



The Monitor



July 2001

From the Prez:

Summer is now upon us, and I can't think of a more beautiful season in the Upper Valley. We should take some time and reflect on what we have done in the past year, and dream of ways we can improve upon them this year.

One of the things we must do as a club is become more visible, and the summer season is the time to do it. We have several events scheduled, and you should try and help with these events whenever you can. If we become more active with public service, it will help us in the long run when we go after funds for improved equipment to help us do a better job. With everyone out and about a little more often, take a moment to tune up that mobile rig, chat on the repeater, and show off your radio to others.

The newly renovated Comm Van will help bring the club into the spotlight, thanks go to all who have spent tireless hours in the back of that hot metal box to help make it usable for all. Verne, N5IEP was the leading force behind the renovation, and I am sure that it will never be quite finished in his eyes. Soon he will mount the plaque dedicating the van in the memory of Esther Nichols, for without the generous donation made by her family in her memory we could have never finished the van by Field Day.

The Audrey Prouty event is the perfect place to strut our stuff, we can make a big difference if we can show others how effortlessly we can provide a vital service to this event. We need to make sure others see us in a favorable light, not only as expert communicators, but as helping hands when we are so desperately needed. If you are helping out with this event, make sure you have all your gear packed and your batteries charged...

Field Day was very successful this year, we made more QSO's than last year and we got several bonus points this year which should give us a very competitive score in the 4A class. Keep your eyes peeled for the December QST, or for those ARRL members with web access you can get a preview on their Member's Only website in November.

As newly elected President, don't expect too many things to change. Verne has laid an excellent foundation during his tenure, and it will be hard for me to improve upon that. He has agreed to stay on as Vice President, so he really won't be too far from the Executive Committee. Dave Haseman, KE1IW is our new Treasurer, please congratulate him when you get the chance. You can also forward your ARRL membership dues to Dave and he will submit them on behalf of

the club. TSRC gets a very small portion as a result, so anything you can do to help will be greatly appreciated. Also welcome Nancy Maynard back as Secretary for another term. Nancy needs to know if you have any club owned equipment and you can easily email her with the details. We need to make sure all equipment is accounted for and properly signed out as dictated in the By-Laws.

One area where we might improve is TSRC membership. Membership is the bread and butter of the club's yearly operating expenses, and we must make a concerted effort to increase our ranks as best we can. One way you can help is to welcome new people to the area on the 2M repeater. When you hear a new call sign, extend a welcome to them, and mention that TSRC is the sponsor of the repeater. Several people who frequent the repeater already do this, and they go a step further and invite them to the monthly breakfast meeting. Please do what you can to help, the repeater is there for YOUR use, it is a fantastic meeting place, and because it is a wide coverage repeater it can have a very powerful effect if we make a concerted effort to welcome all that choose to use it, even if they are passing thru.

Remember, this newsletter is your outlet as well as mine to have a chance to express your opinions as well as your Amateur Radio prowess, please feel free to submit articles to our esteemed newsletter editor Mike Maynard, K1IH. If you have something that is bugging you or a new toy or other item to show off this is the place to reach everyone. Please remember though, the opinions expressed here are not necessarily that of the TSRC, and the more interesting your article is, the more people will read it.

de Micky K1XH

Upcoming Events

Audrey Prouty Walk/Run	July 7th, Hanover, NH
TSRC Meeting	July 14th, 9:00am Gillam's Restaurant, WRJ, VT
TSRC Meeting	August 11th, 9:00am Gillam's Restaurant, WRJ, VT

Disclaimer

Opinions expressed in The Monitor are those of the individual authors and do not reflect the opinions or policies of The Twin State Radio Club, Inc.

Secretary's report

At the June 9 meeting, we elected the following officers:

Micky Corrow, President
Verne Burden, Vice president
Dave Haseman, Treasurer
Nancy Maynard, Secretary

There was some discussion on whether we should get a new repeater rather than keep fixing the old one. It was also decided to change the way the repeater committee was funded. It is now to be included in the general budgeting process.

The bylaws were amended to read:

Section 2.3 NOMINATIONS - At no later than the April meeting, the Chairman shall appoint a Nominating Committee...

The inventory has been completed. Please, if you borrow any club equipment, let me know. Send me an email (lensmaam@quest-net.com) with what you have borrowed and its serial number (if any). Thanks

Nancy

AFD 2001 Wrap Up

The Special Event Station for Armed Forces Day, 2001 in my opinion was a resounding success on many fronts. First we operated for 4 1/2 hours and make 181 contacts. This was 50 more than last year and with bands conditions that were not the greatest. In fact we were shut out of 10M all day and the other bands were in and out. We also had 13 DX contacts (8 - VE/VO, 3 - G, 1 - 8R1, 1 - 9Y4). We made contacts in 36 states. W1FN was the only Special Event Station operation on Armed Forces Day and many comments on QSL cards thanked us for doing the event. We did the inaugural set-up of the military surplus tower. With just a little head scratching and some field expedient engineering it took a tri-bander with no trouble. We had 16 people involved with the day from set-up through take-down. Special thanks to Mike K1IH, Nancy N1QW, Mike N1ZDR, Kevin KB1EYP, Bunny W1RFP, John N1XOA, Joe W1SIB, Kenn W1KMH, Jeff KB1BYP, Arnie K1BVT, Verne N5IEP, Jake KB1FCX, Neal N1ZRA, Dave KB1BWZ, Robert AA1IR and Mr. John Noll. We had hams come south from Barton, VT, east from the Rutland area and north from Unity, NH to help with the station and make the day. And W1FN has been invited back again next year for our third year. Again, Thanks to everyone who took the time out of their own busy lives to help make this day a success and special to many of the hams we made contact with.

Karl KB1DSB

For Sale

2 meter rig - ADI AR-146 50 watt mobile... box, manual, bracket, mic, fairly new radio shack 5/8 wave mag mount nice condition. \$145.00

Dick - w1wnh, Cornish, NH 469-3671 after 6pm

Field Day Summary

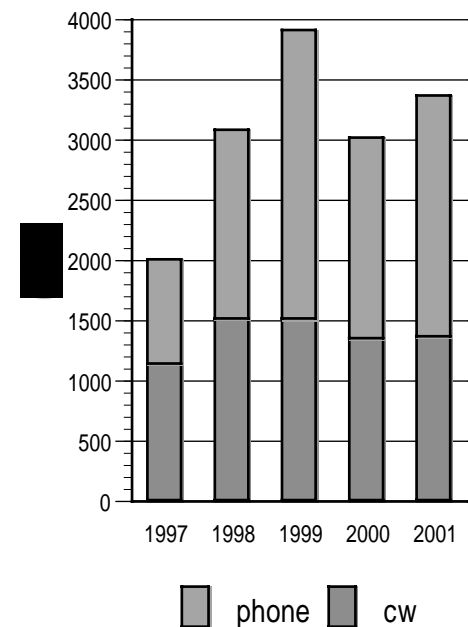
Field Day 2001 was a success for the Twin State Radio Club. Twenty-eight members turned out to help set up, operate and take down gear or to socialize and to enjoy the Saturday evening dinner.

New club equipment contributed to the success. The communications truck provided a snug home to the cw operators. The new AB-577 50-foot tower supported a triband beam for the ssb operators and the new trailer mounted 36-foot tower supported beam antennas for six and two meters.

The 3360 QSOs made during Field Day is an increase of about twelve percent from a year ago. The ssb operators made 59 percent of the QSOs, which is about the same as in previous years. Twenty meters was the most productive band, with 46 percent of all QSOs.

Summary:

Band	CW	SSB	RTTY	Totals
80	301	320	0	621
40	358	382	0	740
20	502	1051	0	1553
15	191	149	1	341
10	6	20	0	26
6	2	77	0	79
Totals	1360	1999	1	3360



QSL card postage jumps a penny on July 1

It will cost another penny to mail a QSL card (postcard) after July 1. The US Postal Service announced in January that it would raise the postcard rate by one cent--to 21 cents. The complete postal rate schedule is available on the USPS Web site, <http://www.usps.com/>.

July Propagation Outlook

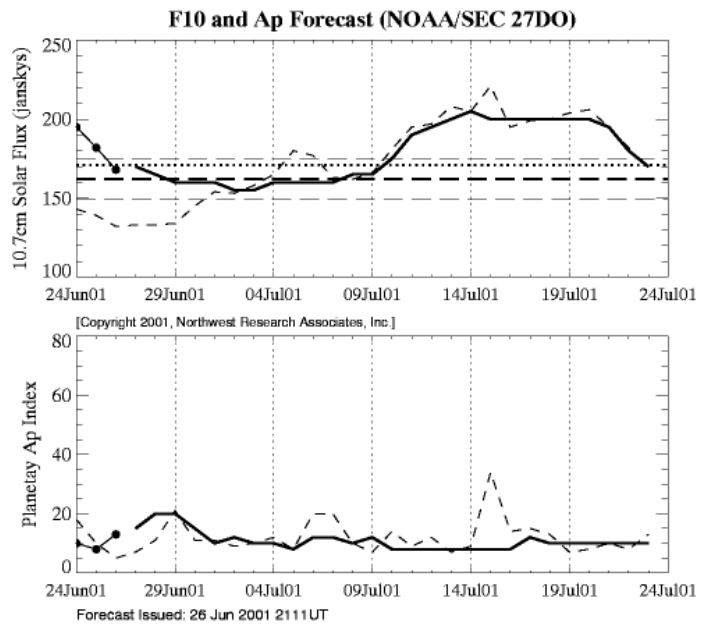
by AD5Q, edited by K1IB

DX conditions during June were very good on the bands that are in season now—20, 17 and 15 meters. Our solar fluxes have been high enough to provide many openings on 15 in the evening and well into the night. When the fluxes were lower, these night path openings didn't perform as well. Since it is now midsummer, daytime Maximum Useable Frequencies are at their lowest. Day path propagation will remain marginal for another month.

The best DX openings are across nighttime paths. Fifteen meters is open most of the day as well, along paths that span both day and night. Europe and the USSR are therefore workable almost any time. Ten meters is gone for the summer, though the southern hemisphere still enjoys good propagation on this band. When solar fluxes are especially high look for 10 meter long path into Europe in late evening and into the far East in mid morning. Most of the activity on 10 will be from North America via evening sporadic E propagation.

Twenty meters is reliable over any night path. During the evening we get the sunrise sweep across Europe, with Asia and the Pacific opening around midnight and good until two hours after our sunrise. Africa comes in short path in late afternoon and long path (with the Indian Ocean) after sunrise. On fifteen, look for an excellent European opening in late evening after 20 peaks to the same area. The exotic Asian stuff comes in with Indonesia in late morning, also after 20 peaks to the same area. When solar fluxes are high enough, 15 opens to the west for long path shortly after sunrise. Fifteen meter nighttime paths will deteriorate for the rest of the year starting now.

There is not much activity on 40 meters, but it peaks to Europe at night along with 20 and to westerly areas at sunrise.



Solar & Geomagnetic Activity Forecast

These plots show forecasts for the 10.7cm solar radio flux (F10) and the planetary geomagnetic activity index (Ap) for the next 27 days (heavy solid lines). The light solid lines and filled circles at the start of each plot are the observed F10 and Ap for the past few days, and the light dashed lines show the observed F10 and Ap from the previous solar rotation. The three horizontal long-dash lines on the F10 plot indicate the mean (heavy line) and expected range (light lines below and above the heavy line) of F10 from the NOAA SEC long-range prediction for Solar Cycle 23.

AMATEUR MORSE TESTING CHANGES EFFECTIVE JULY 1

New Morse code exam standards go into effect Sunday, July 1, for all Volunteer Examiner Coordinators. The new standards call for Farnsworth character speed in the 13-to-15 WPM range and the end of multiple-choice questions for routine Morse code exams.

The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators voted last July to set up the revised standards for the administration of Morse code examinations in the US after amateur restructuring established 5 WPM as the sole Amateur Radio Morse code requirement.

ARRL VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, points out the required change to the Farnsworth protocol replaces the 18-WPM character speed ARRL VEC has used since 1989. "Standard 5 WPM messages with 5 WPM characters are available as an accommodation," he said. "Standard (non-Farnsworth) speed messages are available upon special request from the ARRL VEC for ARRL VE teams." In addition, the Morse exam audio frequency range should be between 700 and 1000 Hz for routine exams.

Consistent with the revised standards, Jahnke said, ARRL VEC

has set 15-WPM characters as its Farnsworth setting and 750 Hz as its audio-frequency standard.

Code practice transmissions from Maxim Memorial Station W1AW will reflect the new Farnsworth standard. W1AW Station Manager Joe Garcia, NJ1Q, says transmissions using the new protocol will begin Monday, July 2. "Any of our code transmissions at speeds below 18 WPM will drop from 18 WPM to 15 WPM character speed," he said. "We will maintain the standard method at speeds above 18 WPM--20 WPM at 20, 25 WPM at 25, etc."

Garcia said the W1AW Web code practice files <<http://www.arrl.org/w1aw/morse.html>> also will be changed to mirror the W1AW transmission protocol. ARRL's Your Introduction to Morse Code cassette tapes and audio CDs also have adopted the new standards.

The new Morse examination standards also affect test administration. After July 1, Morse examinees will have to supply fill-in-the-blank answers for the 10-question Element 1 quiz. Multiple-choice type examinations no longer will be acceptable. Under the new testing regime, Morse code examinees must either correctly answer seven of the ten fill-in-the-blank questions or correctly copy 25 consecutive characters.

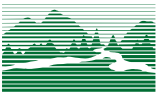
CLUB OFFICERS

President: Micky Corrow K1XH (802) 436-1349
opus@sover.net
VP: Verne Burden N5IEP (802) 295-7545/7533
BurdenV@aol.com
Secretary: Nancy Maynard N1QW (802) 295-6080
Lensmaam@quest-net.com
Treasurer: David Haseman KE1IW (603) 643-4376
David.B.Haseman@dartmouth.edu
Trustee: Dave Landry KA1CRP (603) 448-5788
JDLandry@Quest-Net.com
Editor: Mike Maynard, K1IH (802) 295-2650
Lensman@mindpictures.com

-ELECTRONIC ADDRESSES

*ARRL Website <http://www.arrl.org/>
*Tom Frenaye K1KI-NE Div. Dir. k1ki@arrl.org
*NH ARRL Home Page: <http://www.nh.arrl.org/>
*NH Amateur Radio Home Page: <http://www.nhradio.org/>
*Al Shuman, N1FIK, NH SM n1fik@arrl.org
*Dale Drake, AA1QD, NH ACC aa1qd@ttlc.net
*Bob DeVarney WE1U-VT SM we1u@arrl.org
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.mindpictures.com/TSRC>



Twin State Radio Club, Inc.
PO Box 5078
Hanover, NH 03755