

The Monitor

Voice of the Twin State Radio Club

February 2009



Message from the President

I neglected to mention last month that along with the New Year comes our annual dues for TSRC membership. Please make sure to submit your renewal to our secretary at the club meeting or via US mail at the address at the end of this newsletter.

I for one need no reminder of the value of TSRC. When I moved to the Upper Valley a few short years ago my warmest welcome was from this very group. My friends and family always marvel at how many good friends I have made since coming to this area.

With the new members coming from the HARP project, Dartmouth activities and transplanted flatlanders like myself it is as important as ever that we keep TSRC strong and vibrant. Only you can make that happen.

See you at the meeting!

William Daugherty
KX1Y

The following is an excerpt for the New London Hospital's recent newsletter:

"HAM Radio Operators Needed. The Emergency Preparedness Team has begun installation of a Ham Radio that will allow for dedicated communication between hospitals in emergency situations. If you are a licensed HAM Operator, or know someone who is, please contact Pamela Drewniak, EMS Coordinator. Our goal is to have a group of operators available to assist with emergency

Upcoming Events

TSRC Meeting	February 14 2008, 9:00 am EBA's, Hanover, NH
TSRC Meeting	March 14, 2008, 9:00 am EBA's, Hanover, NH

***At this Saturday's meeting,
David NIHAC will give a pre-
sentation on the recent ACES
sounding rocket mission
launched from Poker Flat,
AK and the Dartmouth HF
experiment flown on it.***

communication. Please include your License Number in your response. There will be a session to familiarize operators with our HAM Radio set-up in the near future. In addition, we are contacting instructors to set up classes in this area for HAM Operator Licensing."

I would add that NHARES and SGARES are also involved with this effort and TSRC may want to consider a training class in the near future in support of this effort which is part of a state-wide initiative. □

Disclaimer

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January 2009 ARRL VHF Sweepstakes

THE PARTICIPANTS-

Operators- Dave WA1ZCN, Ken AC1H, Bill WB1BRE, Chuck N3WTO, Dave KA1UAG, Dan K1DAN.

William KX1Y- Visited the site on Saturday and loaned us a laptop with Writelog, so that each station could do computer logging!

Dan N1UM and his wife Nat brought cranberry oatmeal cookies, created by Chef Dan!

Ken AC1H brought a delicious carrot cake he had made- thanks, Ken- I love carrot cake!

Dot KA1LDS didn't operate this year, but she provided the vital life line of coffee and the great turkey dinner on Saturday evening!

THE RESULTS- Call sign used - W1FN

BAND (MHZ)	QSOs	POINTS	GRIDS
50	29	29	14
144	59	59	18
222	1	2	1
432	7	14	6
TOTALS	96	104	39

TOTAL CLAIMED SCORE- 4056

STATES/SECTIONS WORKED BY BAND- (This is a flawed listing as some grid squares cover more than one state and the exchanges didn't include state locations.)

50- NH, VT, NY, PA, CT, IL, IA, MI
144- NH, NY, PA, MA, VT, NJ, QUEBEC
222- NH
432- VT, NH, CT

Our score has been submitted to ARRL for tabulation and we should see the official results on the ARRL contest website by October.

THE EQUIPMENT-

Thanks to Ken AC1H, we were able to again run about 375 wts on 2M using Ken's 2M amp and power supply. Dave KA1UAG provided the Kenwood 2M allmode to drive the amplifier. In addition, Dave has his 500 wt 432 amplifier "resident" at our site, where it gets exercised in various contests during the year. Dave also has donated a 22 element 432 yagi and Mill K1IB donated the 5 element 6M yagi several years ago. Many people have helped to make it possible to have a VHF+ contest station that is fun to operate and does pretty well in contests.

As in previous years the rotator motors were of some concern, due to the extended cold weather. I did exercise all three rotators periodically prior to the contest when the sun was out. There was a problem with the position sensing pot on the 6M tower rotator, but I was able to put in a temporary fix using two resistors at the rotor control box. I figure I will wait for summer to take that antenna and rotator down for repairs!!

We did have a problem when using my homebrew 6M amplifier. The output T/R relay developed an intermittent problem which seemed reduce receive sensitivity and caused erratic transmitter operation. We quickly replaced it with Ken AC1H's 2m/6M all mode rig at 100 wts and all was well.

Thanks, Ken for bringing a backup!!

Incidentally, back on the rotators- all three rotators are Alliance HD-73 units. These are no longer manufactured and I scour the fleamarkets for old HD-73 rotators and control boxes. Even non-working units are needed for replacement parts, so if you know of any old unused Alliance HD-73s, please let me know.

THE WEATHER-

Well, I guess you would have to say that the weather "cooperated" this year. We didn't get any snow or wind over the contest period and the temperatures were in the single digits and teens most of the time. For those of you who are veterans of this contest, those are good conditions!! Also, since we had no antenna or rotator failures we were spared the agony of an outside repair

job. Our driveway was clear, but snow covered (what else is new?) and 4wd vehicles made it up fine. We did shuttle some folks and equipment up, thus avoiding cars off in a snowbank along our 0.4 mile driveway. Many thanks to those who did participate, some coming from 50- 60 miles distant.

THE FINAL WORD-

This is always a fun contest with low key operating and good conversations both in the shack and on the air.

On February 7 and 8, we will be working the Vermont QSO party on HF, 6M and 2M and invite anyone to join us on that weekend. We plan to be on the air for the June VHF contest , August UHF contest, and September VHF contest as well this year.

73, Bill WB1BRE

Club email reflector:
TSRC@mailman.qth.net
subscribe at:
<http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/tsrc>

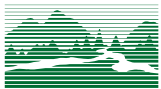
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*ARRL Website <http://www.arrl.org/>
*NH ARRL Home Page: <http://www.arrlnh.org/>
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Part 97 <http://www.arrl.org/field/regulations/news/part97/>

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



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