



SIGNAL



de N1NC

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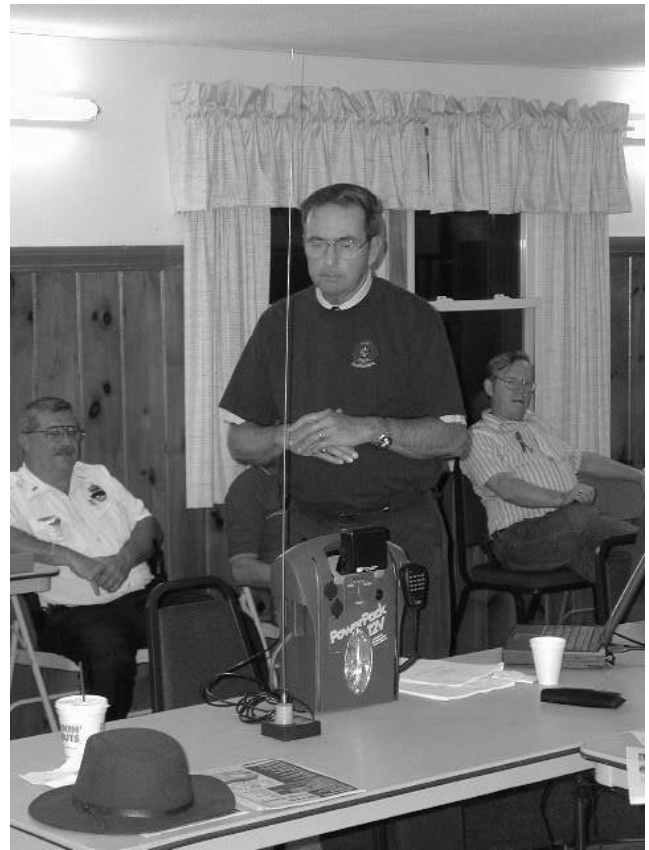
This Month's Meeting

This month's meeting program will be a QSL card sort for the W1 QSL bureau. We have received three cases of cards and need only sort them and mail them back. It's a lot of fun and you get to see the variety of QSL cards people receive. The sort will be followed by pizza and soft drinks provided by the club.

Last Month's Meeting



Last month's meeting presentation was on Emergency communications for hams by Terry Koen N1IWF. Terry is a retired Boston Fire Captain. Terry's presentation was on where hams fit in the communications picture when management of a disaster shifts to the Incident Command System (ICS). This is a system that was developed to manage large incidents like wild fires and disasters where there can be large numbers of personnel and multiple jurisdictions involved.



Above and below are two views of a base station Terry uses for emergency communications. It is based on a power pack sold as an emergency jump starter for your car. The unit has a battery, charger, and auxiliary cigarette lighter type receptacles built in. Add a mobile rig and a magnetic mount antenna and you have a base station ready to go. The lower view shows the mobile radio mounted permanently to the back of the power pack.



W1ZBT, Jim AA1PO, Pat N1VAW, Don N1HVA, Bob W1XP, Herm WW1HR, Bob KB1GID, Stan KD1LE.

Antenna Measurement Class Offering

After buying an MFJ Antenna Analyzer, Ben, KB1FJ, mentioned to me that he could use a course on how to use it. We discussed this a bit more, and I have given it some thought. The MFJ Antenna Analyzer is actually a self-contained antenna measurement instrument. These instruments and other similar units by other manufactures have become available at affordable prices over the last ten years. A review of one of the MFJ antenna analyzers was featured in the Signal several years ago. Over the years these devices have progressed from simple SWR indicators to complex impedance measurement devices. With this increase in features there is also an increase in confusion in how to use the device to best advantage. The proposed course would be directed to explaining the physical significance of the measurements being attempted and the practical reasons for making such measurements. I don't see this as a class with the instruction manual in one hand and the antenna analyzer in the other. But I do see it as a non-mathematical review of simple transmission line theory and complex impedance. The class would consist of a session on theory followed by practical demonstrations, and hands on work. The intent is to keep the class size small and informal. I am thinking of two or three two-hour sessions probably held on a Thursday night that is not a club meeting night at the Community Center. The time frame that seems reasonable at this point is probably after the first of the year. This allows you to ask Santa for an Antenna Analyzer for Christmas. If you are interested please let me know. 73 Bob W1XP



Above is Terry talking to Lt. Jack Balonis from Groton PD. Jack thanked us for our support of the Groton Road Race. He said they couldn't do it without us.

Adopt A Highway

We had a great turn out for the September cleanup. Thanks to the following members for their support; Ralph KD1SM, Wolf KA1VOU, Ian NZ1B, Erik

Jimmy Fund Marathon

On September 30th Ralph KD1SM and Stan KD1LE helped provide communications for the Red Cross and walker support stations along the course of the Jimmy Fund Marathon. About 9000 walkers participated. The course follows that of the BAA Marathon. While some people do walk the entire distance many start from points closer to Boston. The walker aid stations provide snacks, water, and first aid services.



“You say we have to eat all the banana’s we don’t give to the walkers?”



Pete KD1QS manning the Red Cross station.

Pepperell Fall Classic Soccer Tournament

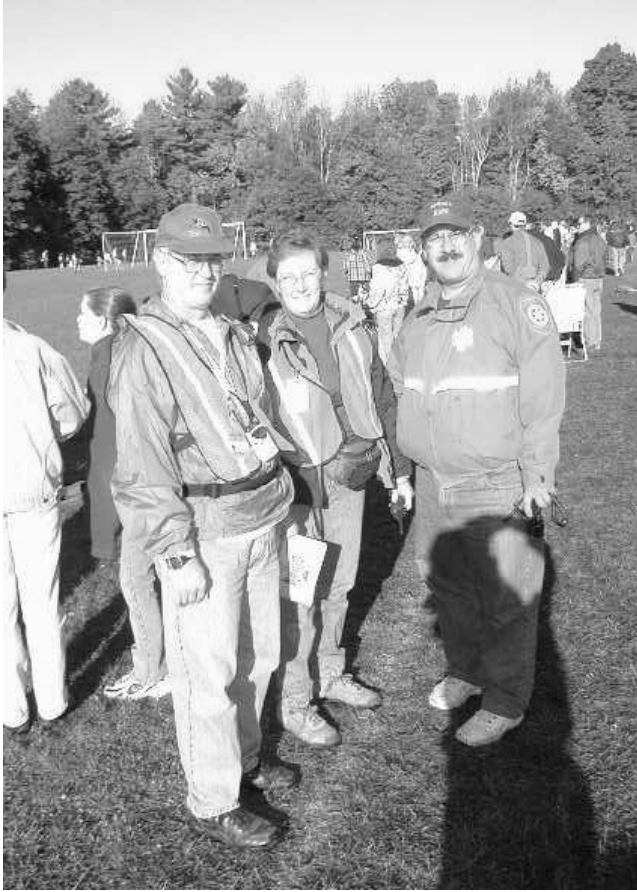
Here is the soccer activity on one of the eight fields active behind the school.



Columbus Day Weekend we supported the three-day soccer tournament. We set up in the Information tent on the Town Field with the officials and team registration people. The organizers managed the event differently this year with a team registration and official tent on the Town Field and one at the Varnum Fields. This proved to be a good arrangement as there was less running around for the officials. Trophies were distributed from both sites which cut down on the movement of the teams at the end of competition.



Ian manning the Net Control Station and staying out of the hot sun.



Stan KD1LE, Linda N1UPR, and Jim Casserly EMT manning the sidelines.

Thanks to Ian for organizing this activity and the following people supported it.

Ian NZ1B (SaSu) Ralph KD1SM (SaSuMo), Linda N1UPR (Su), Stan KD1LE (SaSuMo), Den KD2S (Sat), KB1ESR (Sat), Greg N1VAV (Sa), Wolf KA1VOU (Sa), Stu K1YET (Sa), Lynda N1PBL (Sa), Dave N1MNX (Su), Rod WA1TAC (Su), Gary K1YTS (SuMo), Karen KA1JVU (Mo), Bob W1XP (Mo), Don N1HVA (Mo), Ken K1JKR (Mo)

Board of Directors Meeting

The Board meeting was held October 11th at the KA1RV QTH. In attendance were Bob W1XP, Erik KA1RV, Den KD2S, Ralph KD1SM, and Stan KD1LE. Erik brought the meeting to order at 7:30. The following items were discussed; future meeting programs, Ralph gave a financial report, there was a discussion about having a stencil made to mark items like safety vests as belonging to the club, Den took on a task to determine the price of having a club patch made, Bob brought up a suggestion he had been given to run a short class on analyzing antennas using the MFJ antenna analyzer. We are supporting the

Bay State Marathon on October 21st and need a few more people.

Miscellaneous Pics



Grumpy newsletter editor working on the newsletter at 6:05 in the morning.



The Prez getting ready for another hard day at the office.

Public Service

Listing public events at which Amateur Radio communications is providing a public service and for which additional volunteers from the Amateur Community are needed and welcome. Please contact the person listed to identify how you may serve and what equipment you may need to bring.

Every event listed is looking for volunteers
Date Location Event Contact Tel/Email

Oct 21 Lowell MA Bay State Marathon Stan
KD1LE 978-433-5090 kd1le@amsat.org

Oct 19-21 Boston Head of the Charles Regatta
Jeff N1FWV n1fwv@amsat.org

This list is published periodically as demand warrants by Stan KD1LE and Ralph KD1SM. Our usual distribution is via packet to NEBBS, via Internet mail to the arrrl-nediv-list and ema-arrrl distribution lists, and on the World Wide Web (see URL below). If other mailing list owners wish us to distribute via their lists we will be happy to oblige. Permission is herewith granted to republish this list in its entirety provided credit is given to the authors and the URL below is included. Send comments, corrections, and updates to:

(via packet) KD1SM@K1UGM.#EMA.MA.USA,
(via Internet) KD1SM@ARRL.NET.

We make an attempt to confirm entries with the coordinator unless the information is from another published source. We very much appreciate the assistance we have been receiving from our 'scouts'; everyone is welcome to send us postings.

The most recent copy of this list is maintained at <http://purl.org/hamradio/publicservice/nediv>.

From The ARRL Letter

ARES/RACES NYC EFFORT STANDS DOWN; REACT SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

After more than two weeks of intense effort, the Amateur Radio volunteer activation in New York City is winding down. ARRL New York City-Long Island ARES Section Emergency Coordinator Tom Carrubba, KA2D, says all ARES/RACES World Trade Center operations in support of the American Red Cross and the NYC Office of Emergency Management ceased early this week.

REACT International continues to seek additional Amateur Radio and licensed GMRS users, primarily

to support the Salvation Army's relief efforts in New York City. REACT International Secretary Lee Besing, N5NTG, said his organization has been lining up volunteers, and Jeff Schneller, N2HPO--who's affiliated with the Salvation Army Team Emergency Response Network (SATERN)--has been doing the scheduling for the support effort.

REACT needs up to two dozen volunteers a day. Those who are willing and able should first visit the REACT International Web site http://www.reactintl.org/tragedy_09112001.htm or send e-mail to NYCHelp@reactintl.org.

Carrubba says the American Red Cross closed all shelters that remained open in New York City on Sunday, September 23, while the New York City Office of Emergency Management shut down Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service support Monday, September 24. Any remaining Amateur Radio Emergency Service activity will be handled by volunteers from the Greater New York City area, he said.

New York City District Emergency Coordinator Charles Hargrove, N2NOV—who served as incident commander--has expressed his appreciation to all amateurs who volunteered their time and equipment. Hargrove outlined Amateur Radio's role in the disaster response in a September 27 interview on Bloomberg Radio's WBBR in New York City.

ARRL New York City-Long Island Section Manager George Tranos, N2GA, also expressed his gratitude to all Amateur Radio operators who came forward to assist the ARES/RACES effort. "The system works and our 'hobby' has performed well as a 'service' to the public," he said.

Tranos said some 500 Amateur Radio volunteers helped out with communications support for the disaster. "The ARES organization has done a good job in mobilizing--some being on scene and ready on the morning of September 11," he said. Tranos also praised Carrubba, who, he said, "showed the way and was instrumental in the administration, organization and logistics of the operation."

"Thanks and congratulations go to each of those who helped," Tranos concluded. "Now, hopefully, we can try to return to some degree of normalcy."

ARRL PRESIDENT PRAISES AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY EFFORT

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, took advantage of a visit to New York City hams to express his gratitude for the overall Amateur Radio volunteer effort in the wake of the terrorist attacks September 11.

"On behalf of the 680,000 ham operators in the US, thank you for doing such a fine job," he said during a September 21 visit with Amateur Radio Emergency Service volunteers at the heart of the communication effort.

ARRL Hudson Division Director Frank Fallon, N2FF, accompanied Haynie on his visit. "From the very first day I have been proud of the way ARRL members in the Hudson Division responded in overwhelming numbers," Fallon said. "So many responded that many, unfortunately, were turned away."

"It really has been our finest hour!" Fallon continued. "It has made us all very proud to be Amateur Radio operators."

John MacInnes, a Red Cross communications officer based in Tucson, Arizona, expressed high praise for the Amateur Radio community and for ARRL.

"We wouldn't be where we are today without the ham radio operators," he told Haynie. He said Haynie should be very proud of ARRL and asked him to relay his message of thanks throughout the amateur community.

PENTAGON ARES TEAM STANDS DOWN

The team managed by Virginia Amateur Radio Emergency Service to support the Salvation Army's disaster relief operation at the Pentagon stood down this week. Virginia Section Emergency Coordinator Tom Gregory, N4NW, thanked all who volunteered and turned out to assist following the September 11 terrorist attack.

"With the changes in security, increased shift times and, most of all, the ability of the Salvation Army to [now] manage their support operations via telephone, the need for Amateur Radio has ended," Gregory said. "The support provided here in Virginia, by the hams in New York--where operations continue--and in Pennsylvania clearly demonstrates the resolve and commitment by so many hams to meet the needs of our fellow Americans at this time of great tragedy."

The ARES operation--with Tom Harmon, AK1E, as incident commander--provided logistical support between the Salvation Army's relief and recovery effort on site and the agency's Arlington headquarters. The Salvation Army has been providing food and refreshments to the crews engaged in the Pentagon investigation and recovery operations. Gregory said many of the more than 100 volunteers who reported for duty between September 11 and September 18 gave up time with their families and their jobs. In a

few cases, he said, he even wrote letters to employers requesting that volunteers be allowed time off to work the incident.

"Amateur Radio performed exactly as it was supposed to," Gregory said. "We responded to the need to provide communications where none were available." He said the Virginia ARES organization stands ready to jump in again "at a moment's notice" if the need arises.

Another amateur team consisting of Mt Vernon Amateur Radio Club and Arlington County Amateur Radio Club members was providing communication and technical support to the American Red Cross relief effort at the Pentagon site. Arlington County ARES Emergency Coordinator Alan Bosch, KO4ALA, said his team was running shifts from 8 AM through 1 AM each day, and he expected the operation to continue at least through week's end.

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, visited members of the Pentagon ARES team on Monday, September 17. Gregory said he appreciated Haynie's encouragement at a difficult time. Haynie was accompanied by ARRL First Vice President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, FCC Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth, and ARRL Virginia Section Manager Carl Clements, W4CAC.

ARRL "AMATEUR RADIO DEMO AND EDUCATION DAY" WOWS FCC

The ARRL this week took Amateur Radio's message directly to FCC Headquarters in Washington, DC. ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, said the idea behind the ARRL's "Amateur Radio Demo and Education Day" September 18 was to foster a positive view of the Amateur Service--especially with three new commissioners on board who may not be familiar with ham radio and the issues it faces.

"The FCC is bombarded with paper every day in the form of filings, briefings, backgrounders and other print materials," said Haynie, who masterminded the demonstration. "So our purpose was to let the commissioners and their staff get out of the 'paper chase' for awhile and see Amateur Radio up close."

The "demo" part of the event included a fully operational HF Amateur Radio station, which was used to make several contacts, a selection of low-profile antennas, a PSK31 setup, and a software-defined radio designed and built by Bob Larkin, W7PUA--and featured in QST <<http://www.proaxis.com/~boblark/dsp10.htm>>. The "education" facet comprised informational graphics throughout the room that depicted such topics as

Amateur Radio disaster communication, the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program, and deed covenants, conditions and restrictions--or CC&Rs--as they affect hams subjected to private land-use regulations. One surprisingly popular poster featured a description of radio wave propagation. A videotape loop on Kid's Day ran all day long.

The event gave Haynie the chance to chat at length about Amateur Radio issues with FCC Chairman Michael Powell, commissioners Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Cops, and Kevin Martin, and key FCC staffers.

Equally enthusiastic was ARRL First Vice President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, who also represented ARRL at the event. "We wanted to show the continuing—and maybe even growing--importance of Amateur Radio to the nation's telecommunications infrastructure, and to demonstrate our role in technological development and emergency communication," Harrison said.

And that latter aspect did raise a somber note, as the Amateur Radio demonstration took place only days after the World Trade Center and Pentagon attacks. Powell asked the FCC to "go on with the show," because of his commitment to keeping the FCC running on a business-as-usual basis during the national crisis. News of the tragic situation still pouring in underscored Amateur Radio's value in providing emergency assistance.

Haynie said the highlight of the event was the interest and involvement of Chairman Powell and his staff as well as the opportunity personally to meet the other three new commissioners. Haynie said that some commissioners seemed particularly interested in information on Amateur Radio antenna installations that had been erected under the "reasonable accommodation" provision of PRB-1.

Haynie said he was especially pleased that every commissioner and nearly all FCC department heads turned out with their staff members--nearly 100 visitors in all. Chairman Powell spent considerable time examining every display and asked for a personal demonstration of the PSK31 equipment. He was also interested in Amateur Radio involvement in rescue efforts at the World Trade Center and Pentagon disaster sites and how the Amateur Radio Emergency Service operates.

ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay said he was pleased to see that people did not just "cruise through" but stayed to discuss various issues and topics. Imlay said the event set the stage for future productive discussions with the FCC on a number of important Amateur Radio issues.

On behalf of the ARRL contingent, Haynie deemed the day a huge success. "This was the first time we have ever had such an opportunity, and in our collective opinions it was very successful!" he said.--Steve Mansfield, N1MZA

THE YOUNGEST VOLUNTEER

Ten-year-old Beverly Holtz of Huntington, Long Island, New York, was distraught after hearing of the tragedy at the World Trade Center.

"I slowly explained what the news footage meant," said her father Fred Holtz, K2PSY. "The first thing she said was that she wanted to help."

Neither of them realized just how soon she would get the chance.

About six years ago Fred Holtz revived his interest in Amateur Radio. Soon his young daughter showed an interest in the hobby. Together they studied the electronics and Beverly was especially interested in the questions on emergency procedures.

"I told her that they were very important and you never knew when you would need them," Holtz said.

Father and daughter joined the local radio club and started going to meetings. Eventually she took the FCC exam for the Technician license and passed! She couldn't wait for her license to arrive and was ready to get on the air.

Beverly's new ticket finally arrived Friday, September 14, and she was officially KC2IKT. The next day she and her dad were running errands in the car, listening to an emergency net being run on a local repeater, when they heard a call go out for volunteers to staff a shelter as part of the response to the World Trade Center attack.

"We can do that!" Beverly told her dad. Fred Holtz called net control and explained that his daughter was only 10 and wanted to help.

"No problem," they were told. That afternoon they reported to the Red Cross shelter in Valley Stream, New York. Some 40 European students were staying at the shelter after being stranded when flights were cancelled at the nearby airports in New York City.

Using her dad's hand-held transceiver, Beverly answered questions from net control, relayed health-and-welfare traffic and was the only radio operator for the entire eight-hour shift.

"I was very impressed that [net control] treated her as an equal and that she was able to do it," her dad said. "She really had a trial by fire!"

Beverly said that the eight hours seemed like one hour. "I can't wait to do more," she said. "It made me feel good to help."--Diane Ortiz, K2DO

HAMS ACTIVATE AS GABRIELLE SWEEPS ACROSS FLORIDA

Florida amateurs provided the National Weather Service with real-time reports as Tropical Storm Gabrielle swept across Florida September 14. Amateurs staffed the Ruskin National Weather Service Amateur Radio station WX4TBW starting at 9 PM on September 13 and remained on duty throughout the storm's passage.

Damage reports began streaming in as Gabrielle approached Florida's west coast September 14. SKYWARN spotters from Sarasota and Manatee counties reported wind gusts as high as 74 MPH. Flooding generated by Gabrielle also forced an undetermined number of people from their homes in DeSoto, Hardee and Hillsborough counties.

Nets were established to pass critical information to the National Weather Service and to handle local and regional ARES activities. Several shelters were staffed by ARES operators throughout the ARRL West Central Florida Section. According to West Central Florida Section Manager Dave Armbrust, AE4MR, area hams took the event in stride.

"No big deal, our amateurs have been doing exactly this for years," Armbrust said. "Tropical storms and hurricanes are yearly events for ARES groups here. There is little need for us to do an annual SET as we generally get the real thing."

Armbrust was asked if anything made this particular storm different. "The massive loss of power kind of hit us by surprise," he said, "but it does prove how important emergency power is to ARES." More than 250,000 Floridians lost power at least temporarily, but operations on the wide-coverage K4WCF repeater continued for nearly eight hours on emergency power.

"The flooding and wind actually took three repeaters off the air, but the ARES groups had trained for the loss of repeaters, and they did not miss a beat," Armbrust said.

While Gabrielle weakened as it moved eastward across the Florida peninsula, it still packed a punch. After passing over Florida, Gabrielle reached Hurricane strength over the Atlantic. The storm continued

northeastward off the US and Canadian Coasts before becoming extratropical south of Newfoundland on September 19. The Hurricane Watch net was not activated at any time.

WILDFIRES STRETCH NORTHERN CALIFORNIA ARES TEAMS TO THE LIMIT

The wildfire rampage in Northern California took a toll on Amateur Radio Emergency Service resources there. Sacramento Valley-North Section Emergency Coordinator Dave Thorne, K6SOJ, says maintaining 24-hour-per-day operations at evacuation centers and at the Red Cross chapter in Chico, plus providing field operators and HQ stations for the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection exhausted the pool of trained ARES operators.

"As of today, things are beginning to de-escalate, and our ARES members are being released as appropriate," Thorne said September 10.

The latest major wildfire erupted September 6 north of Lake Oroville in Butte County. Dubbed the "Poe Fire," it consumed more than 7500 acres, destroyed 27 homes, and prompted the evacuation of more than 400 residences, according to news reports. Emergency Coordinator Steve Kaps, N6NPN, says that the Butte/Glenn County ARES team was activated right away by the county emergency manager to provide emergency and auxiliary communication for the American Red Cross. Kaps said ARES also assisted CDF when its normal communication channel became overloaded.

The Sacramento Valley Section mutual aid plan was activated last Friday, September 7, but ARES teams from nearby Shasta County already were involved in their own fire-related activity and unavailable. Thorne says ARES operators from Tehama County and from as far away as Siskiyou County were dispatched, and some remained on duty earlier this week.

"These dedicated volunteers are to be commended," he said. "For some it was over a 300 mile round trip, and they pay their own expenses."

The Poe Fire was the fifth major wildfire this year to hit the Sacramento Valley-North's eight-county service area.

October Treasurer Report\$

Income for September was \$70 from membership renewals, \$68.58 net from FoxFinder kit sales, and \$15 from ARRL new member commissions.

Expenses were \$19.78 for newsletter postage and outgoing QSL bureau, and \$255 for the liability insurance premium, leaving a net expense of \$121.20.

The Greater Lowell Road Runners made a contribution to NVARC of \$200 in appreciation of our assistance with last year's Lowell Marathon. This has been put into the Community Fund.

Fund balances as of September 13 are:



General Fund: \$5223.96
Community Fund: \$1517.55

If you are thinking of joining the ARRL, or we can convince you to join the ARRL, the Club receives a commission for sending in your application.

73,
-Ralph KD1SM

2001 Fleamarkets Going Fast

21 Oct	MIT Flea
17 Nov	Waltham ARA Auction IRS Hamfest Londonderry



Nashoba Valley Amateur Radio Club

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Editor: Stan Pozerski KD1LE
Photographer Ralph Swick KD1SM

PIO: open
Board Members

Bob Reif 1999-2002
Den Connors 2000-2003
Craig Kalley 2001-2004

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

442.90 + 100Hz Repeater
53.890 - 100Hz Repeater

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. You can send items to pozerski@net1plus.com
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