

The Monitor

January 2008



Message from the President

With the Holidays behind us and the 2008 ahead it's a good time to think about what we have accomplished in 2007. I think the club owes a debt of gratitude to Ken Tentarelli, AC1H, for all the excellent programs that we've had this past year. I have looked forward to each meeting's presentation and enjoyed every one.

Another member who certainly deserves our thanks is Dave Colter, WA1ZCN, whose work on the tower made possible our 2m repeater's renewed performance.

Lastly I would thank Dave McGaw, N1HAC, whose ongoing maintenance of our repeaters is a quiet but invaluable service to TSRC.

Many club members contribute time and money to keep our club healthy and interesting and I want to thank everyone who makes TSRC what it is.

See you at the meeting!

William Daugherty
KX1Y

January VHF sweepstakes scaled back this year

TSRC has participated in the ARRL Jan VHF Sweepstakes each year for many years.

As the sunspot activity has dropped dramatically during this present cycle and HF propagation has nosedived, activity on 6M has

Upcoming Events

TSRC Meeting	January 12, 2008, 9:00 am EBA's, Hanover, NH
TSRC Meeting	February 8, 2007, 9:00 am EBA's, Hanover, NH

diminished considerably and, with 6M being the primary scoring band, so has participation in the contest. We seem to be at the bottom now and it looks like this will be a very slow year for activity.

As a result, we plan to scale back the January activity this year to a casual operating activity, minus the Saturday turkey dinner, etc. I will probably work the contest at our QTH for a few hours each day, especially if we get any "peaks" in propagation. Anyone who is interested in joining me for casual daytime operation at our QTH is welcome.

For the future, our plan is to watch the propagation on 6 and return to more active participation in the future. This "lull" in activity will be temporary and we hope to be back with a full-blown contest effort in a couple of years.

The ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes is scheduled from:

1900 UTC Jan 19 - 0400 UTC Jan 21 (2PM Saturday, Jan 19 to 11PM, Sunday Jan 20).

73, Bill WB1BRE

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NH ARES Online Training Sessions

Dave, WA1ZCN

Last week I was officially appointed as the first (in recent memory) NH ARES Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator (ASEC) for Training. I asked Tom for this appointment because I'd come up with a novel way for us to train operators across the state without expensive and time consuming travel. Live on-line training!

I know online training isn't a new concept. Other organizations and industries use the concept for everything from sales pitches to staff training. However, I've never heard of an ARES group doing this.

Here's the way it works. I develop a training script along with any audio or visual support material. The visual support material is uploaded to a section of the ARRL-NH web server. For the actual session, all participants get on EchoLink and connect to the JOTA-E conference node. This node is used only once a year on World Scouting's Jamboree on the Air weekend in October. The rest of the year it's unused.

Any audio files to be played are generated in a specific .wav format acceptable to the EchoLink system. All I have to do is select the file and press the play button at the right time.

Session participants can ask questions while I'm talking by using the text message utility on the lower right hand side of their screen, and I can answer by voice.

These sessions will be held at 7:30 on the 2nd Tuesday and Wednesday evenings of each month, with a vacation in July and August. The Wednesday session is a repeat of the Tuesday session for those who couldn't make the first one. Sessions are designed to last less than one-half hour.

Chris Sloane K1YU hopes to record each session and post it to the East Rockingham ARES website. This will enable everyone who can't make either night the chance to listen. The current month's program is at <http://erockares.blogs.com/w1roc/2008/01/nhares-web-trai.html>. Jim Heedles WW1Y (our Section webmaster) and I hope to also post them on the NH ARES training program website soon. You can visit it by going to <http://ares.arrlnh.org/training/traininghome.html>.

The sessions will cover a wide variety of timely subjects, but are not intended to replace the ARRL's ARECC courses. This month's subject is "how to run a tight directed net." Next month will be on handling agency forms, just in time for the Seabrook drills. The following two months will be dedicated to use of the ARRL Radiogram. If you have ideas for future sessions, I'd love to hear from you.

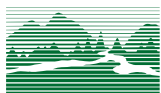
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Don't forget to check the TSRC Home Page!
Make it your default start page!
<http://www.w1fn.org>



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