasurers Report

Income for February was \$30 in membership dues, \$2 from ARRL membership renewals, \$12.12 from bank interest, and \$54 from the book raffle. Expenses were \$15.60 for newsletter postage and \$36.69 for the outgoing QSL bureau, leaving a net income of \$45.83 for the month.

Current balances:

General fund	\$4512.28
Community fund	\$2071.83

As of 9 March we have 58 current members and six renewals outstanding. Please check the member roster that is circulated at the monthly meeting if you do not remember your renewal date. Your member-

ship date also appears on your newsletter mailing label.

Are you an ARRL member? As a Special Service Club, the ARRL expects a minimum percentage of our members to also support the ARRL. If you have renewed your ARRL membership through me then I know you're a member. If you haven't, please let me know whether you do belong to ARRL or not.

Remember, when your ARRL membership renewal time comes you can send it in via the Club and save yourself postage. You also contribute to the Club Coffers, as the Club is permitted to retain part of the dues when we forward it for you. And if you are not yet an ARRL member, please consider joining. Your support of ARRL gives you access to special members-only material on the ARRL Web site and helps ARRL in its efforts to show how Amateur Radio benefits the public.

Ralph KD1SM

NVARC Club Net

The club net meets on the 442.900 repeater. Recent participants include Dave N1MNX, Bob W1XP, Bob AB1CV, Joel W1JMM, John KK1X, Larry KB1ESR, Skip K1NKR, Gary K1YTS, Ralph KD1SM, Stan KD1LE, Don AB1DS, Les N1SV, Richard KB1MBR, and Peter KB1LZH. Recent discussions are ISS wrap up, repeater work, meeting information, tools needed, 50th anniversary of the current phonetic alphabet, possible field trip destination, and the SuitSat event.

The net is a good place to bring information for the club and questions or discussions. The net meets at 8:00 PM Monday evenings on the 442.900 N1MNX repeater.

ARES E Letter

New ARRL Committee to Evaluate National Emergency Response

At its Annual Meeting in January, the League's Board of Directors established the National Emergency Response Planning Committee. The rationale was evidence and personal interviews with staff that such a committee would be necessary. "The League's national emergency response to large-scale disasters like Katrina warranted Board-level understanding and support of such work, and the creation of this committee takes care of that," said Dave Patton,

NN1N, Manager, Field and Educational Services Department, ARRL Headquarters.

+ NIMS/ICS Training Essential

The Department of Homeland Security is requiring all first responders, including volunteers, to complete training in the National Incident Management System (NIMS) by 2007. This sounds formidable, but in reality there is an Independent Study course from FEMA that covers it. The course is IS-700 - go to <<http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIweb/IS/crslist.asp>> and find the course list. Follow directions and you will get to IS-700. Readers can take the course on line or download the material and do it at their own pace. It shouldn't take more than three hours in any case. There's a final exam on line, but it isn't going to cost much sweat (or any money - courses are all free). After passing the final, the student will get notification by e-mail or regular mail.

Readers are encouraged to look at the rest of the course offerings on the FEMA training Web site. They represent a wealth of knowledge, organized so that us real people can get through them and actually learn something. They aren't rocket science, just good stuff we need to know! -- John Amos, KC6TVM, ADEC, Hospital Net Coordinator, Santa Clara County, California. See also IS-100, and IS-200. -- Lloyd Colston <kc5fm@ureach.com> K3XO training also available: <<http://www.k3xo.net/modules.php?name=News&file=article&sid=5>> The ICS course is available free of charge. -- Rip Smith, K3XO

+ Opinion: ARES Appointment Requirements Should Include FEMA/ARRL Courses

Successful completion of the ARRL Levels 1, 2, and 3 emcomm courses and FEMA courses IS-100 and IS-700 should be a requirement for all new SECs, DEC's, ECs and Official Emergency Stations (OES). ARRL could grandfather current appointees with the provision that they complete the required course work within three years. These courses provide the basics that every ARES appointee should have if they are to work effectively with served agencies and each other. There is a need for a new minimum level of training for ARES operators. -- Dennis Baumgarte, AE2EE, EC Dutchess County, New York; SEC Eastern New York; and Radio Officer, Orange County, New York

+ In Support of "Plain Language"

From the FEMA NIMS FAQ: The use of plain language in emergency response situations is a matter of public safety, especially the safety of first re-

sponders and those affected by the incident. It is critical that all local responders, as well as those coming into the impacted area from other jurisdictions, know and use commonly established operational structures, terminology, policies and procedures. This is what NIMS and the Incident Command System (ICS) are all about - achieving interoperability across jurisdictions and disciplines.

The use of common terminology is about the ability of area commanders, state and local EOC personnel, federal operational coordinators, and responders to communicate clearly with each other and effectively coordinate response activities, no matter what the size, scope or complexity of the incident. FEMA requires that plain English be used for multi-agency, multi-jurisdiction and multi-discipline events, such as major disasters and exercises. Beginning in the fiscal year that starts on Oct. 1, 2007, federal preparedness grant funding is contingent on the use of plain English in major incidents requiring assistance from responders from other agencies, jurisdictions and functional disciplines. It is important to practice everyday terminology and procedures that will need to be used in emergency incidents and disasters. NIMS implementation is a long-term effort and it's probably not possible to persuade everyone to change ingrained habits overnight. But over time, everyone will understand the importance of using common terminology, that is, plain English, every day. See http://faq.fema.gov/cgi-bin/fema.cfg/php/enduser/std_alp.php -- Submitted by Les Rayburn, N1LF

Adopt-A-Highway

We meet at the Nashua River common at 9:00 AM. Our clean up day is Sunday after breakfast.

The next road cleanup is Sunday April 23rd 2006.

Hands Free Required by DOD

Effective March 1st use of a cell phone on Department of Defense installations will require hands free operation. There is no reference to radio operation but this could be a problem.

ARRL Letter

ARRL HAM AID "GEAR READY TO GO" AWAITS NEXT DISASTER

When another disaster on the scale of Hurricane Katrina comes along, the League will be able to de-

ploy "ham gear ready to go," thanks to manufacturers' donations of Amateur Radio gear, ARRL members' generous monetary contributions and a federal grant. The ARRL Ham Aid-sponsored "Go Kits" now being assembled at League Headquarters are the third leg of a program that's already reimbursed certain out-of-pocket expenses for ham radio hurricane zone volunteers and helped restore Amateur Radio backbone infrastructure along the US Gulf Coast.

"To me, this is a first step in ramping up ARRL's ability to support Amateur Radio volunteers in the field before the next big disaster hits," says ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH. "It won't replace or supplant anything that's already on the ground and working well, but it will strengthen it and add flexibility to Amateur Radio's overall response capabilities." The equipment and cash donations, coupled with a grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), will mean Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) field volunteers will never go without in terms of equipment. Hobart says \$25,000 in Ham Aid funds have been set aside for the Go Kits.

The Go Kits will enable the League to loan out needed equipment on a moment's notice. Emergency Communications Specialist Harry Aberly, AB1ER, spends his days at ARRL Headquarters securely stowing various equipment complements in rugged, waterproof Pelican 1650 containers.

"The idea is that this makes it easy to ship," explains Aberly, "and since they're less than 50 pounds apiece, they'll be able to go by air if necessary." Flooding won't be an issue. "You can throw them in the water, and they'll float," he adds.

So far, Aberly says, there's an HF Kit, a VHF/UHF Kit, a Handheld Transceiver Kit and a Support Kit--seven of each, and more on the way. He and other League staffers consulted with volunteers who'd been in the field during Hurricane Katrina to find out what gear served them best or what they wished they'd had but didn't.

The HF Kit contains a 100-W HF transceiver, a microphone and a power supply. The VHF/UHF Kit includes a dualband mobile transceiver, power supply, headset, 10 handheld transceivers and a supply of alkaline batteries. In the Handheld Transceiver Kit are eight dualband handheld transceivers and antennas plus a stock of extra batteries. The Support Kit includes a length of BuryFlex 213 coaxial cable, rope, 15-foot jumper cables with battery clamps at one end and an Anderson Powerpole on the other. The kit includes various fittings and adapters to connect to the power distribution unit and to make RF

feed line connections. All kits contain any necessary manuals. Packed in a separate container, appropriate antennas and antenna accessories will accompany a given kit.

More than two dozen members of the Amateur Radio industry and individual radio amateurs contributed equipment last year for use in the Hurricane Katrina relief effort <<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2005/09/09/105/>>.

Citing Amateur Radio's favorable treatment in recent US House Subcommittee and White House reports on the Hurricane Katrina response (see below), Hobart said it's imperative to sustain and enhance ham radio's emergency communication capabilities for the future. "Disasters happen to be one place Amateur Radio can shine," she pointed out. "We need to maintain a high level of readiness to do those things that are second nature to ARES members but that the public is just coming to recognize."

Making the Go Kits available to ARES teams, Hobart says, will help to cement Amateur Radio's position as a community resource. "We want to be able to ensure that we have the personnel and the equipment," she said. "With a disaster of this magnitude we need to be ready."

ARRL continues to solicit Ham Aid donations to help maintain and sustain the League's ability to support Amateur Radio volunteers in the field. League members can contribute to Ham Aid via the secure ARRL Development Office donation Web site <<https://www.arrl.org/forms/development/donations/basic/>>. Simply click "Ham Aid" and complete the online form.

AMATEUR RADIO GETS FAVORABLE MENTIONS IN FEDERAL KATRINA REPORTS

Ham radio received positive mentions in post-Katrina reports from the US House of Representatives and the White House. References to the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), the Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) and the HF digital e-mail system Winlink 2000 appear in "A Failure of Initiative"--the final report of the Select Bipartisan Committee to investigate the preparation for and response to Hurricane Katrina (see <<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2006/02/17/2/>>).

"Like all levels of government," noted the 364-page report released February 15, "the National Communication System (NCS) "was not able to address all aspects of the damage to the communications infrastructure of the Gulf States."

MARS was cited for its role as part of the Shared Resources High Frequency Radio Program (SHARES), a federal emergency communication system. The report says that "within days" of Katrina's landfall, NCS called upon more than 430 SHARES stations across the US to, among other things, assist first responders conducting search-and-rescue missions by relaying information to government agencies, by relaying logistical and operational information among FEMA EOCs in Georgia, Mississippi and Louisiana, and by handling health-and-welfare messages between volunteer agencies in Georgia and the American Red Cross national headquarters.

"Additionally, the NCS coordinated the frequencies used by the nearly 1000 Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) volunteers across the nation who served in the Katrina stricken area providing communications for government agencies, the Red Cross and The Salvation Army," the report continued. "Emergency communications were conducted not only by voice, but also by high-speed data transmissions using state-of-the art digital communications software known as Winlink."

The report further noted, "In Mississippi, FEMA dispatched Amateur Radio operators to hospitals, evacuation centers, and county EOCs to send emergency messaging 24 hours per day. Cited were comments by Bay St Louis Mayor Eddie Favre that Amateur Radio volunteers "were especially helpful in maintaining situational awareness and relaying Red Cross messages to and from the Hancock County EOC."

According to the report, radio amateurs at airports in Texas and Louisiana "tracked evacuees and notified families of their whereabouts," while the Red Cross "deployed Amateur Radio volunteers at its 250 shelters and feeding stations, principally in Mississippi, Alabama and Florida."

The Salvation Army, the report pointed out, operates its own system of Amateur Radio volunteers known as SATERN (Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network). "During the Hurricane Katrina response and recovery effort, SATERN joined forces with the SHARES program and received over 48,000 requests for emergency communications assistance utilizing federal frequencies made available via the SHARES program," the report noted.

"A Failure of Initiative" asserted that the loss of power and the failure at various levels of government "to adequately prepare for the ensuing and inevitable loss of communications" hindered the hurricane re-

sponse "by compromising situational awareness and command and control operations."

"Despite the devastation left by Katrina, this needn't have been the case," the report stressed. "Catastrophic disasters may have some unpredictable consequences, but losing power and the dependent communications systems after a hurricane should not be one of them."

The White House report, "The Federal Response to Hurricane Katrina: Lessons Learned" <http://www.whitehouse.gov/reports/katrina-lessons-learned.pdf> released February 22 also cast Amateur Radio in a favorable light--in its Appendix B, "What Went Right."

"Amateur Radio Operators from both the Amateur Radio Emergency Service and the American Radio Relay League monitored distress calls and rerouted emergency requests for assistance throughout the US until messages were received by emergency response personnel," the report said. "A distress call made from a cell phone on a rooftop in New Orleans to Baton Rouge was relayed, via ham radio, from Louisiana to Oregon, then Utah, and finally back to emergency personnel in Louisiana, who rescued the 15 stranded victims."

The report also points out that Amateur Radio volunteers were on duty at the National Hurricane Center, the Hurricane Watch Net, Waterway Net, SKYWARN and the Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN).

The report's Appendix B cites specific reports in the general news media about Amateur Radio activities following Hurricane Katrina and points to several news stories that appeared on the ARRL Web site.

"HELLO" CAMPAIGN TO PUT FRIENDLY, INVITING FACE ON AMATEUR RADIO

A new ARRL public relations campaign set to launch this April will cast Amateur Radio in the light of the 21st century and focus on its universal appeal, even in today's already technology-rich society. At the same time, the "Hello" campaign will note the 100th anniversary of what many historians consider the first voice radio broadcast in 1906 by Reginald Fessenden.

"It is quite simply the largest PR campaign that ham radio has ever attempted," says ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP. Built around the word "Hello," the coordinated campaign will set "a positive, upbeat tone that highlights the

international capabilities of Amateur Radio," he explained.

One aim of the "Hello" campaign will be to reframe Amateur Radio within a contemporary context. "ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, was correct in stating that the Main Street of today is not the same as the Main Street of yesteryear," Pitts went on to say. "To reach out today, the very first requirement is that Amateur Radio operators be perceived as friendly and trustworthy. That's a true public relations goal and the prime focus of the campaign."

Pitts says it's not helpful to lament the time in decades past when Amateur Radio grew pretty much on its own, without too much effort on the part of clubs and individuals. "Only our combined, effective action will do that today," Pitts says. "This campaign will give hams the tools they need to reach out in their communities to non-hams and influence their perception of Amateur Radio."

The national "Hello" campaign can bring curious people into contact with ham radio groups, but it will be up to local radio amateurs to make them truly welcome, Pitts maintains.

The "Hello" campaign is designed to gain momentum as the year progresses. Components will include the release of public service announcements for use by radio and TV broadcasters and a video for meetings, presentations and even broadcast. Other highlights will include a "Hello" campaign Web site and special operating events. The high point of the "Hello" campaign will come in December on the centennial of Fessenden's first radio broadcast.

History recalls that the Canadian-born and educated Fessenden, using an early alternator, transmitted the first audio radio broadcast from his laboratory in Brant Rock, Massachusetts. Radio operators aboard ships at sea--tipped off in advance to be listening for something special--were astounded to hear Fessenden's broadcast that included the scientist and inventor playing "O Holy Night" on the violin and reading a Bible passage.

The campaign will show that despite the Internet and other technologies, the possibility of being able to talk with everyday people around the world and sometimes in exotic locales--coupled with the surprise, art and uncertainty of DXing--remains a major attraction for Amateur Radio. The "Hello" campaign also will take advantage of likely FCC action this year to drop the Morse code requirement at least for General class applicants.

"We all say we want to make a change for the better for Amateur Radio and get others interested," Pitts said. "This is the time, this is the chance. Stay tuned! More to come!"

NO LOLLIES ON SPACE STATION, COMMANDER TELLS YOUNGSTERS IN SPACE QSO

International Space Station Expedition 12 Commander Bill McArthur, KC5ACR, this month educated and inspired youngsters in Florida and the Australian outback during separate Amateur Radio contacts. McArthur spoke from NA1SS with youngsters attending Collier County, Florida, public schools on February 8, and at the Charleville Cosmos Centre in Queensland on February 17. The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program arranged both events. Students at Florida's Pine Ridge and Immokalee middle schools posed several questions on the subject of robotics aboard the ISS, and McArthur discussed use of the space station's robotic arm, Canadarm 2.

"We use the robotic arm only occasionally onboard the ISS," McArthur explained. "It's used to either relocate people or equipment on the outside, which happens only occasionally. Also, we will sometimes use the cameras installed on the robotic arm to do video surveys of the exterior of the station."

McArthur told the students that it took extensive training to learn how to properly manipulate the Canadarm 2, used mostly to move equipment and cargo that's too large for the astronauts to handle during space walks.

Twice during the contact, McArthur offered some words of inspiration and encouragement to those contemplating careers as astronauts. "Do not be afraid to follow your dreams," he advised. "Reach high, because even if you fall a little bit short you will have accomplished so much more than if you're afraid to even try."

Members of the Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida (ARASWF) set up and operated the equipment necessary for the direct VHF contact between NA1SS and K4YHB at Pine Ridge Middle School, a NASA Explorer School. Coordinating Teacher Sharon Lea, who once met McArthur, took a moment at the end of the QSO to express gratitude on behalf of the schools for making the contact possible. "This was a wonderful experience for us all," she said.

Some 150 school officials, teachers, parents and students were on hand, and two TV stations, a local

radio station and the Naples Daily News reported on the space contact.

Nine days later, youngsters attending the Charleville School of Distance Education gathered at the Cosmos Centre in the Australian outback to hook up with McArthur via ham radio and a Verizon Conferencing teleconferencing link from WH6PN at Sacred Hearts Academy in Honolulu to the Queensland facility.

McArthur told the students that he's been an astronaut for 15 years, and his duty tour aboard the ISS marked his fourth flight into space. "Prior to this, my longest mission was 14 days--two weeks," McArthur responded to one question, noting that he enjoyed being in space very much. "This one will be a little more than a half-year, and, to me, it's the difference between visiting a wonderful place and living there."

Looking ahead to longer-duration space flights, one student wanted to know how long it would take to get to Mars. "It would take somewhere between six and nine months depending on the technology used and also depending on how the planets are aligned," McArthur replied.

"Do you eat chocolate bars and lollies?" another student wanted to know. "Well, we have no lollies," McArthur answered, "but that's only because Valeri [Tokarev] and I didn't ask for them. Yes, we do have chocolate bars, chocolate candy, other candy, and if a crew wanted lollies they could ask for them, and they would have them up here."

Beyond that, McArthur said, the cuisine aboard the ISS largely consisted of foods familiar on Earth, although all meals come already prepared and usually dehydrated.

The school waited nearly two years for its contact to be scheduled, and just 12 hours before the event a thunderstorm knocked out telephone service throughout the town. Earth station operator and ARISS veteran Tony Hutchison, VK5ZAI, said a repair crew managed to get the telephone system back up with only two hours to spare.

National TV and radio and local media joined the audience on hand to report on the contact. The Charleville Cosmos Center is an observatory in outback Queensland some 800 km west of Brisbane.

ARISS <<http://www.rac.ca/ariss>> is an international educational outreach with US participation from ARRL, AMSAT and NASA.

REVISED ITU RECOMMENDATION ON USE OF AMATEUR RADIO IN DISASTERS IN EFFECT

A revised International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) Recommendation is now in force to promote "effective utilization of the amateur services in disaster mitigation and relief operations." Initially developed in 2001, the document, known as Recommendation ITU-D 13, was brought up to date last year through the efforts of an ITU-D study group and circulated to administrations around the globe for adoption.

"This is an updated version of a Recommendation that administrations include the amateur services in their national disaster plans, reduce barriers to effective use of the amateur services for disaster communications, and develop memoranda of understanding with amateur and disaster relief organizations," explained ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ. ITU-D 13 further advises cooperation among all parties in making available model agreements and "best practices" in disaster telecommunications.

The revised Recommendation takes into account changes adopted at World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03) to Article 25 of the international Radio Regulations. One change provides that Amateur Radio stations may be used to transmit international communications on behalf of third parties in case of emergencies or for disaster relief. Another encourages administrations "to take the necessary steps to allow amateur stations to prepare for and meet communication needs in support of disaster relief." The FCC recently adopted changes to its Part 97 Amateur Service rules to reflect these and other WRC-03 actions.

The revised Recommendation ITU-D 13 recognizes that effective Amateur Radio disaster communication depends "largely on the availability of amateur operators located throughout a country," and that post-disaster international humanitarian assistance "often includes the provision of amateur operators and of equipment from an assisting country."

It further acknowledges that barriers in terms of gaining permission to operate and to move equipment and operators into a disaster zone "in many cases hindered the full use of telecommunications capabilities available from outside an affected country."

"The Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunications Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations," adopted in 1998 by the Intergovernmental Conference on Emergency Telecommunications in Tampere, Finland, established a framework for the reduction and/or removal of such

barriers. Revised in 2003, ITU-Radiocommunication Sector Recommendation M.1042-2, "Disaster Communications in the Amateur and Amateur-Satellite Services," encouraged "the development of such services and of making such networks robust, flexible and independent of other telecommunication services and capable of operating from emergency power."

The revised Recommendation ITU-D 13 is expected to be available soon—in several languages and in MS-Word and PDF formats—from the ITU Web site <<http://www.itu.int>>.

HAM RADIO OPERATORS "TRUE HEROES," REP MIKE ROSS, WD5DVR, SAYS IN "SALUTE"

US Rep Mike Ross, WD5DVR (D-AR), this week offered "A Salute to Ham Radio Operators" on the floor of the US House. Ross, one of two Amateur Radio licensees in the House of Representatives (the other is Rep Greg Walden, W7EQI, R-OR), addressed his colleagues February 8 to recognize the contributions of the Amateur Radio community in the wake of last year's devastating hurricane season.

"Citizens throughout America dedicated to this hobby—a hobby that some people consider old fashioned or obsolete—were true heroes in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina as they were often the only line of communication available into the storm ravaged areas," Ross said.

He noted that while ham radio is often overlooked "in favor of flashier means of communication," Gulf Coast communities learned after the 2005 hurricanes that technology can be "highly vulnerable" to storm damage. "Ham radios, entirely self-contained transmitters, require no cell towers or satellites, simply a battery and a strip of wire as an antenna," Ross explained.

Because of the "critical intervention" of radio amateurs across the US, Ross said, many lives were saved following Hurricane Katrina.

"The dedication displayed by ham radio operators in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina sets a tremendous example for us all," Ross concluded, noting that "now more than ever" he's proud to be an Amateur Radio operator. "The people whose lives were rescued as a result of the tireless dedication of ham radio operators will forever be grateful to these selfless public servants."

Flea Markets

March 26 Framingham ARA Hamfest
April 8 IRS Hamfest Londonderry NH
April 16 MIT Flea Market
April 22 NE Antique Radio Club

Contest Calendar and DXpeditions

The information for a DXpedition can be quite detailed and may include bands, dates, number of stations, and times of day they plan to work certain continents so I can not list it all here. But if a country or prefix is of interest you can get more information at www.425dxn.org.

March

18-20 BARTG Spring RTTY Contest
18-19 DARC HF SSTV Contest
25-26 CQ WW WPX SSB

April

1-2 Kids Roundup
1-2 SP DX Contest
22-23 SP DX RTTY Contest

Special Event Station

April 9-15 94th anniversary RMS Titanic

DXpeditions

Call	Location	Until
9V1CW	Singapore	2008
5H3HK	Tanzania	March 2006
T68G	Afghanistan	March 2007
ZD8I	Ascension Is	March 2006

Special Event Station

Titanic Special Event Station W1MGY April 9-15

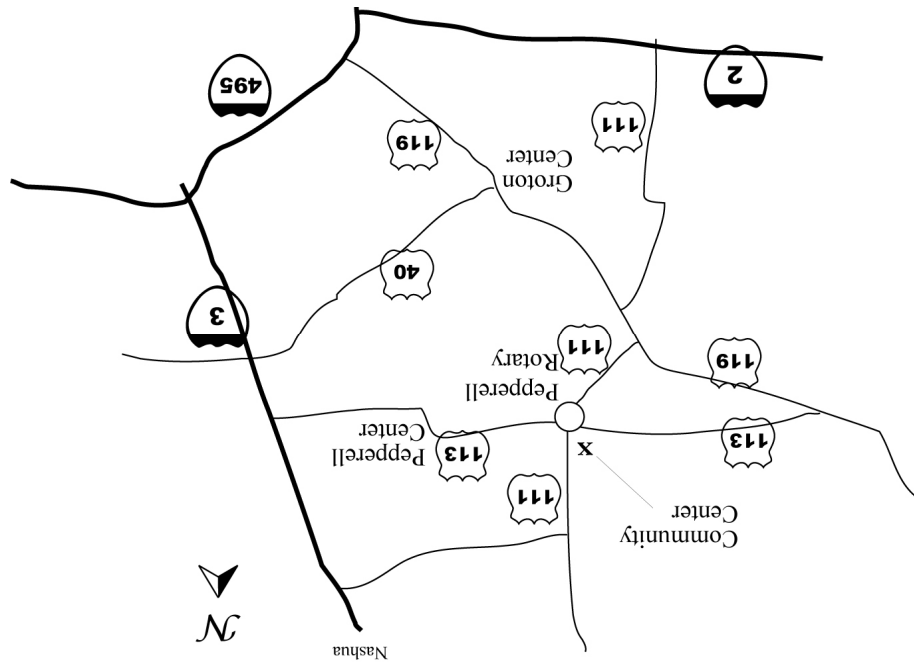


Nashoba Valley Amateur Radio Club

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Vice President: Peter Nordberg N1ZRG
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Treasurer: Ralph Swick KD1SM
Board Members:
Dave Peabody: N1MNX 2003-2006
Bob Reif: W1XP 2004-2007
Les Peters: N1SV 2005-2008
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Webmaster: Les Peters N1SV
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
442.900 + 100Hz Repeater
147.345 + 100 Hz Repeater
53.890 – 100Hz Repeater
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