



SIGNAL

March 1996 Volume 5 Number 3

From The President's Desk



It has taken a few years, but we have finally gotten our act, and the necessary paper work, together and been approved for Special Service Club (SSC) Status. I believe the club has always been an ARRL Affiliated Club and we will continue to be. But it took some extra work for SSC.

When I first looked into the SSC information it looked like there was a lot to it, and there is. The League expects that SSC's will be well rounded clubs providing many services to their members and communities. The book that describes the requirements and gives examples of how to fulfill the requirements is over one hundred pages long. When I read through the book I realized that if there were any requirements that we did not meet, we probably should. They all make sense for one reason or another.

Although every club is different, it would be hard to argue that any of the requirements are not plusses. In fact NVARC did all of the things that were required (maybe because we read it in the book). It just needed to be written up. The SSC application is not a check list, but an essay on how the club is active in seven areas. They are;

- New Ham development and training
- Public Relations
- Emergency Communications
- Technical Advancement
- Operating Activities
- Miscellaneous activities

So I wrote up the first draft about two years ago and submitted it to the Affiliated Club Coordinator for preliminary review. The re-

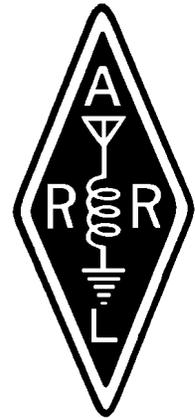


sponse was positive but we never followed up. This past fall I gave copies of the application to the officers and board members for review. We

did a couple of rounds of adjustments and submitted it to Larry Ober the Affiliated Club Coordinator for approval. It then went to the Section Manager, the Division Director, and then on to the ARRL for final approval.

Some might wonder why we should be an Affiliated Club or seek SSC status. It isn't to collect on a pile of gifts or benefits for sure. It is more in line with the reason we sponsor classes or help our club members upgrade by Elmering. It's because that's how we think it should be. It's what makes us feel good about our hobby and sets it apart from most others. The award of

SSC status to NVARC affirms that the ARRL also thinks that what we are doing is good and worthy of note.



Kenwood World Maps

At the January meeting we had a Kenwood Video and sign up sheet for those wanting a Kenwood World Map. The maps have come in so I will try to get them to you or bring them to the meeting.

Stan

SKYWARN

I have been contacted by Rob KD1CY the SKYWARN training coordinator. There is interest by the National Weather Service (NWS) to improve the SKYWARN Network. This involves getting the nets better established so they can function in times of severe weather. It also means training the weather spotters.

For those unfamiliar with the SKYWARN program, it is a program for volunteers to become weather spotters for the NWS. Despite the advances in technology, the NWS uses spotters to validate reports and to supply information not collectable by instruments. Things like the size of hail stones, spotting of a funnel cloud, or high local winds are important data not collectable any other way.

Although you do not have to be an amateur radio operator to be part of the SKYWARN program, you must be to participate in the nets run on amateur frequencies. The training for SKYWARN is given by NWS meteorologists and takes about one and one half hours.

They are planning to do the training regionally. This will allow them to reach more people in a meeting. I plan to attend one of these sessions and will be in contact with ROB as the plans develop. If anyone else is interested let me know and I can keep you informed. We can also carpool to the session.

The training covers what to report and how to quantify it. Things like estimating wind speed, the size of hail, reporting damage or flooding.

Anyway, if your interested let me know. If you have any questions ask, I can always pass them on to Rob. Weather spotting can be fun and a lot of it is done from your car while your commuting. So it's not a lot of extra work. You just need to know what to report so it will be of use.
Stan

This Month and Beyond

Bring 5 QSL cards you have received to discuss at the meeting.

This months meeting activities are all based around QSL cards. Don Haney KA1T will talk about the functioning of the incoming W1 QSL Bureau. That's how we get all those great cards. Then we will participate first hand in that function by helping sort QSL cards so they can be sent to the individual sorters. All of this will be explained at the meeting. In addition

we will have members bring their 5 favorite or most interesting or whatever, QSL cards to discuss with us.

To accomplish the sorting we need a box for each person to sort cards into. If you have a shoe box or something smaller like a cardboard envelope box that is the size to fit postcards it will help if you bring it. You also need to make 26 letter dividers A-Z out of some material like a file folder to fit the box. We will have some boxes on hand

Upcoming Public Service Events

The following events for which we provide communications are coming up. Put them on your calendar.

Groton Road Race	April 28
Erik KA1RV	448-5536
Harvard Bike Race	June
Pepperell Road Race	July 5
Pepperell 4 th July Parade	July 6 (noon)
Bike Race Leominster	July 4,5,6,7
Groton Septemberfest	Sept
Pepperell Soccer Tournament	Oct

For the Groton Road Race there will be a training meeting on Saturday the weekend before the race. That is Sat Apr 20 at 2:00 PM at the Groton Fire Station.

Jeremy

Hello all. Recently my dad and I switched Internet providers from III Net, out of Fitchburg, to TIAC, that is based in Boston (I think). Well, after one weekend of HTML building etc., I finally have my home page(s) setup. I have one personal one (<http://www.tiac.net/users/rogerwb/>), and I have a ham radio, and a European trip one that are both linked from the my personal page. I have a lot of cool links on my personal and ham page and there are some neat pictures on my European page. So feel free to take a look and Email me with any comments.

73's 4 now -Jeremy
E-MAIL: jermb@rogerwb.tiac.net

Well March 4th, I turned the big 16, so you all can imagine what is on my mind. Driving! I got my Driving Permit on my birthday so the next step is Driver's Education. I start that on March 18th. The bad part is that I have to go to the classes 3 times a week and one of those

days is on Thursday. So I will not be able to attend the next 2 meetings and April's board meeting, (unless there is a lot of snow or something). Well 73's to everyone 4 now and I will look forward to seeing everyone during May's meeting.
Jeremy

Club Gets Publicity

In the Times Free Press Community Guide for February 28 there was an article about NVARC. Actually it covered a range of Ham Radio subjects any one of which could have been an article. The reporter interviewed me about the club but it seemed we were covering a lot of other ground and we were. There were a few areas where the "facts" got mashed around. But in general it was a good article and as such we take publicity whenever we can get it.

Stan

Advancements

As I said last month **CONGRATULATIONS** to the following members and now we have the new calls that go with the accomplishments.

Bob	KE1ED (N1UPQ)	Advanced & 20 WPM
Herm	KE1EC (N1TVC)	Advanced
Jim	AA1PO (N1TVD)	Extra
Ralph	KD1SM	Extra

Meeting notes from February 15

At the February meeting Len KB2R spoke about his DXpedition to 4U1ITU, the International Telecommunications Union. They have a considerable station there that is available to be run by joining the club. Len was fortunate to have the run of the station for the 1994 IARU HF Contest. Due to the location there are no licensing arrangements to be made as there are with other countries.

Elections Next Month

Next month we hold elections for club officers and board members. I hope everyone will give real thought to taking one of these positions. None of the jobs require that you be an expert at any or all of amateur radio, you also don't need to be an expert at parliamentary procedure since we don't use it (unless you decide you want to). The club will be four years old

when elections arrive and half the officers will have held some office for three or more years. I'm sure they have some other activity they would like to work on.

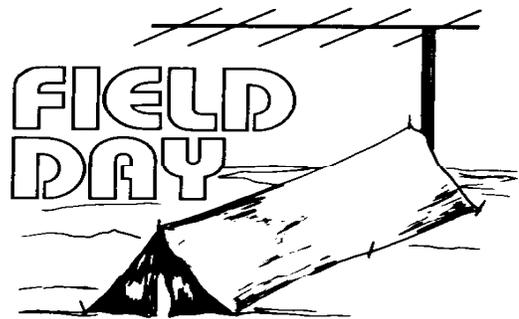
Think about being a candidate. The current staff will be around to help anyone who wants to try a position. So don't feel you have to learn it all or do it all by yourself.

Field Day

HF CW STATION

Bruce K1BG, Stan KD1LE

HF PHONE



Herm KE1EC, Bob KE1ED

POWER

Craig N1ABY, Ben KB1FJ

NOVICE STATION

John KA1ZTU, Wolfgang WA1VOU

SITE PERMISSIONS/PUBLICITY / SIGNS

Earl WR1Y, Dave N1MNX

ARRL Bulletin

NEWINGTON CT FEBRUARY 7, 1996
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS

Hams are helping a Bosnia-bound us army mobile am radio station in Fort Meade, Maryland, test its broadcasting capabilities. The station, assisted by a group of amateur radio am enthusiasts in the Washington, dc, area, seeks reception reports. Fred Cresce, KC4MOP Butch Ickes, WB3HUZ and Paul Courson, WA3VJB, are staffing the new army broadcast service station on 1670 KHz and using the call letters

KTRK. The frequency is in the newly expanded standard broadcast band.

Courson, a broadcaster with Dow Jones, says the station began broadcasting around the clock February 5 and so far has received reports from as far away as Colorado. He said he and the other hams were brought in to help specifically because of their am activity on the amateur bands. The 5000-w transmitter is working into a 140-foot vertical antenna the hams helped set up and tune. KTRK will continue broadcasting from Fort Meade until February 9. Then, the portable station will be packed up for transport to Bosnia, where it will be set up to entertain and inform us troops stationed there.

Reception reports go to the army broadcast service, 601 north Fairfax St, Alexandria, Va 22314. Write DX on the outside of the envelope.

DX Bulletin 14

From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT March 7, 1996

This week's bulletin was made possible with info provided by Mauro, I1JQJ, Johnny, LA5IIA, Morten, LA9GY, Uwe, DL9GOA, Tedd, KB8NW, the OPDX Bulletin and Contest Corral from QST. Thanks to all.

TONGA, A3. Morten, LA9GY, will operate from Tonga March 16 to April 4, including action in the CQ WW WPX contest. He hopes to secure use of the call A35GY. Morten prefers CW but will operate some SSB. QSL via LA9GY.

VIETNAM, 3W. Nikolay, UA0FM, continues to keep 3W5FM on the air daily from 1400z on 7005 kHz CW and from 1530z on 7045 kHz SSB. These skeds are with Sergey, UA0WY, running the list. QSL direct to PO Box 66, Vladimir, 600011, Russia.

WESTERN SAHARA. EA3NY plans to operate in the CQWW SSB WPX contest March 30 and 31 on 80 through 10 meters, probably as S01EA.

SOMALIA, T5. I4LCK and IK4SDY will be active from Majo Island, IOTA AF-052, March 27 to April 3 on 160 through 10 meters with 500 watts to vertical and dipole antennas.

FALKLAND ISLANDS, VP8. DA4RG, will sign VP8BPZ from mid-May to mid-September. He plans to operate SSB only, not nets or lists. QSL via GW8VHI or DA4RG.

MYANMAR, XZ. According to Wayne, KF7AY, things still look very promising for the April XZ1N DXpedition, though some regulatory matters between the Myanmar military and related

ministries need to be ironed out. Word from Yangon is encouraging, however.

NVARC Slow Speed Net

The net meets Tuesday and Thursday at 8:00 P.M. on 28.123 MHz.

Except the third Thursday of the month, that being the club meeting night.



\$The Treasurer's Report \$

Income for February was \$142.00 (one member renewed for more than one year; thanks! And we received the reimbursement from the Town of Pepperell for the latest class.)

Expenses were \$29.70. Current balances: General Fund \$478.37, Educational Fund: \$207.34. Remember—if your ARRL membership is up for renewal, save yourself a stamp by giving it to me to send in for you. Same for a new membership; part of your dues comes directly back to the club if you do this. 73 /Ralph



*Are your dues paid up?
We have one member paid up till 1999.*

Board Meeting Notes



The March Board Meeting was held on the 14th. We selected three people to act as a nominating committee. They will be contacting people to see if they are interested in taking on a club position. If you would like a position you can call Craig Kalley, Earl Russell or Bob McArthur.

We discussed Field Day but continued any further action till after the elections.

We also discussed future options for presentations at the meetings. There were several interesting suggestions and we just need to

arrange a speaker and or equipment to make them happen.

NVARC QSL BUREAU

The NVARC Buro sent out two pounds of cards since the last meeting.. As always, we will ship them out as soon as we get enough to make it worth while.

Bring your cards and a QST label to the meeting or to breakfast and the club will take care of the shipping and bureau fee.

AMSAT News

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 035-01
FROM AMSAT HQ SILVER SPRING, MD Feb-
ruary 4, 1996

A series of Qualification Shock Tests have just been successfully completed for the Phase 3-D Specific Bearing Structure (SBS). The SBS is the structure that will be used to carry the Phase 3D spacecraft to orbit during launch. These tests were conducted in cooperation with the personnel at the US Air Force's LMSIL Survivability and Vulnerability Integration Center, at Little Mountain, Utah.

The tests exposed our P3D-SBS structure to the shock environment that is expected to be encountered on the Ariane 5 vehicle during launch. Following the shock exposure tests the performance of the spacecraft's separation system (in full-up, flight configuration) was also demonstrated.

The success of both of these tests has confirmed that our Phase 3D SBS design will withstand both the launch environment as well as to insure the P3D spacecraft will separate cleanly from the SBS after launch.

The Phase 3D Project is indebted to the Little Mountain Test Facility personnel for their help in completing these important tests.

ANS thanks Dick Jansson WD4FAB for the information.

Train Wreck

SB SPCL ARL ARLX007
ARLX007 Hams help in train crash

Ham radio stepped in to help after a freight train carrying liquid propane derailed early on the morning of March 4 in Weyauwega, Wisconsin. One tanker car exploded, and others caught on fire. As of March 7, six cars carry-

ing liquid propane were burning. Authorities have evacuated 1700 residents of the town, west of Appleton in Waupaca County, fearing another explosion. Fire officials say the fire may burn for several days, and residents won't be allowed back in until the fire burns itself out. Among those evacuated were residents of two nursing homes.

Waupaca County EC Bob Krueger, N9BKF, said the Wisconsin Division of Emergency Government called the hams in immediately after the incident. He reported that ARES volunteers from several counties were working in three shifts around the clock to provide communication for emergency personnel and for the American Red Cross, which has set up two shelters in the town of Waupaca. Krueger, who's also RACES officer for Waupaca County, said the Amateur Radio network is using a couple of 2-meter repeaters to support communication at the incident command post and at a staging area back from the scene. He said ham radio was helping to relieve the burden on the public service communication system and would be available if telephone systems should fail. Hams also were providing health-and-welfare traffic.

RACES volunteers were handling long-haul traffic from the scene on 75 meters to the state Division of Emergency Government and the Red Cross in Madison, the state capital.

PRB-1

ARRL BULLETIN 9 ARLB009
FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS
NEWINGTON CT FEBRUARY 15, 1996

The ARRL wants the FCC to take additional steps to compel state and local governments to make reasonable accommodation for amateur radio under prb-1 and apply the least restrictive means to regulate amateur antennas and activity. In a petition for rulemaking filed February 7, the league calls on the FCC to amend section 97.15(e) to say that any state or local ordinances restricting ham radio antennas to heights below 70 feet would be presumed unreasonable, unless the state or local authority could show its restrictions support a clearly defined health, safety or aesthetic objective. State and local governments also could not impose substantial application costs on amateur service licensees.

The league also wants the FCC to acknowledge that it has an interest in the effective performance of amateur radio stations in areas regulated by deed restrictions or restrictive

covenants rather than by local zoning ordinances.

The league says clarifying the preemption policy (PRB-1) would help guide municipalities to enact provisions that make fair accommodation for amateurs and avoid highly divisive litigation between hams and localities.

Under the suggested changes, state and local governments could apply to the commission for a full or partial waiver of the amended rules in unusual circumstances.

The FCC has not assigned a rulemaking petition (rm) number.

Here is the suggested wording of section 97.15(e) the petition Requests:

(1) State and local regulation of a station antenna structure must not preclude amateur service communications. Rather, it must reasonably accommodate such communications it must constitute the minimum practicable regulation to accomplish the state or local authority's legitimate purpose and it must not impose substantial costs on amateur service licensees.

(2) Any state or local antenna restriction or regulation which, on its face or as applied, would limit amateur station antennas to heights below 70 feet is presumed unreasonable unless the promulgating authority can demonstrate that such regulation is necessary to accomplish a clearly defined, and expressly stated health, safety or aesthetic objective that there is no less burdensome alternative to the regulation and that the federal interest in efficient amateur radio communications from the amateur station at issue is otherwise reasonably accommodated.

(3) Any state or local authority, or other entity that wishes to maintain and enforce zoning, land use or other regulations or restrictions inconsistent with this section may apply to the commission for a full or partial waiver of this section. Such waivers may be granted by the commission in its sole discretion, upon a showing by the applicant that local concerns of a highly specialized or unusual nature create an overwhelming necessity for regulation inconsistent with this section. No application for waiver shall be considered unless it includes the particular regulation for which waiver is sought. Waivers granted according to this rule shall not apply to later-enacted or amended regulations by the local authority unless the commission expressly orders otherwise.

From the Video Library

The Video Library has seven titles to loan.

- **The Last Voice From Kuwait**
- The all China DF Competition
- **Your League at Work**
- **Signal to Noise Story**
- **Gonzaga Prep HS Radio Club Satellite Communications**
- **The New World of Amateur Radio**

You can get them anytime you can catch me at home, and I will bring the available tapes to each meeting. Stan

Resource List

Construction	Earl Russell	448-5822
DX	Bruce Blain	772-4138
NTS, MARS	Stan Pozerski	433-5090
RACES	Ben Akins	433-9227
TCP/IP	Ralph Swick	582-7351



Nashoba Valley Amateur Radio Club

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V Pres.: Bruce Blain K1BG
Secretary: Jeremy Bisbo KB1AWE
Treasurer: Ralph Swick, KD1SM
Editor: Stan Pozerski KD1LE
PIO: Earl Russell WR1Y

Meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of the month - 7:30 p.m. - Pepperell Community Center
Talk-in 146.490 simplex

This newsletter is published monthly. Submissions, corrections and inquiries should be directed to the newsletter editor. Articles and graphics in most IBM-PC formats are OK.
Packet address: PEPMBX (145.09 MHz)