

# SIGNAL



VOL.XXXII...No.3 WWW.N1NC.ORG MARCH 2023

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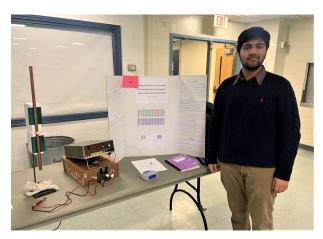
#### From The President

de BRUCE K1BG

March turned out to be a relatively busy month for NVARC. In the February edition of the Signal, I talked about two activities that the club had planned for February – Thinking Day on the Air, which took place on February 18<sup>th</sup>, and the Bromfield Science Fair, which took place on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. I'd like to thank TDOTA volunteers Skip – K1NKR, Jill – KB1SWV, Bill – K1NS, Bill – KC1WTR, Phil – W1PJE, Ralph – KD1SM, Greg – WY1X, and Mindy – KM1NDY for making this activity a success. More on TDOTA 2023 can be found elsewhere in the Signal.

NVARC made two "Youth Achievement Awards" at this year's Bromfield Science Fair. One award was issued to High School senior Sid Mohakar for his project: "Demonstrating Lenz's Law: Determining the Relationship Between the Strength of a Magnetic Field and the Current Produced", and another was given to eighth graders Michelle Xu and Emma Nguyen

for their project "How an IR Remote Control Toy Works". I'd like to thank NVARC judges Phil – W1PJE, Jim – AB1WQ, Skip – K1NKR for joining me as judges at this event.



Bromfield Senior Sid Mohakar showing his project: "Demonstrating Lenz's Law:
Determining the Relationship Between the Strength of a Magnetic Field and the Current Produced".

Vlad, W1MTI, has been the editor of the Signal for almost a year now. Vlad is requesting two things from club membership going forward. First, he'd like to see more participation from club members in the Signal. He has noticed, and I have noticed, and you have probably noticed that contributions come from the same handful of people. The signal is YOUR newsletter. Please contribute an article on anything related to club activities or amateur radio.

Second, Vlad would like some feedback. Do you have comments to make on articles written? Do you have a letter to the editor that you would like published? Agreement or disagreement with a stated position? Announcements, advice, or complaints? These items make for a livelier and more interesting publication. Please let Vlad know how you feel about what's in it.

We have a really interesting topic planned for the March meeting. Partly because his January presentation was so well received, Dom Mallozzi, N1DM, has been asked to come back – this time the talk is "An Intro to Ham Satellites". We have a number of new members, plus a number of older members (like myself) who have no experience with amateur satellites. It should make for a really interesting evening.



From the official webpage of  $127^{th}$  Boston Marathon.

As most of us know, Amateur Radio plays a keen role in the annual running of the Boston Marathon. All race communications are handled by Amateur Radio operators. The 127<sup>th</sup> running of the marathon will be no different. This year, the marathon is on Monday, April 17<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested on volunteering, go to <a href="www.baa.org/races/boston-marathon">www.baa.org/races/boston-marathon</a> and click on "volunteer".

And last but not least, this will be my next-to-last "president's corner". My term will come to an end at the April meeting,

and nobody has yet come forward and announced their intention so succeed me. If you are interested in running for any office (president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, or board member), please let me know. And if you feel like nominating someone else, again, please let me know. I will forward the candidates to the nomination committee to be added to the ballot. See you on Thursday, the  $16^{th}$  of March!

Best & 73 de Bruce, K1BG

## **About Our Members**

#### GEORGE, KB1HFT

Many of you know that NVARC member and the former editor of the Signal, George Kavanagh, KB1HFT is recovering from a serious illness. We are happy to report that George is doing well. Recently,

George came to Tiny's Restarant in Ayer, where many of the club members gather for a Saturday breakfast. He says that he is at the ninth week of the twelve week recovery from a surgery. We wish George a brisk recovery, and hope to see him at the Field Day in June!

## Message from the Editor

Dear NVARC Members and Friends,

I am looking for ways to improve the newsletter and expand its readership. Your voice is important. Please send your suggestions about what topics related to Ham Radio are important to you, and what would you like to see published in the near future. In addition, I am including a link to a "SurveyMonkey" that should simplify the feedback. If you read the Signal, please respond by opening this link: The Signal Readership Survey.

de Vlad. W1MTI

### Nashoba Valley ARC's Youth Activities

de SKIP YOUNGBERG, K1NKR



Mindy Hull, KM1NDY, operates "portable" with scouts.

The Nashoba Valley Amateur Radio Club

supported Girl Scout Thinking Day On The Air (TDOTA) on Saturday, February  $18^{th}$ . Having supported five previous TDO-TAs, club members had endured a couple of years' hiatus due to Covid and were eager to return.

The World Association of Girl Scouts and Girl Guides reserves the weekend closest to February  $22^{nd}$  for a special International Thinking Day activity. For over twenty-five years, the Girl Guides of the United Kingdom have sponsored a Thinking Day "On The Air." TDOTA comple-

ments the overall Thinking Day theme of Girl Scouts recognizing their place in a larger world by introducing them to communications as a way of knitting the world together and making it smaller.



Scouts talk to the world at N1NC.

TDOTA is not a "ham radio show-and-tell," driven by a club. Instead, the girls in a troop arrange everything: the schedule, the venue, the choice of activities, invitations, and hospitality. A local radio club provides volunteers and equipment to support the scouts' activities.



Morse was actually the most captivating activity.

This year, the Nashoba Valley club was approached by several Girl Scout troops in Lunenburg, Massachusetts, to support a TDOTA there. Club president Bruce Blain, K1BG, hosted three Zoom planning

meetings with the Girl Scout leaders and everything quickly fell into place. On Saturday morning, with dipoles having been strung in a tree and tables set up indoors, everyone convened at the United Parish Lunenburg Community Center.



Exploring the other side of the globe.

Over thirty Girl Scouts and leaders participated. NVARC provided eight volunteers. Two scouts from Raymond, New Hampshire, the experts who had participated in all five previous TDOTAs visited for the day, as did Mindy Hull, KM1NDY, from Boston.



Crafts are an important part of most Girl Scout events.

With communications as the theme, the day's activities included explanations of World Time and the use of phonetics, Morse code practice, and on-the-air QSOs. As a traditional Girl Scout event,

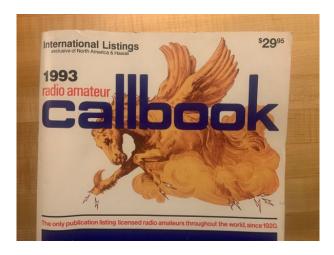
there was even a hands-on craft—making bracelets with names or initials arranged in beaded Morse code. In addition to the club's 100-watt station, Mindy (a superb role model for the girls) brought her QRP backpack station and set it up.

The day's success prompted interest in return - gathering to work on the ARRL's Girl Scout patch for Radio and Wireless Technology—and possibly some licensing classes, who knows? For more information on how your club can participate in next year's TDOTA see <a href="NVARC's website">NVARC's website</a>, and <a href="www.guides-on-the-air.co.uk/">www.guides-on-the-air.co.uk/</a>. Information on the Radio and Wireless Technology Patch is at <a href="www.arrl.org/girl-scouts-radio-patch">www.arrl.org/girl-scouts-radio-patch</a>.

## THE RADIO AMATEUR CALLBOOK MAGAZINE

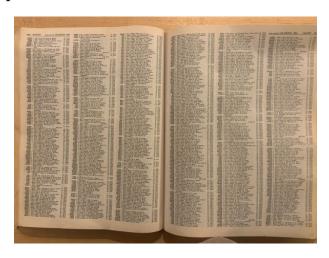
de BRUCE, K1BG

For newer hams, having the FCC database of all things related to amateur licensing (callsigns, addresses for QSLing, etc) is at your fingertips. A trip to QRZ.COM or the FCC Amateur ULS website is all you need to get all the information you're looking for. What did hams do before the digital revolution?



From somewhere around 1922 until 1997, a publication existed called The Radio Amateur Callbook (the callbook for short). It was published by several publishers over the years (with these businesses changing hands) and was generally identified by the "Flying Horse" logo emblazoned on the cover. Initially, one callbook was published for hams all over

the world, but in the 1950s the world-wide ham population grew to the point that both a "United States" and a "Foreign" callbook were published. And, as the number of licensed hams increased, as many as four editions per year were published.



With manual typesetting and *no* electronic databases, printing the callbook must have been a daunting task! And consider this – the cover price of the US Callbook the year I was first licensed – 1968 - was \$6.95. Adjusted for inflation, that would be about \$60 today! American Radio Relay League membership at the time was \$6.50 annually (and as a side note, the current ARRL dues of \$49 is re-

ally a bargain compared to the inflation adjusted price back then ...). The Callbook was a pricey amateur accessory for a 14 year old kid! If you didn't personally own a callbook, you knew someone who did. It was invaluable for collecting QSL cards and using them for chasing awards.

NIBUD T David H Gasker, 64 Chatham St, Lynn

KAIBUD T Marcia A Hansen, 44 Liberty Ave, Franklin

WB1BUD N Timothy J Urban, 63 Princess Dr, Madison

NIBUE G Victor L Bennison, 2 Georgetown Dr, Amherst

KAIBUE G Barry F Collord, 124 Newington Rd, West Hartford

KIBUF A Micholas P Tosches, 1-C-4 Talcott Ridge Rd,
Farmington

KAIBUF N John F Connors, 161 Newport St, Arlington

NIBUG E Paul N Kelley, Box 33 Elm St, Milo

KAIBUF N John A Silva, 11 Eastman Rd, Somerville

WB1BUG A Armand F Augustine, 21 Nyes Ln, Acushnet

MIBUH A William E Newcomb, Pine Tree Ln, Manchester

KAIBUH N Rutledge E Etheridge Jr, 79 Moulton St, Springfield

WB1BUH T Stephanie D Isreal, 56 Palmer St, Arlington

NIBUI T Stephanie D Isreal, 56 Palmer St, Arlington

NIBUI T Stephanie D Isreal, 56 Palmer St, Arlington

NIBUI T Stephanie D Isreal, 56 Palmer St, Arlington

NIBUI A Anthony C Vena, 197 Ferndale Ave, Stratford

NIBUI A Orrim M Brawn, RFD 1 Box 1775, Bangor

KAIBUJ A Orrim M Brawn, RFD 1 Box 1775, Bangor

KAIBUJ A Orrim M Brawn, RFD 1 Box 1775, Bangor

KAIBUJ A Orrim M Brawn, RFD 1 Box 1775, Bangor

KAIBUJ N Lee H Masury, 16 Peninsula Dr, Kennebunk

NIBUL T David P Erickson, 79 Come St, Manchester

KAIBUM A Goerge L Johnson, 43 Raymond St, St Stratford

KAIBUM A C Wells Clark, 234 Franklin St, Bucksport

KAIBUM A C Wells Clark, 234 Franklin St, Bucksport

KAIBUM D Androor P Kozloski, 60 Birch St, Stratford

KAIBUM D Androor P Kozloski, 60 Birch St, Stratford

KAIBUM T Charles J MC Donald Jr, 48 Hale St, Newton

NBUM G Goorge H Beauleu, Rt 31 RFD 1, Mason

KIBUM T Charles J Mc Donald Jr, 48 Hale St, Newton

NBUM G Wallsun T Charles J Mc Donald Jr, 48 Hale St, Newton

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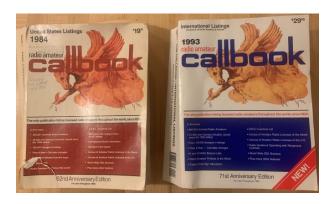
NBUM G Wallsun T Charles J Mc Donald Jr, 48 Hale St, Newton

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The callbooks themselves looked like the telephone white pages for a small city (the "phone book" for you kids out there!), with listings in very small type. Despite all of these obstacles, the Radio Amateur Callbook was published 4 times a year with a great deal of accuracy. So why am I telling you all this? I'm regularly asked a question like: My grandfather was a ham. How can I find his callsign? When I was

growing up, I had a neighbor who was a ham. Do you know who he is? When I was a kid, I got my license with another kid, but I can't remember his name. How do I find him? Old callbooks are the answer...



Many of the callbooks have statistics in them as well. Like the number of licensees per class or state or country in a given year. Lots of interesting historical information. One of my favorite sites, archive.org, is home to over 100 callbooks. They are all scanned and searchable (although optical character recognition is not 100% accurate). I've helped people with all of the questions above, and more, by searching these archives. The good place to start is archive.org/details/callbook. know what interesting information YOU find. And if you have any questions or want any hints, please let me know. BTW, " the callbooks" are still available today. The Radio Amateur Callbook brand was purchased by a German company and is available on CD. But to an old timer like me, nothing is like holding that book in your hands .... Good luck with your callbook adventure and have fun!

#### NEXT GENERAL MEETING

de Ralph, KD1SM

The next General meeting will be held in person at the Pepperell Community Center, 2 Hollis St, Pepperell, MA 01463 on March 16, 2023 at 7:30pm. The doors will open at 7pm for socializing. Dom Mallozzi, N1DM will give a talk about Radio Amateur Sattelites.

#### THE TREASURER'S REPORT

Income for February 2023 was \$150 in membership fees. There were no expenses this period.

#### Current balances:

General fund \$3,020.53 Community fund \$6,628.25

Thank you to members who sent dues this month after receiving the reminder email.

As of 2 March we have 50 members who are current with their dues and 29 renewals outstanding. Renewal months are in the member list on www.nlnc.org in the Member's area; check yours on https://www.nlnc.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. To pay membership dues via PayPal see the instructions in the same Members area.

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. As an 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.

#### NVARC BOARD MEETING

March 2, 2023

#### Attendees:

Bruce, K1BG, John, K1JEB, Ralph, KD1SM, Vlad, W1MTI Skip, K1NKR,

Call to Order: 7:30pm

Ralph, KD1SM presented Treasurer's report (see above). Thank you to members who sent dues this month after receiving the reminder email.

Secretary John, K1JEB has been working on the design of a new member badge template. He will bring the new design to the general meeting.

Vlad, W1MTI is requesting member's feedback about the club's newsletter. Vlad may consider using SurveyMonkey as a tool for this in the near future.

Skip K1NKR may contribute an article for the webpage.

The Bromfield Science Fair will kick off tomorrow night. A discussion was made about rewarding the top 5 students with a RTL-SDR receiver kit which includes the antenna. The cost for 5 units will be \$200.00. It was decided to bring this up to the general club meeting.

Skip K1NKR is currently designing QSL card for TDOTA-23.

Adjournment: 8:36pm

de John, K1JEB

#### NVARC'S 2 METER NET

The NVARC Information Net is held Monday nights at 7:30pm, Eastern time on the 2m Pepperell repeater, N1MNX: 147.345MHz +100.

#### **NVARC GENERAL 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.

#### CVRC Hamfest/ Flea Market

Sunday, March 26, 2023, in Henniker, NH

You are invited to attend our CVRC Ham Radio Flea Market and Hamfest. We will have a VE Session, three great Speakers, Refreshments, Vendors, and lots of friends to meet. Our Raffle Grand Prize is a Yaesu FTM-3100 2 Meter Mobile Radio, also, we have two other Raffle Prizes of \$25.00 cash. You need not be present to win. Write your Name, Call, and telephone number on the back of your Raffle Tickets. Door Prizes will be called once an hour, and posted on a white board. You need to be present, with your Entrance (Door Prize) Ticket, to win. Baked Beans, Chili, Hot Dogs, Home Baked Pastries, Soda, and lots of Coffee, will be in abundance.

Use the Link, below, to print off a copy of the Poster to put on your refrigerator (Buletin Board).

#### k1bke.wordpress.com/category/flea-market/

If you would like to book a table, call or email at: Fest@k1bke.org

Thanks! Hopefully, we will see you, there.

73, Mickie, W1MKY 603-428-3840

## **Strays**

#### The One, The Real, The Radio Hat!



Approved by HOAs country-wide. Acclaimed by local Real Estate Guilds.

Here is your *real answer* to all isidious antenna/tower questions from a HOA representative and/or your realestate agent. No more compromises in choosing location for your next home. No more "creative solutions" or vexations - only compliments.



## Calendar

#### **MARCH**

- 12/13 Wisconsin QSO Party
  - 16 BCC QSO-Party
- 18-20 BARTG HF RTTY Contest
- 19-22 www.classicexchange.org
- 25/26 CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB
  - 27 RSGB FT4 Contest

#### **APRIL**

- 1/2 Florida State Parks on the Air
  - 3 RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW
  - 6 SARL 80m QSO Party
  - 6 NRAU 10m Activity Contest
- 8/9 OK/OM DX Contest, SSB
- 8/9 IG-RY World Wide RTTY Contest
  - 11 Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest
  - 12 NAQCC CW Sprint



PO Box 900 Pepperell Mass 01463-0900 http://www.n1nc.org/ www.youtube.com/@nvarc

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

#### **Board Members:**

Sean Pearson, KC10NO, 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 7:30pm, Eastern Time. 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 147.345(+), 100Hz53.890(-), 100Hz

This newsletter is published monthly. Submissions, corrections and inquiries should be directed to the newsletter editor: editor@ninc.org

Articles and graphics in most PC-compatible formats are OK.

Editor: Vladimir A. Goncharov, W1MTI

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## Have YOU Paid Your NVARC Dues?



See: http://www.n1nc.org/MembersRoste for your reneval month.

#### **Sponsors**



