



# SIGNAL

A club since 1992



Since 1993

de N1NC

May 2022

Volume 31 Number 5

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## NVARC Monthly Meetings

NVARC General Meetings are scheduled for the third Thursday of the month at 2430 UTC (7:30pm, Eastern Time), except for July and August, when no General Meetings are held. When held, meetings are at the Pepperell Community center and are generally simulcast via Zoom. Non-members who are interested in attending may send an email to [meetings@n1nc.org](mailto:meetings@n1nc.org) requesting the teleconference details.

NVARC thanks **Medtronic, Inc** for providing the teleconferencing services under their employee volunteer support program for non-profit organizations

## This Month's Meeting

The May NVARC meeting will feature Phil, W1PJE, speaking on a topic of interest, which, at press time, has not been determined.

Phil is conducting an email poll of the membership on possible topics. RSVP!

## The President's Corner de Bruce, K1BG

I'd like to congratulate the officers elected at the April meeting for the club's 2022 - 2023 year. The slate of officers remains largely the same as last year, with me, Bruce, K1BG as president, Phil, W1PJE as vice president, John, K1JEB, Secre-

tary, Ralph, KD1SM treasurer, and directors Skip, K1NKR, and Jim, N8VIM returning. I want to personally thank these members for the effort they are making each and every month.

I also want to personally thank Jim, AB1WQ, who finished out his second consecutive three-year term as a club director. Besides being Field Day chair for a number of years, Jim has been actively involved in numerous club activities since he wandered into our field day set-up in 2014, and as of late he has been actively involved in Pepperell CERT activities.

Sean, KC1ONO, has stepped up to fill the vacancy. Sean is a relatively new club member, and thought that the director's role was a perfect place to learn more about the club and immerse himself in club activities. Please join me in welcoming Sean to this important role.

Again, thanks to the club officers for your leadership, support, volunteerism, and dedication.



George, KB1HFT, has done a superb job as Signal editor for the past three years. George has quietly let the board know that he would like a replacement to step forward and assume the role of "editor-in-chief". I am soliciting a volunteer (or volunteers) for this important role. The requirements are nothing more than a laptop (with word processor) and a working knowledge of the English language! George is happy and willing to work with whoever volunteers during a transition period. Please let me or George, [Editor@n1nc.org](mailto:Editor@n1nc.org), know if you are interested.



Ralph, KD1SM, notes that the Groton Road Race is still short about a dozen operators for the event on Sunday, May 15th. The activity is really easy,

with operators deployed along the race route to provide communications. Overview documents from the most recent race, 2019, are available at [www.n1nc.org/Events/2019/GRR/](http://www.n1nc.org/Events/2019/GRR/). Contact Ralph, KD1SM, at [ralph@kd1sm.net](mailto:ralph@kd1sm.net) if you are interested.



NVARC will sponsor another Technician License class this spring, beginning on May 16 at the Pepperell Community Center. The last classes held in February and March netted 7 new hams and a number of new club members. If you would like to help with this, please contact me at [bruce.blain@charter.net](mailto:bruce.blain@charter.net).



This year, a large amateur radio presence will be found at the BigE, which will be held between September 17 and October 3, 2022. According to Wikipedia, "The Big E," formally known as The Eastern States Exposition, is billed as 'New England's Great State fair.' It is the largest agricultural event on the eastern seaboard and the sixth-largest fair in the nation." Have a look here for plans: <https://nediv.arrl.org/project-big-e/>

Such an undertaking can succeed only if there are a sufficient number of volunteers and radio clubs who agree to participate in the event. A special Groups.io website group mailing list has been established to promote exchange of dialogue and ideas for the event. To join, send an email to [ProjectBigE+subscribe@groups.io](mailto:ProjectBigE+subscribe@groups.io), or contact Larry Krainson, W1AST, at [W1AST@arrl.net](mailto:W1AST@arrl.net).

Any thoughts as to NVARC participation? Your input is welcomed and appreciated.



Field Day is fast approaching. Without a traditional "chairperson", this year's Field Day will be "managed-by-committee". I'll be organizing a Zoom session in the coming weeks. If you are interested in participating, please let me know.



The Dayton Hamvention will be taking place May 20 - 22 this year, in Dayton, OH, of course! A number of club members will be attending. Because of this, I apologize for missing the upcoming May meeting. I will be traveling during the meeting.

Phil, W1PJE, our vice president, will preside at the

May meeting. Thank you, Phil for filling in during my absence.



Have you ever had an idea for a club program that required funding in order to accomplish it? The ARRL Foundation Club Grant Program, funded by a grant from Amateur Radio Digital Communications (ARDC), will make \$500,000 available to clubs, enabling them to more easily provide and expand these important services. Clubs can apply for a maximum of \$25,000 for a single project! And if you have more expensive tastes, you can go directly for ARDC for more. <http://www.arrl.org/club-grant-program> will provide more details. Any ideas out there?



That's all for May! Enjoy the May meeting, and I look forward to seeing each and every one of you in June.

-de Bruce, K1BG

### NVARC YouTube Channel!

Jim, N8VIM, has compiled several new videos that capture some facets of NVARC and the interests of its members.

Jim's latest video is of Mike, WU2D's, presentation from the NVARC April 2022 General Meeting. Mike spoke on "Shortwave Dream Receivers of the 1960's-70's". You can view Mike's presentation at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MvA9t0ODggE>

All of Jim's videos may be found by searching on the YouTube page for "NVARC".

If anyone has old (or new) Ham Radio related videos or electronic projects, and would like to have them edited and put on the YouTube channel, please contact Jim, N8VIM.

### Free Technician License Classes

The Nashoba Valley Amateur Radio Club is offering a free amateur radio licensing course beginning on May 16th.

The eight-night course will prepare students for the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Technician licensing exam that will be offered at the completion of the course.

The Technician level radio operator's license is the first of three amateur licenses offered by the FCC. Each license has increased levels of operator privileges.

The course consists of twice weekly sessions beginning on Monday, May 16th, and meeting on Mondays and Wednesdays for four weeks (May 16<sup>th</sup> through June 8<sup>th</sup>).

The course will be held at the Pepperell Community Center, 4 Hollis Street, Pepperell, MA 01463.

Sessions will start at 7PM and last for 2 hours.

An FCC license exam will be scheduled for the end of the sessions.

The course is free, but there will be an FCC required \$15 testing fee if you take the exam. The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual, Level 1, Technician, 4<sup>th</sup> ed, will be the study guide used for the class. A limited number of study guides may be purchased from the instructor for \$20 or online from the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) or Amazon.

This course is open to all, there are no age limits. Pre-registration is required, no walk-ins will be allowed. To register you must contact the instructor, Bruce Blain at (508) 341-5124 or via email at [bruce.blain@charter.net](mailto:bruce.blain@charter.net).

**ARRL In Action**  
de Bruce, K1BG

As an affiliated club, NVARC benefits from many activities organized by the ARRL (the American Radio Relay League, amateur radio's national organization in the US).

Newly elected division director Fred, AB1OC, and vice director Phil, K9HI, have ramped up programs designed to grow-the-hobby and benefit local clubs. This is a "grass roots" effort, meaning that efforts are being made at a local level.

Included below is a high-level description of the individual initiatives, with descriptions and links for more information on each. Overall info can be found at: <https://nediv.arrl.org/programs-initiatives/>

**Emergency Communications & Public Service Activities**

[https://nediv.arrl.org/emergency-](https://nediv.arrl.org/emergency-communications-public-service/)

[communications-public-service/](https://nediv.arrl.org/emergency-communications-public-service/). Led by Cory, KU1U, the group encourages participation in EmComm & Public Service activities, development and sharing of Training Programs, development and sharing of resource contact information, training data, and preparedness exercise information, and publicizing these programs across the division and the ARRL. The scope of activities includes those of ARES, Traffic Handling, SKYWARN, RACES, and Public Service.

**Spectrum Protection and Utilization**

<https://nediv.arrl.org/spectrum-protection-utilization/>. This group, headed by Rob, K1UI, is focused on interference issues, spectrum issues, and the development of a New England wide public safety microwave-based data network utilizing amateur spectrum.

**Mentoring and Ham Development**

<https://nediv.arrl.org/mentoring-and-new-ham-development/>. Headed by Anita, AB1QB, the Mentoring and Ham Development group wants to work with clubs and individuals in New England to help them expand their role as mentors and create a world-class environment for learning based on Amateur Radio.

**Youth Outreach and STEM Learning**

<https://nediv.arrl.org/programs-initiatives/youth-and-stem-outreach/>. Led by Norm, N0HF, the focus is on assuring new and existing Youth in Ham Radio are supported in ways that allow for learning, exploring, demonstrating, and experiencing many diverse focuses within Ham Radio and STEM Technologies.

As a club, we should be committed to **ALL** of these activities. As a "Special Service Club", we should be an active participant.

If you are interested in participating in one of these special interest groups, please let me know. Let's make NVARC aware of the groups' activities, and make recommendations as to how the club can participate.

-de Bruce, K1BG



Have **YOU** paid your NVARC Dues? See:  
<http://n1nc.org/Members/Roster>  
 for your renewal month.

**Treasurer's Report**

Income for April was \$60 in membership renewals. Expenses were \$0.92 in PayPal fees, leaving a net income of \$59.08 for the month.

Current balances:

General fund	\$3,022.70
Community fund	\$6,628.25

As of 5 May we have 47 members who are current with their dues and 29 renewals outstanding. Renewal months are in the member list on [www.n1nc.org](http://www.n1nc.org) in the Member's area; check yours on <https://www.n1nc.org/Members/Roster> or you may also email me. Thank you to those of you who mail your renewals or use PayPal without a reminder from me. To pay membership dues via PayPal see the instructions at <http://n1nc.org/Members/dues>.

If you are joining ARRL or renewing your membership please consider letting Ralph send in the paperwork for you. The Club will buy the stamp and will get a commission from ARRL.

To be a "Special Service Club", the ARRL expects a majority of Club members to also be ARRL members. Contact Ralph for further information if you need it.

de Ralph, KD1SM

**NVARC Board Meeting: May 6, 2022**

**Attendees:**

- |                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| Bruce, K1BG,   | Jim, N8VIM,  |
| John, K1JEB,   | Jim, AB1WQ,  |
| George, KB1HFT | Ralph, KD1SM |

John K1JEB received from Ralph a list of new members so new club member badges can be made.

The board welcomed new board member Sean, KC1ONO.

George, KB1HFT, and Bruce, K1BG, are looking for a new editor for Signal. Bruce will be canvassing members to fill the position.

Jim, N8VIM, is doing a great job with the YouTube page.

Bruce, K1BG, discussed the role of webmaster, which Ralph, KD1SM, will continue to fill.

We are still seeking a guest speaker for the May club meeting. If a pending request does not work out, Phil, W1PJE, will fill in.

Bruce, K1BG, will not be at the May Meeting as he will be attending the Dayton Ham Convention. Phil, W1PJE, will conduct the meeting in-person while Bruce is away.

Ralph, KD1SM, indicated that he has about 2/3 of the needed crew to run the Groton Road Race. He is seeking additional volunteers.

Bruce, K1BG, indicated that he had some surplus equipment that is in need of a home from the AA1VX Downsizing Program. This may be posted to the club reflector.

Bruce, K1BG, will be starting the next Technician License Classes in two weeks.

Tiny's Saturday Breakfast is going well.

"CW Help" is winding down and has not been well attended by club members.

John Bielefeld, K1JEB, is planning for a Visioning Session<sup>1</sup> later in the fall of this year. At the September meeting John will request that as many members as possible attend the October meeting. At the October meeting John will lead the Visioning Session.

<sup>1</sup> [Ed: A "Visioning Session" is a directed group effort to reach wide consensus on what club members want from NVARC. It is an "As a Group, let's consider all options and voice all opinions" exercise.]

At this time, there is no Field Day Chairperson. Assuming that this does not now change, we will manage Field Day by committee.

The NVARC Picnic is in the planning stage but aims for either July or August.

Bruce will be investigating the requirements into the ARRL Foundation Club Grant Program. These are projects promoting clubs, Ham Radio, Youth etc. An organization seeking this grant does not have to be a 501(c)3 organization.

There will be a large Amateur Radio Presence at the Springfield "BigE" – Eastern States Exposition. It will run for 2 weeks starting on September 16, 2022.

NVARC Saturday Activities are still in the planning stages.

NVARC has a standing agreement to use the Pepperell Community Center for education purposes as long as it does not conflict with any paying programs and activities.

Ralph KD1SM will be looking into the club purchasing a package of 200 pairs of 30A Anderson Power Poles and making them available to club members at a significant discount. This proposal went to a motion and the motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at: 8:33pm  
de John, K1JEB

### Sponsors

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**Nashoba Valley  
Amateur Radio Club**  
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<http://www.n1nc.org/>

**President:** Bruce Blain, K1BG  
**Vice President:** Phil Erickson, W1PJE  
**Secretary:** John Bielefeld, K1JEB  
**Treasurer:** Ralph Swick, KD1SM

**Board Members:**  
Sean Pearson, KC1ONO, 2022-2025  
Skip Youngberg, K1NKR, 2020-2023  
Jim Hein, N8VIM 2021-2024

Property Master: John Griswold, KK1X  
Librarian: Peter Nordberg, N1ZRG  
N1NC Trustee: Bruce Blain, K1BG

Join NVARC! Annual membership dues are  
\$15; \$20 for a family.

NVARC general meetings are scheduled for the third Thursday of the month at 2330 UTC (7:30pm, Eastern Time). Non-members interested in attending may send an email to [meetings@n1nc.org](mailto:meetings@n1nc.org) requesting the teleconference details. NVARC thanks Medtronic, Inc for providing the teleconferencing services under their employee volunteer support program for non-profit organizations.

Contact us on the N1MNX repeater.  
442.900 (+), 100Hz  
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This newsletter is published monthly. Submissions, corrections and inquiries should be directed to the newsletter editor: [editor@n1nc.org](mailto:editor@n1nc.org). Articles and graphics in most PC-compatible formats are OK.

Editor: George Kavanagh, KB1HFT

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**Nashoba Valley Amateur Radio Club**

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