

The Monitor



July 2005

Upcoming Events

- TSRC Meeting July 16, 2005, 9:00 am
DHMC Cafeteria, Hanover, NH
- TSRC Meeting August 13, 2005, 9:00 am
DHMC Cafeteria, Hanover, NH

Message from the President:

This message will be relatively brief, a treat which many of you will certainly welcome.

Twin State Radio Club took a different direction with its Field Day activities this year. In contrast to the traditional 4A effort (four transmitters in use simultaneously) the club mounted a 1A effort, using a single transceiver. This was partly by design and partly because two of the transceivers intended for Field Day use suffered failures in the opening minutes of the event and could not be repaired in time to be used.

As a result, TSRC completed its Field Day activities with a single 15-watt Elecraft K2 transceiver which had been brought along mostly as a conversation piece. In addition to the equipment failures, Field Day began at 1300 on Saturday, June 25th and ended at 2200 the same day. No overnights this year. We operated for just eight hours and only when conversation didn't keep all the operators away from the K2.

The QSO results clearly show the effect of this mishap and the abbreviated operating schedule. TSRC logged only 34 QSOs on four bands and two modes. This fell somewhat short of previous years. In fact, we might have set a new club record for fewest contacts ever achieved. On the other hand, those who joined in found a relaxed atmosphere, a wealth of good food and a variety of interesting and stimulating conversation.

The Field Day guest book bears the signatures of 13 members and guests who stopped by at one time or another. I believe this to be another record for fewest members and guests attending one of our Field Day events. Hidden in these sparse numbers, though, are a few very positive things. For example, there were no injuries during TSRC Field Day 2005. No one stayed up all night trying to eke out a few more contacts to maximize our score. No towers were erected and none had to be torn down. No generators were used, no ground stakes were driven and no hard hats were needed. All in all, this Field Day probably ranked near the top of all recent events for comfort, convenience and safety.

Next year, I hope the club will begin preparing a bit earlier and will find a good middle ground of intensity for Field Day 2006. Something between the Herculean efforts of past years and the sim-

plified event of this year might be just the ticket. I look forward to a Field Day event that combines the best of both efforts and offers something for all members to enjoy and participate in. I will need your help in finding the right combination and I thank you in advance for your assistance.

On a more somber note, I was recently surprised and dismayed to hear some inappropriate ethnic comments transmitted over the W1FN repeater. While I am convinced they were unintentional and not meant to be offensive, they were, nevertheless, inappropriate and unacceptable. They reflect poorly on our club and on amateur radio in general. The club repeater is available for all to use. Along with that privilege goes the responsibility to use it properly.

As always, my thanks go out to our dedicated club officers, William (N8RPD), Nancy (N1QW), Dave (KE1IW) and our newsletter editor, Mike (K1IH) for their efforts on behalf of our club. I am grateful to them. I would also like to extend my special thanks to our outgoing vice president, Ed Feustel (N5IE) for his work during the past year in organizing speakers for our monthly meetings. These quarterly departures from the routine meetings have added some variety and unpredictability to our monthly meetings. Thanks, Ed, for being a one-person speaker committee. Finally, I'd like to thank our treasurer, David Haseman (KE1IW) for his generosity and hospitality in hosting TSRC's Field Day 2005 at his farm in Cornish.

I hope to see you all this Saturday for our rescheduled monthly meeting! Please join me at the DHMC cafeteria at 9:00 a.m.

73,
Charlie Wilber, N1AOK
President, Twin State Radio Club

Silent Key

Richard W. Olmsted, AB1O, passed away on June 23, 2005. He was a long time member of Twin State Radio Club, although he has not been active in recent years. He graduated from Dartmouth in 1934. He came back to the Upper Valley to work for the college ending up in charge of the college's properties. He considered his greatest accomplishments on the job were overseeing the building of the Leverone Field House and Thompson arena. Dick became a ham in order to keep in contact with his second wife's, Emily, parents. He soon built an antenna farm at their house high on Pinnacle Hill in Lyme and became very active in the hobby. In Emily's last days, they moved into the valley, decreasing the ability to participate in the hobby. In 1989, Dick married Mary Bowden, Nancy (N1QW) Maynard's mother, moving into Kendal in Hanover. After setting off the fire alarm a couple of times while transmitting, Dick retired his ham radio gear.

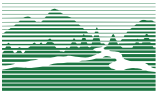
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