

The Monitor

Voice of the Twin State Radio Club

April 2009



Message from the President

Congratulations to the new hams resulting from our latest VE session held April 4th at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center. Nine DHMC staff members and one walk-in passed the Technician exam. They are the life-blood of our club and of ham radio as a whole.

Thanks also to the outstanding VE team. With eight VEs it was an extremely efficient and effective session. We administered a total of 14 exams and were completely concluded in one hour!

Speaking of new hams, I had the pleasure of meeting Mary, K1RRX recently on the air. Mary has only been a ham for a short time but like many of us she has combined another hobby with ham radio. She and her husband Bob have a rail caboose that they spend time in while it is parked and on special occasions, while it is riding the rails. Last weekend Mary announced her call on our 145.330 repeater and stated that she was mobile in her caboose in Concord, NH. Well, I had to hear more. She has installed a 2m radio and mag mount in the caboose and now operates while spending time in this unique ham shack. After we had chatted for some time Mary had a QSO with W1RC who talked with her about, you guessed it, Nearfest.

Just when I thought it couldn't get any

Upcoming Events

TSRC Meeting	April 11 2009, 9:00 am EBA's, Hanover, NH
Nearfest	May 1-2, 2009 Deerfield Fairgrounds
TSRC Meeting	May 9, 2009, 9:00 am EBA's, Hanover, NH

A limited number of advance tickets and parking passes for next month's Nearfest event will be available for purchase at the April meeting!

more interesting Jim, K2XC, chimed in from New York State. He was mobile in his car on the western shore of Lake Champlain. Mary was having a ball and I was enjoying listening probably as much as she was operating.

Ham radio is truly a box of chocolates: you never know what you are going to get but it's almost always good!

See you at the meeting!

William Daugherty
KX1Y

Disclaimer

Opinions expressed in *The Monitor* are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policies of The Twin State Radio Club, Inc.

AMSAT News Service Bulletin 088.01
From AMSAT HQ SILVER SPRING, MD.
March 29, 2009
To All RADIO AMATEURS
BID: \$ANS-088.01

On March 25th, 2009 a team from the German space organisation AMSAT-DL reached another milestone on its way to an own interplanetary probe towards planet Mars. The ground station at the Bochum observatory transmitted radio signals to Venus. After traveling almost 100 million kilometers and a round trip delay of about 5 minutes, they were clearly received as echoes from the surface of Venus. Receiving planetary echoes is a première in Germany and Europe. In addition, this is the farthest distance crossed by radio amateurs, over 100 times further than echoes from the moon (EME reflexions).

For receiving the EVE (Earth-Venus-Earth) reflections, an FFT analysis with an integration time of 5 minutes was used. After integrating for 2 minutes only, the reflected signals were clearly visible in the display.

Despite the bad weather, signals from Venus could be detected from 1038UT on until the planet reached the local horizon.

The high power amplifier which is described in the current AMSAT-DL journal has therefore passed this crucial test as a final key component for the planned P5-A Mars mission. By receiving generated echoes from Venus, the ground and command station for the Mars probe has been cleared for operational use and the AMSAT-Team is now gearing up for building the P5-A space probe.

For financing the actual construction and launch, AMSAT-DL is currently in negotiation with the DLR (Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt) among others, to obtain financial support for the remaining budget of 20 Mill EUR.

AMSAT-DL wants to show that low-budget interplanetary exploration is possible with its approach.

More information and the link to the official press release:

http://www.amsat-dl.org//index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=166&Itemid=97

The EVE experiment was repeated on Thursday, March 26th for several hours with good echoes from Venus. Morse code was used to transmit the well known „HI“ signature known from the AMSAT OSCAR satellites.

73s de DB2OS

Peter Guelzow
President AMSAT-DL

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"Harold!!! What are you doing wasting money on more USELESS radio equipment!!!"

Club email reflector:
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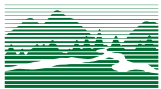
CLUB OFFICERS

President: William Daugherty, KX1Y (603) 359-3745
william@will-do.com
VP: David McGaw, N1HAC david@endor.com
Secretary: Bill Brown, KB1MOV
bill.brown.tu78@alum.dartmouth.org
Treasurer: Chuck Sherman N3WTO (802) 765-9630
chuck.sherman@dartmouth.org
Trustee: Dave Landry KA1CRP (603) 448-5788
daveka1crp@verizon.net
Editor: William Daugherty, KX1Y

ELECTRONIC ADDRESSES

*ARRL Website <http://www.arrl.org/>
*NH ARRL Home Page: <http://www.arrlnh.org/>
*Tom Frenaye K1KI-NE Div. Dir. k1ki@arrl.org
*Dale Drake, AA1QD, NH ACC aa1qd@arrl.net
Part 97 <http://www.arrl.org/field/regulations/news/part97/>

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Twin State Radio Club, Inc.
PO Box 5078
Hanover, NH 03755