



# The Monitor

September 2001



## From the Prez:

Well it is Back To School time, and not only for our kids...and as summer starts to wind down we are starting to look forward to Fall propagation as well as a slew of Hamfests. Most notably is the Hosstraders hamfest, I will definitely be there this Fall (I was in the Bahamas for the Spring session) as the new location at the Hopkinton Fair Grounds seems to be the perfect mix of accessibility and tailgate space.

The GE Mastr II repeater was placed into service on August 25th, and by the sound of it all involved have done an outstanding job. I am certain that there will be a couple of things left to tweak during its implementation, and thanks go to all for allowing the club to place such a fine machine into wide area service.

The September meeting will afford us the opportunity to have Mill, K1IB give a breakdown of our Field Day performance and give all an opportunity to discuss what has transpired as well as what we can do to improve all around. Mill plans on a PowerPoint presentation, I for one look forward to the breakdown of statistics and the opportunity to start planning for next year.

After the September meeting Rex, AA1KL will be erecting his new Glen Martin aluminum tower. He has asked that anyone available to help or interested in viewing the tower contact him, I know I plan on helping out with whatever I can do. Rex has always been available to help me with any of my tower work, and there are actually quite a few experienced members who generally make themselves available to do such work. It is extremely reassuring that we are fortunate enough to have such a talented and experienced membership, please remember that all one needs to do is ask for a bit of help and there is always someone up to the task.

Another event that Rex is involved in is the High Horses program that uses horseback riding as therapy for individuals with disabilities. Again please contact Rex if you can help with this event, it will be held Sunday September 16th at the Cornish Fairgrounds. Rex has expressed the need for 7 more individuals to help, please contact him if you can help in any way. He has emailed those with that capability, and you can contact him by email at [rexgcarr@sover.net](mailto:rexgcarr@sover.net) <<mailto:rexgcarr@sover.net>> or on either the 2M or 440 repeaters.

In closing I would like to mention the need to effectively use the most powerful tool we as amateurs have at our disposal, our VOICE (or key for you CW nuts...) We need to be

especially aware of what is happening in our hobby, and the best way to do that is to keep informed. There is a wealth of information available from the ARRL and FCC, even Congress as of late has had a lot to say about what many of us hold near and dear to our hearts. Whether it is sending a letter to a Senator or inviting a new ham on the repeater to our breakfast meeting, it is YOU and your voice that can make a difference. How it is delivered can sometimes make all the difference, as the medium truly is the message as Marshall McLuhan has so eloquently written. Please be aware of all you can do, we truly are a powerful group and we can certainly form a tremendous lobbying effort if we need to. When someone makes a request to either band together on a common front or asks for your opinion in a matter, use your voice and let them know! We should prepare for many emergencies, and whether it is antenna restrictions, loss of frequencies, or a tremendous snowstorm, it is vitally important that we can do one thing effectively, that is COMMUNICATE.

Micky Corrow - K1XH

## Upcoming Events

TSRC Meeting	Sept 8th, 9:00am Gillam's Restaurant, WRJ, VT
High Horses Ride	Sept 16th, Cornish Fairgrounds, Cornish, NH
ADA Walk-A-Thon	Sept. 30th, 8:30am to 12:00pm Hanover HS, Hanover NH
Hosstraders	October 5,6 Hopkinton, NH
TSRC Meeting	October 13th, 9:00am Gillam's Restaurant, WRJ, VT

## Condolences

We send our heart-felt condolences and best wishes to Micky Corrow (K1XH) and his family on the passing of his mother, Mary T. Corrow on August 28th.

## 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.

## Hartford Tower Ordinance Proposed

The Town of Hartford is now in the process of working up a new ordinance regulating telecommunications in the town. At the moment it has listed Amateur Radio as exempt from regulation for towers 40 feet and lower with a provision for a conditional use permit for taller towers. It appears that tower means tower and antenna. It is rather unclear. I was not able to find just what that condition use process entails in the current version.

I think this is an issue we need to be involved with. The process is that they expect to finalize the draft proposal at a workshop this Wednesday, Sept. 5th after which it goes to public hearings.

With the cooperation of the Hartford Planning Office, I have posted the draft proposal as a .pdf file at <http://www.mindpictures.com/TSRC/telecommregs.pdf>

I urge you to read this proposal and make your voice heard.

Mike Maynard -K1IH

## Tower Raising

Hi, I need some help. On Saturday, September 8 after the club meeting I am hoping to get together 6 to 10 people with able backs to help tilt my 70 ft aluminum tower up to the erect position. Once we are all together it should only take a few minutes. Six should be enough, but more would be better and safer.

If you think that you can help, please let me know. If you need directions please contact me.  
Day 603-643-5254 eve 603-643-4329  
email <<mailto:rexgcarr@sover.net>>rexgcarr@sover.net .

TNX and 73  
Rex G. Carr, M.D. - AA1KL

## American Diabetes Assoc. Walk-A-Thon

I still need some volunteers for the American Diabetes Assoc. Walk-A-Thon.

Date: Sept. 30th  
Time: 8:30am to 12:00pm  
Location: Hanover HS / start, finish  
Needed: 3 rovers / with vehicles; 3 rest stops; 1 start/finish. Breakfast and lunch provided.

If you can help out please let me know.

Thanks  
Verne Burden - N5IEP; Voice & Fax - 802-295-7533

## September Propagation Outlook

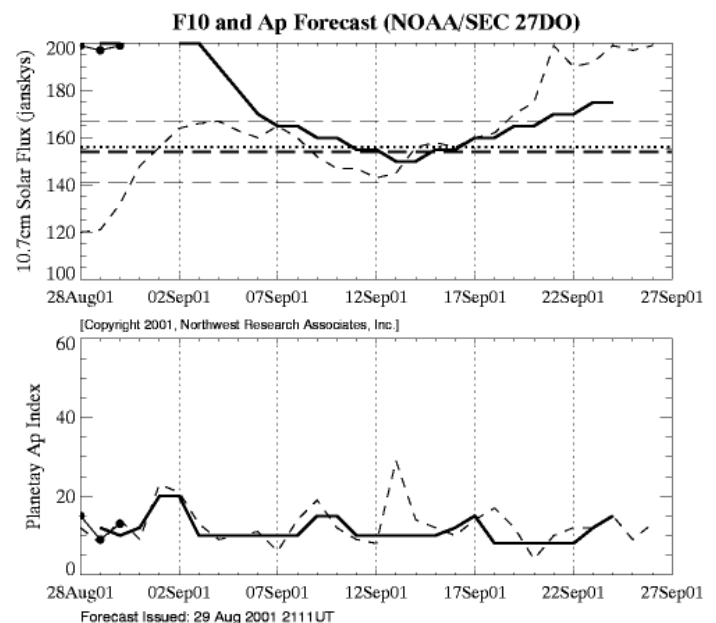
by AD5Q, edited by K1IB

Ten Meters is back! Conditions are improving every day, since this band evolves from a dead summer band to a spectacular DX band in the peak of its season in only two months. There will be plenty of DX on this band for the next several months—until April. Within this period, some months are better than others. Spring DX on 10 is never as good as in the fall (15 is the other way around). During the winter, there are no windows over the pole into the exotic parts of Asia because of the polar night. As Maximum Usable Frequencies are trending down, the band will not stay open long past sunset. Ten is a daytime band, and during winter, propagation is almost exclusively along daylight paths.

The sun sets on the North Pole on 23 September. After October, windows over the pole will be increasingly narrow and difficult. The countries effected are mostly in southern Asia. Look for 10-meter contacts in these countries during September and October in the early morning after sunrise, and in the early evening after sunset. The rest of the world will be consistently workable until next spring.

15 Meters is also good in the fall, though the night path propagation of late spring and early summer is not part of the DX formula. Through the winter it is mostly a daytime band, with a pattern very similar to 10. During the fall, 15 doesn't get the attention it deserves because 10 is so good. Though there is less activity on 15, propagation really is excellent. Many operators will spend most of their time on 10.

For night path propagation, 20 will be the best (as always). Forty-meter activity will increase as we approach winter, but 20 will be the best even then. Low bands are best at night during the bottom of the sunspot cycle, when 20 closes on winter nights and becomes a daytime band (while 10 and 15 are dead). Southern hemisphere long path on 20 will be excellent through spring, in late afternoon and for 2 hours after sunrise.



## Propagation 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. The single horizontal dotted line is the 90-day mean F10 flux for the preceding 90-day period.

## Lower Amateur Radio Vanity Fee Is Effective September 10

The FCC says the fee for a new or renewed Amateur Radio vanity call sign will drop to \$12 on September 10. Applications received on or after that date will be subject to the new fee. The current vanity call sign fee is \$14.

The FCC proposed the lower fee last March in a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for the Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for FY 2001. The FCC has estimated that 8000 applicants will apply for vanity call signs in the current fiscal year.

Earlier this year, the FCC also put paper and electronic vanity call sign applications on an equal footing in terms of processing priority. The FCC used to give priority to electronic applications for vanity call signs.

FCC rules stipulate refunds for applicants who inadvertently overpay a regulatory fee. Applicants who determine that they overpaid a vanity fee may request a refund in writing. Requests seeking a "Vanity Fee Overpayment Refund" go to FCC, 1270 Fairfield Rd, Gettysburg PA 17325-7245. Refund requests should indicate the date of application, the total fee paid, and the total refund owed.

For more information, visit the FCC Amateur Radio Web page, <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/amateur/VanityCS.html>

## ITU Adopts Recommendation On Amateur Qualifications

The International Telecommunication Union has adopted a recommendation that outlines basic qualifications for Amateur Radio operators worldwide. Recommendation ITU-R M.1544, Minimum qualifications of radio amateurs, states that minimal operational and technical qualifications are necessary for proper operation of an amateur or amateur-satel-

lite station. It recommends that any person seeking an amateur license at least be able to demonstrate specific theoretical knowledge of radio regulations, radiocommunication methods, radio systems, radio emission safety, electromagnetic compatibility, and RF interference avoidance and resolution.

"The international Radio Regulations have long required that administrations take such measures as they judge necessary to verify the operational and technical qualifications of any person wishing to operate an amateur station," observed International Amateur Radio Union Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ. "In anticipation of changes that are likely to be made in the amateur and amateur-satellite service regulations at the next World Radiocommunication Conference, the new recommendation provides additional definition to these qualifications without reducing the prerogative of an administration to set its own standards."

Recommendation M.1544 came about as part of the IARU's multi-year effort to prepare for the 2003 World Radiocommunication Conference, where delegates will consider possible revision of Article S25 of the international Radio Regulations.

IARU President Larry E. Price, W4RA, said that establishing uniform minimum qualifications for Amateur Radio operators should help in the area of mutual recognition of amateur licenses for international roaming "and particularly for cross-border movement of amateur operators for disaster communications." Having the recommendation in place, he explained, makes it possible to maintain an ITU document on Amateur Radio operator qualifications within oversight of the ITU-R Study Group and avoids the cumbersome process of modifying Article S25 of the Radio Regulations.

ITU Recommendations are available from the ITU electronic bookshop: <http://ecs.itu.ch/cgi-bin/ebookshop>.-- IARU news release

## Emergency Communications On-Line Course

There's still time to register for the ARRL Intermediate (Level II) Emergency Communications on-line course (EC-002). But, don't delay! The course begins the week of September 3. The Level I class is not a prerequisite. The Level II class offers new tools for those desiring to learn more about emergency communications and net procedures. Visit the ARRL Course Registration Page <https://www.arrl.org/forms/cce> to take advantage of this continuing education training. Each class is limited to 50. New classes open every four weeks. Additional information is available at the ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Web site <http://www.arrl.org/cce>. Be sure to check out the links in the box at the right. Level II course manuals (order item 8519) now are available through the ARRL catalog <http://www.arrl.org/catalog/>. To learn more, contact Certification and Continuing Education Coordinator Dan Miller, K3UFG, [cce@arrl.org](mailto:cce@arrl.org).

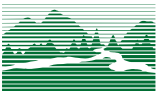
## CLUB OFFICERS

President: Micky Corrow K1XH (802) 436-1349  
opus@vermontel.net  
VP: Verne Burden N5IEP (802) 295-7545/7533  
BurdenV@aol.com  
Secretary: Nancy Maynard N1QW (802) 295-6080  
Lensmaam@mindpictures.com  
Treasurer: David Haseman KE1IW (603) 643-4376  
David.B.Haseman@dartmouth.edu  
Trustee: Dave Landry KA1CRP (603) 448-5788  
JDLandry@innevi.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](mailto: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](mailto:n1fik@arrl.org)  
\*Dale Drake, AA1QD, NH ACC [aa1qd@ttlc.net](mailto:aa1qd@ttlc.net)  
\*Bob DeVarney WE1U-VT SM [we1u@arrl.org](mailto: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