

The Monitor



March 2003

Presidents Message

It looks like winter will be here until Hosstraders at this rate. Hope everyone is staying warm and dry.

We have been asked to do the demo at the Bradford, VT HS Oxbow Expo again this year. It is this Friday afternoon and Saturday. If you are interested please let me know so we can notify them if we are going to be there.

The Armed Forces Day special event is coming up in May and if you are interested please let me know so plan can be made.

This month the nominating committee for club officers will be formed so if you would like any input show up at the meeting.

We will have several quests at the meeting from VT and NH ARRL so come out and bring your questions.

See you at the meeting.

Verne Burden, N5IEP
(802) 295-7533 phone/fax

Upcoming Events

TSRC Meeting March 8, 2003, 9:00am
Ramada Inn, WRJ, VT

CVRC Flea Market March 9, 2003
Henniker, NH
www.qsl.net/k1bke for more info

TSRC Meeting April 12, 2003, 9:00am
Ramada Inn, WRJ, VT

Boy Scout Demo To be announced

ARES Forms New Organization

Sterling Eanes, AK1K

Courtesy of Nashua Area Radio Club Bulletin

The New Hampshire Rapid Emergency Deployment (RED) Team is a recently formed organization within the New Hampshire Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES). The goal of the RED team is to hit the road within 30 minutes of a callup with the capability to provide emergency VHF, UHF or HF communications anywhere in the state for a period of 24 hours.

In an emergency situation, the NH Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC) may activate the RED team to provide an initial response capability anywhere in the state that it is needed. When deployed in a part of the state with a functioning ARES organization, the team would operate under the control of the local ARES Emergency Coordinator (EC). In the parts of the state where there is no local ARES, the team would report directly to the SEC.

Team members have agreed to outfit themselves with the necessary equipment to setup and conduct emergency operations on VHF (2 m), UHF (70 cm), and HF (75 m and 40 m) under emergency conditions. This includes sufficient power (battery) and other resources to operate for a 24 hour period with no required infrastructure support.

There are currently 9 members of the RED team and the goal is to expand the membership to about 12 over the course of this year. The team includes three NARC members: Jim Heedles, WW1Y, Kevin Kelly, WA1LFD, and Sterling Eanes, AK1K. The other team members include Dave Colter, WA1ZCN, Jim Cluett, W1PID, Richard Browning, K1RAB, David Megin, KA1VJU, Rick Miller, K1RDM, and Bill Shurbert, KB1FAE. WA1ZCN is the Emergency Coordinator (EC) of the team and, in that role reports to the

New Hampshire Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC), Tom Matisko, N1SKZ. Assistant Emergency Coordinators (AECs), reporting to the EC, are K1RAB for logistics, AK1K for training, and KA1VJU for operations.

The qualifications for membership in the RED team include a license of General Class or higher, completion of the ARRL Level I Emergency Communication Course, and the availability of a cell phone or pager for use in callup. In addition, you should have (or intend to accumulate soon) the equipment for providing emergency VHF, UHF, and HF communications under emergency conditions. Team members must have permission from their employer to take leave at short notice to participate in emergency operations.

New members of the RED team are selected and approved by the current set of members. Anyone interested in becoming a member of the RED team is welcome to talk to any current RED team member for more information. Actual application for team membership requires providing a 'ham radio' biography including interests and activities in the area of emergency communications.

The team holds a monthly in-person meeting and participates in, roughly, monthly on-the-air drill activities. Past activities include participation in public service activities as well as participating in a wide area Seabrook emergency drill, where the team sets up operation in a number of Emergency Operation Centers (EOCs) across the eastern part of the state.

New Field Day entry class

Field Day will gain another entry class for 2003. "Class F" stations will operate at emergency operations centers, or EOCs. The change renews the emphasis of Field Day's 1933 origins as an emergency preparedness exercise as opposed to a routine contest.

ARRL Contest Branch Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, said that last year the League received a record number of Field Day entries from groups and

individuals. Given the increased emphasis on emergency communications since September 11, 2001, the ARRL Board's Membership Services Committee asked that the Contest Branch come up with something to reflect that emphasis. The new Class F station is the result.

"This is a major change," Henderson said. "Class F has been established to encourage groups to test and further their working relationships with established emergency operations centers." The updated rules and a list of frequently asked questions in the new 2003 Field Day packet spell out the details.

A Class F entry station must set up at an "established EOC" center activated by a club or non-club group. Class F EOC operation must take place in cooperation with the EOC staff. Class F stations are eligible for the same bonus points as Class A stations.

FOR SALE

A DEAL FOR THE CLUB IF ANYONE'S INTERESTED. I HAVE SOME OLDER GEAR AND WOULD LIKE TO REALIZE SOME MONEY FOR IT AND ALSO BENEFIT THE CLUB. I'M NOT GOING TO USE THE EQUIPMENT ANY MORE. SELL WHATEVER YOU CAN AND WE'LL SPLIT THE PROCEEDS.

HERE'S WHAT I HAVE:

1. SWAN 350 SSB TRANSCIEVER WITH A SWAN 117XC POWER SUPPLY
2. DRAKE MN7 MATCHING NETWORK
3. DRAKE DUMMY LOAD MOD 1551
4. HEATHKIT ELECTRONIC KEYER
5. AN EXTRA KEYER THAT MAY HAVE COME WITH THE SWAN 350.

THAT'S THE LOT. AS FAR AS I KNOW EVERYTHING WORKS OKAY, BUT IT'S BEEN SITTING A FEW YEARS. MY PHONE IS 802-672-5389.

JAY RICHARDSON KA1DKQ

ARRL EXPRESSES CONCERNS ABOUT HAM RADIO IMPACT OF 70-CM CHANGES

The ARRL says two FCC-proposed actions could negatively affect Amateur Radio. One would substantially expand the geographical area in the US subject to power limitations on 70 cm. The other would deploy National Weather Service wind-profiler radars in the 448-450 MHz segment.

"The Commission has proposed two actions that have a potentially substantial adverse impact on a large number of Amateur Radio operators in this proceeding," the ARRL said in comments filed this month in ET Docket 02-305. "In each case, the Commission can minimize that impact."

In a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) late last fall, the FCC proposed on behalf of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) to--among other things--more than double the size of the geographical area in New Mexico and Texas where amateurs in the 420-450 MHz band would be limited in power to protect military radiolocation service operations. Amateur transmitters in certain geographical areas already are limited to 50 W PEP "unless expressly authorized by the FCC after mutual agreement, on a case-by-case basis" between the FCC district director and the applicable military frequency coordinator--§97.313(f). The NPRM also reflects action by NTIA specifying the operation of federal government wind profilers in the band 448-450 MHz.

Acknowledging that the Amateur Service is secondary to government services in the band, the ARRL nonetheless asked the FCC to ensure that the affected zone in Texas and New Mexico "is minimized as much as possible, consistent with protection of military facilities." The ARRL also requested the FCC to create "a streamlined procedure for case-by-case exemptions" from the power restrictions.

"It is difficult for ARRL to address the contention of the Army that amateur power in excess of 50 W PEP in the additional protected areas requested by the Army would cause interference to military radiolocation facilities involved in missile tracking," the League said in its comments, "because the claim made by the Army is not substantiated by any technical information." The proposed

area would include all of New Mexico and all of Texas west of 104 degrees W longitude. The ARRL said it was "not intuitively obvious" that such a large restricted area was necessary.

The ARRL concluded that a 50-W power restriction was "not a substantial burden" on many FM repeater users but that it could mean lowering the outputs of some critical repeaters used for emergency and public service work or taking them off the air altogether. It also could affect so-called weak-signal, experimental and Earth-Moon-Earth operations, the ARRL said. More than five dozen repeaters in the affected region could be affected, the League estimated.

Concerning the wind profilers, the League said it had understood that the National Weather Service--which operates the radars--would notify ARRL of their locations as selected. "Ideally," the League said, "since the amateur repeaters are incumbent in the band now, the National Weather Service should select sites that minimize the effect on those repeaters."

The complete text of the ARRL's comments, the FCC NPRM and other documents are available via the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) site <<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/>>. Click on "Search for Filed Comments" and enter "02-305" in the "Proceeding" field.

SOTA

Summits on the Air (SOTA) encourages portable hilltop operation: Richard Newstead, G3CWI, is encouraging participation by US amateurs in the Summits on the Air (SOTA) program, which promotes portable, hilltop operation. "It started about a year ago, and, so far, seven countries have schemes running," Newstead told ARRL. "The scheme is based on a core set of rules, and each country adds its list of summits to enable it to participate." Newstead says the list of summits need not be comprehensive but must include a mix of easy and difficult peaks. He says there are awards for both activators and chasers. Details are available on the SOTA Web site <<http://www.sota.org.uk>> or by contacting SOTA General Manager John Linfood, G3WGV, <g3wgv@aol.com>.

Disclaimer

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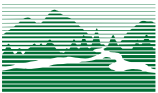
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Part 97 <http://www.arrl.org/field/regulations/news/part97/>

Don't forget to check the TSRC Home Page!
Make it your default start page!
<http://www.w1fn.org>



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