

The Monitor

Voice of the Twin State Radio Club

December 2009



Message from the President

Well, it's December and we just got our first significant snow storm of the year. Time to start working on those antennas and feed lines! Seriously, I hope everyone has battened down the hatches for the winter months. Should be some better Sun spot activity with the new cycle finally getting underway. We shall see.

This month's issue has a great article by Alan, N1YMQ on the recent joint work between TSRC and Lindsay, K1JY, to enhance the local 440 node of the statewide K1JY linked system. I don't think it's an understatement to say that this system is a critical asset to the New Hampshire amateur community. I am delighted at the progress and I think you will be also.

Speaking of Alan, he was able to get both club trailers registered recently. This is one of the many services Alan has rendered unto TSRC and we should all be grateful. Thanks Alan!

See you at the meeting!

William Daugherty
KX1Y

Upcoming Events

TSRC Meeting	December 12, 2009, 9:00 am EBA's, Hanover., NH
TSRC Meeting	January 12, 2009, 9:00 am EBA's, Hanover, NH

K1JY Repeater Network Gets New Antenna on Moose MT.

The K1JY Repeater on Moose Mountain in Hanover finally got an antenna up on the tower. The previous antenna was mounted on the cable rack's ice bridge and did not have a very good view of our world.

Lindsey K1JY attended our last Repeater Committee Meeting along with our own Repeater Daves, N1HAC and WA1ZCN and myself.

The topic was to figure out a way to improve K1JY without adding another antenna to the already overloaded tower. The Daves and Lindsey figured out a way to feed the former W1FN 440 antenna via the 222 feed line using a triplexer mounted on the tower and one in the shack.



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I had some watertight steel enclosures scavenged from some of my worksites that could be used to house the hardware.

We had a plan, and at a somewhat faster than glacial speed, we started to put it together. Dave N1HAC ordered a suitable triplexer and when it arrived at WHQ (my shop in Canaan); we looked for the right size enclosure. Dave & Dave supplied the cables, connectors, and shrink tubing we would need. Ken AC1H supplied an adaptor.

The selected enclosure had some extra holes we did not need, so Matt W1SKE showed off his continually improving welding skills by filling in the smaller holes and making them disappear with a liberal application of the metal grinder and spray paint. The larger holes were filled with washers, bolts and a gasket. Dave (ZCN) had to finish adding the connectors to the cables, as by this time N1HAC had concocted some lame story about going to Antarctica. I think that is south of Atlanta somewhere! I digress... But as a Ham I thought we were supposed to make a short story long.

With the new triplexer in hand, we headed up Moose Mt to install it. On the first ascent of the mountain we did not install the unit as we did not have the all right mounting hardware to fit the cross braces on the tower, and it was too windy to climb the tower. We made a second assault of the mountain the next weekend and Dave climbed the tower and installed the box. He discovered at this time the connectors on the antenna cable were not correct and another trip would have to be made.

Armed with all the connectors needed, we headed up Moose a third time. Dave climbed up the tower, again, waved to a low flying airplane, and installed all the needed stuff. We had to wait

for Lindsey to connect the other triplexer at his repeater and do some work on it, so Dave and I headed back down the mountain. Back at WHQ could not reach the repeater on the 220 link and discovered we either had a bad triplexer, a cable was faulty or in the wrong port.

Trip #4 and Dave, Matt and Lindsey charged up the hill. Dave found and fixed the connection problem up near the clouds, Lindsey fixed the stuff on the ground, and Matt came a few miles closer to his vehicle warranty giving out.

The range of the repeater is improved and we look forward to receiving some coverage reports. Dave was able to key it up from Sunapee with an HT.

The frequency is 441.95+ with an 88.5 PL tone.

It all now works and here is an explanation from Dave WA1ZCN about the K1JY Network.

'For the first time, we have a usable local connection to a UHF network that covers much of Southern New Hampshire. Other repeaters in the network include the hub on Mt. Kearsarge, and two other satellite repeaters in Deerfield and Gilford. Further efforts are being made to expand the network with a new repeater in Concord next spring, among others. Please test coverage of the 441.95 repeater around the Upper Valley and let us know how it works.' Dave WA1ZCN

Thanks to the efforts of Lindsay K1JY, Matt W1SKE, Dave WA1ZCN, Dave N1HAC and myself we have an added link to the south.

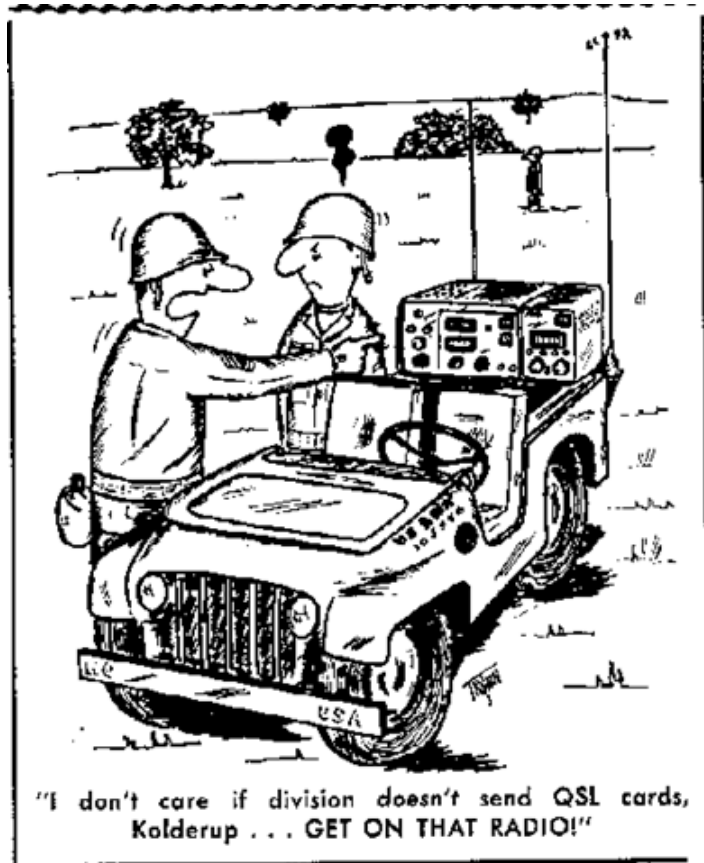
Alan Bradford N1YMQ

This little gem from Dave, KA1CRP:

*"ran accross this reference guide.
good stuff all in one source. thought
i'd share....."*

<http://ac6v.com/dx.htm>

D1"



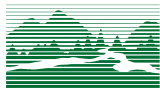
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Don't forget to check the TSRC Home Page!
Make it your default start page!
<http://www.w1fn.org>



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