



The Monitor

Voice of the Twin State Radio Club

April 2010



Message from the President

This past week on April 5th, 2010, National Public Radio aired a wonderful piece on the “not-dead-yet” status of Amateur Radio. For those who haven’t heard it or read the transcript, it is worth reviewing.

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=125586086>

In the piece the author points out that even in the age of the Internet with all its social networking elements, ham radio still has unique value and a storied history and tradition, unlike anything in the purely digital domain. And there are no monthly fees!

What a great bit of exposure for us this was. The real surprise for me was that since 1981 the number of licensed hams in the US has increased by 60%. That’s not a typo: a 60% increase! Reports of our demise have been greatly exaggerated.

The next day I got an email from Pat in Weare, NH. She said that she just heard the piece and wanted to know how to get started. She had always wanted to become a ham but didn’t think she could pass the code elements. This was the first time she had heard those were eliminated and she was very excited. Pat couldn’t make the meeting this weekend but she will be at NEARfest and has committed to preparing for her Technician exam and coming to our May meeting.

Ham radio going the way of the Dodo? I don’t think so.

See you at the meeting!

William Daugherty
KX1Y

Upcoming Events

TSRC Meeting	April 9, 2010, 9:00 am EBA’s, Hanover, NH
NEARfest	April 30, May 1, 2010, Deerfield, NH
TSRC Meeting	May 8, 2009, 9:00 am EBA’s, Hanover, NH



Photo accompanying the 4/5/10 NPR segment

AMSAT Presentation

Twin State Radio Club welcomes everyone to a very special program as part of our May meeting. Barry Baines WD4ASW, President of AMSAT (The Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation) will be our featured speaker. Barry has been an AMSAT member since 1981 and has been licensed for 33 years, having earned his Extra Class license in 2000. He worked his first satellite, AO-10 in 1982 and has been active in satellite operations

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ever since.

Barry has held many positions in AMSAT, including Vice President of Field Operations, AMSAT Integration Lab volunteer, and member of the AMSAT Board of Directors as VP- Marketing and User Services, Secretary, VP-Special Projects and now AMSAT President.

Barry has an MBA from the University of Florida and served six years with the US Navy as a Surface Warfare Officer and he was employed by CSX Corporation in Jacksonville, FL for over twenty two years.

There are a number of very exciting programs in progress in the world of Amateur satellites, including Cubesats and Fun-sats and Barry will be

presenting the “latest and greatest” at this meeting. Hear about operating the current “fleet” of satellites in orbit, current projects and much more from the man “in the know”!!

If you are an AMSAT member, this is an opportunity to meet and hear the organization president right here in our local area. If you are interested in satellite communications or have not looked at this aspect of Ham Radio, this is a chance to hear and see what it’s all about. Please join us on Saturday, May 8 at 9:00 AM at Wilder Hall room 104 at Dartmouth College. Coffee and doughnuts will be provided.

73, Bill, WB1BRE

Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation (as AMSAT is officially known) was first formed in the District of Columbia in 1969 as an educational organization. Its goal was to foster Amateur Radio’s participation in space research and communication. AMSAT was founded to continue the efforts, begun in 1961, by Project OSCAR, a west coast USA-based group which built and launched the very first Amateur Radio satellite, OSCAR, on December 12, 1961, barely four years after the launch of Russia’s first Sputnik.

Today, the “home-brew” flavor of these early Amateur Radio satellites lives on, as most of the hardware and software now flying on even the most advanced AMSAT satellites is still largely the product of volunteer effort and donated resources. Though we are fond of traditions our designs and technology continue to push the outside of the envelope.

For over 41 years AMSAT groups in North America and elsewhere have played

a key role in significantly advancing the state of the art in space science, space education, and space technology. Undoubtedly, the work now being done by AMSAT volunteers throughout the world will continue to have far-reaching, positive effects on the very future of both Amateur Radio, as well as other governmental, scientific and commercial activities in the final frontier. Rarely have a group of “amateur” volunteers managed to do so much... for so many...with so little.



CVFMA will be having a General Membership Meeting April 18, 2010 at the American Legion, Windsor, VT - Potluck lunch at 12:00, meeting to follow. Special Guest Speaker will be Barrie Crampton, VE3BSB, who will be speaking about the Canadian BalloonSat project that used the W1UWS APRS node to recover the payload. Details at www.cvfma.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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