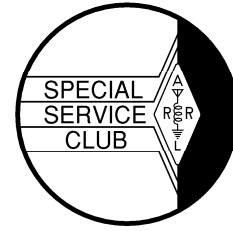




# SIGNAL



de N1NC

April 2003 Volume 12 Number 4

## This Month's Meeting

This month we have elections for Club Officers and one Board position. Though elections are not the most exciting agenda item they have a big impact on the club. For the next year our officers will impact everything the club does—or doesn't—do. Anyone may throw their hat in the ring for the available positions of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and one Board position. The Yearbook, in the Constitution and Bylaws section, has the big picture description of what each position does. There are many details that need to be filled in about how or if we participate in the many events that happen each year. Every person brings a different perspective to the table and can enhance the decisions we make.

Stan

This month's meeting program is by Mike Greenburg K1LJN on the ARRL Official Observer program.

After the formal meeting Les would like to have a brief Field Day meeting. The basic issues of what and where have been decided. Now comes all the detail planning to make it come off smoothly. Everyone who plans to participate is encouraged to attend and add their thoughts.

Earl WR1Y will have a laminator for people who need their license or other card-sized items protected.

Bring your short Shows-and-Tell to the meetings. They are always welcome. It's always interesting to see the variety of things people are working on.

## Member Short Presentations

The Board believes that every member has something interesting to share with the general membership. It may not be the kind of thing that warrants an hour and a fancy presentation, but that doesn't mean it can't be

interesting. We believe that what makes our club particularly interesting is the large number of presentations generated from within. Visitors often comment that we always have great meeting programs and we think they are right.

Along these lines we are still trying to schedule a meeting night of members' short presentations. It is always interesting to find out the kinds of things people are working on and they don't have to be radio related. If you have a short subject of ten or fifteen minutes that you would like to present contact a Board member. If you need help putting together the slides, need hand-outs copied, or need equipment we can probably help.

## Adopt-A-Highway

This month we resume our monthly cleanup on our stretch of Route 119. Since it has worked well in the past we will continue to do the cleanup on the Sunday after our regular club meeting which will be the 20th. Since it has been four months since the last clean up a full crew is needed. I'll be looking for volunteers at the April meeting. Stan

## New Member

Welcome to new member Robert "Bob" Johnson. Bob is from Groton, Ma.

## April Board Meeting

The April Board of Directors Meeting was held April 10<sup>th</sup> at the KA1RV QTH. Erik KA1RV, Ian NZ1B, Ralph KD1SM, Stan KD1LE, Ron KB1GID, and Den KD2S were in attendance.

Ralph presented the Treasurers report to the Board and the details are published later in the newsletter.

The Board discussed the need for candidates for the upcoming April elections. Members are encouraged to run. The positions that are up for election are President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and one Board member.

Ian reported he is working on getting Thank You letters from some of the groups for whom we have provided communications.

Ralph reported that the Groton Road Race organizing committee is picking up the pace on race planning for the April 27 date. Ralph has sent reminders to last year's volunteers who have not yet contacted him. He has 26 of the 36 volunteers required. There will be fewer marshals this year so we may be asked to fill the gap in this area.

Den has the info on customized mugs and will survey the meeting to help estimate quantity. This also must be brought to the meeting for a vote due to the amount of the expenditure. Den will also poll the membership on interest in an Emergency Communications class.

Ron KB1GID brought up a discussion about having the club information listed in World Radio. Being listed in the printed version costs money but putting the information on their web page is free. The board opted for the free web page advertising.

Stan suggested the club actively promote and organize under the ARES banner. There has been renewed ARES activity in Middlesex County. Two aspects discussed were general preparedness and the creation of a team that is prepared to provide communications services to local towns and emergency service providers such as the Red Cross. Ralph, Stan and Den have written a draft memo defining such a team.

Ralph brought a request from Beltronic to place an advertisement in the Signal. Beltronic, which is located in Hollis, NH does commercial radio repair and in the past year expanded into amateur radio. The board decided to accept paid advertising from Beltronics since it is a local company likely to be of interest to the members.

The Board discussed having more member presentations and is soliciting three or four members to do a ten or fifteen minute presentation on a "Special Short Subjects Nite" in April.

**Last Month's Meeting**

The speaker at last months meeting was Ann Santos, WA1S. Ann participated in the 8N10GA DXpedition to

Ogasawara Islands this past October and put together an interesting video presentation for us.

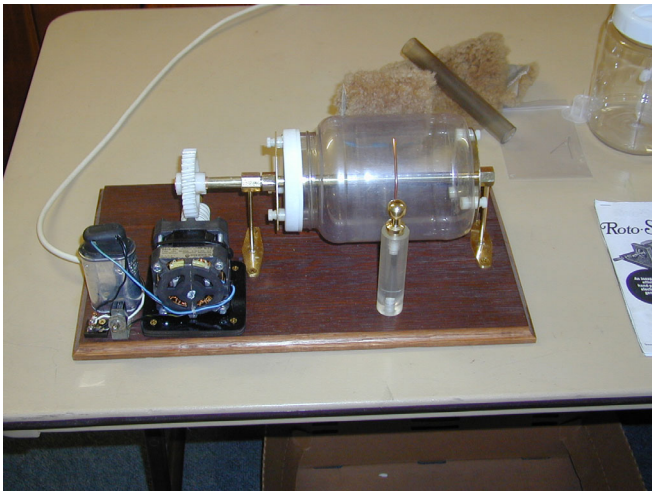
Ann is an accomplished contester as well as an avid DXer and has had the opportunity to operate from many rare locations. Some of these include Micronesia (V63HO), Kingman Reef (K5K), Christmas Island (T32R), and Palmyra Atoll (KH5K/WA1S).



The islands where the DXpedition took place are only reachable by ship. The one Ann took is pictured above. The event was sponsored by the Japan Amateur Radio League (JARL) and ran for six months. Ann was only there for ten days.



Ann also took the opportunity to do some sightseeing in Japan with her hosts from JARL. Here they are touring the Tokyo electronics district.

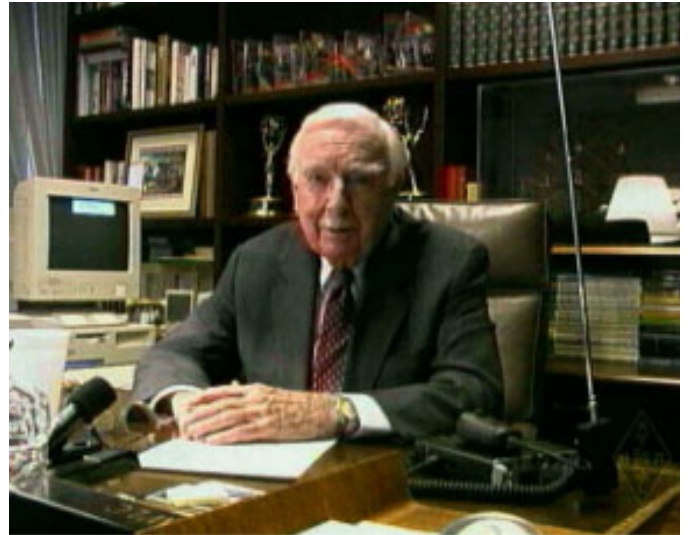


Earl WR1Y brought an interesting homebrew item he built from plans in a 1930's hobby magazine. It is a roto-stat static electricity generator.

In the upper right corner is his version of a Leyden Jar used to store charge and he also built an electrometer for demonstrating the presence of charges.

Les reported the new NVARC web page was on line and requested comments and suggestions on it.

We also showed the new ARRL video on ham radio narrated by Walter Cronkite KB2GSD.



Les brought a proposal to the March meeting to purchase some ARRL books for The Townsend Public Library. He proposed a subset of the ARRL Library Book Set because the library has limited space. A second proposal was made to purchase the complete ARRL Library Set and use the extra books for our raffle since it would not cost much more than the individual purchase of the suggested books for the Townsend Public Library donation. The members approved the second proposal.

**PSList March 2003**

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.

The most up-to-date copy of this list is maintained as <http://purl.org/hamradio/publicservice/nediv>

- Every event listed is looking for communications volunteers
- | Date   | Location    | Event                 | Contact     | Tel/Email                          |
|--------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|
| Apr 12 | Athol MA    | River Rat Race        | Tom N1KKY   | 978-249-4814 n1kky@crystal-mtn.com |
| Apr 12 | Townsend MA | Lions Club Canoe Race | Bill NZ1D   | 978-597-2348 nz1d@juno.com         |
| Apr 21 | Boston      | Marathon (start)      | Steve K1ST  | 508-435-K1ST k1st@arri.net         |
| Apr 21 | Boston      | Marathon (course)     | Steve W3EVE |                                    |

508-384-7697 (0800-2100 only) w3eve@arrl.net

Apr 21 Boston Marathon (finish) Paul W1SEX  
978-632-9432 [w1sex@arrl.net](mailto:w1sex@arrl.net)

Apr 27 Boston MA Run of the Charles Ed N1VSJ  
978-952-6474 mooseeb@aol.com

Apr 27 Groton MA Groton Road Race Ralph KD1SM  
978-582-7351 [kd1sm@arrl.net](mailto:kd1sm@arrl.net)

Apr 27 Boston March of Dimes WalkAmerica Bruce  
KC1US 781-275-3740 [kc1us@net1plus.com](mailto:kc1us@net1plus.com)

May 4 Boston MA Walk for Hunger Bruce KC1US  
781-275-3740 W4H2003@amateur-radio.net

May 18 Parker Classic Road Race  
Stan KD1LE 978-433-5090 [kd1le@arrl.net](mailto:kd1le@arrl.net)

Bicycle Trek Across Maine  
Jun 13 Bethel to Farmington ME  
Jun 14 Farmington to Waterville ME  
Jun 15 Waterville to Belfast ME  
Bill W1LEE 207-624-3044 [W1LEE@arrl.net](mailto:W1LEE@arrl.net)

Jun 21 Quincy to Sandwich MA MS Great Mass Get-  
away John N1PYN 508-588-3250 [n1pyn@arrl.net](mailto:n1pyn@arrl.net)

Jun 22 Sandwich to Provincetown MA MS Great Mass  
Getaway John N1PYN 508-588-3250 [n1pyn@arrl.net](mailto:n1pyn@arrl.net)

Sep 12 Provincetown to Dennis MA MS Challenge  
Walk John N1PYN 508-588-3250 [n1pyn@arrl.net](mailto:n1pyn@arrl.net)

Sep 13 Dennis to Truro MA MS Challenge Walk John  
N1PYN 508-588-3250 [n1pyn@arrl.net](mailto:n1pyn@arrl.net)

Sep 14 Dennis to Brewster MA MS Challenge Walk  
John N1PYN 508-588-3250 [n1pyn@arrl.net](mailto:n1pyn@arrl.net)

Oct 17-19 Boston MA Head of the Charles Regatta  
Jeff N1FWV 978-536-2842 [rwjeffa@attbi.com](mailto:rwjeffa@attbi.com)

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 arrl-nediv-list and ema-arrl distribution lists, and on the World Wide Web (see URL above). 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.

## NVARC Members Email List

The members email list is now operating. Remember only those who subscribe to the list may post to it; this is to keep spam off the list. Contact Ralph if you want to be added. To post to the list send mail to [nvarc@n1nc.org](mailto:nvarc@n1nc.org)

## Groton Road Race Coming Up

Ralph KD1SM and Larry KB1ESR have been attending race planning meetings. Race Day is Sunday, April 27. The races start and finish at the Groton public school complex. Three races will be held; a kid's trot, a 5k race, and a 10k race. Two to three operators are needed for the kids trot, about 20 for the 5k, and 35 for the 10k. Before the 10k race starts we also provide radio operators for the parking team. About 40 volunteers are needed in total to staff the race. 2-meter handhelds are adequate for most operators, though a few stations with higher ERP will be needed. Pre-race operations consist of the parking team plus 'shadows' for the Race Directors and several of the Race organizers to provide communications during the setup. Once the races start our focus switches to providing medical safety communications along the course and passing road closing instructions from the Groton Police to the out-of-town police officers at the major road intersections.

This is our largest and most visible event of the year. The Groton Police Department and the Groton Race committee depend heavily on our assistance to make this event a safe one for the public.

If you are able to participate, contact Ralph.

## Walk for Hunger May 4th

Your skills are needed! Put that communications training you have received to good use at Project Bread's Walk for Hunger. This will be the 35th event with radio operators playing a key role for many years. Last year over 42,000 walkers participated, raising a record 3.2 million dollars. This money funds in part emergency food programs at nearly 400 food pantries, kitchens and shelters throughout Massachusetts. More information about the walk itself or the food programs can be found at <http://www.projectbread.org/>. Our vital support is needed this year more than ever, due to the increased demand on these services.

Using two meter equipment, we will be in key areas tying together the over 1,500 volunteers with the Pro-

ject Bread walk managers. With better weather coming, it will be a nice day to be outside, helping this worthwhile cause. Positions are available throughout the day along the twenty mile route from Boston out to Newton and back. We need coordinator shadows, van communicators, operators with walking marshals and at checkpoints. All skill levels of hams are needed. Net control will be using the special event call sign of W4H.

To join in on the fun, you can sign up on line at the Crocker Public Service Group web site <<http://cpsg.amateur-radio.net/>>, send a message to <[W4H2003@amateur-radio.net](mailto:W4H2003@amateur-radio.net)> or call me after 7:30PM at 781-275-3740.

Thank You - Bruce Pigott KC1US

### QRZ CD-ROM Discount

The QRZ CD-ROM version 20 is shipping. It contains a complete US callbook database as of 24-Oct 2002 plus many DX stations; over 1.2 million calls. The database contains e-mail addresses. The QRZ search program that permits searching for a license record in a variety of ways and also prints QSL cards. Version 20 runs on MS-Windows, MS-DOS, Unix, and Linux. The Macintosh software apparently no longer fits on the CD but is available for download. For more details on the version 20 CD see [http://www.qrz.com/store/qrz\\_cd.html](http://www.qrz.com/store/qrz_cd.html)

The first purchase of ten CD's has been distributed and there are only two copies left from the second order. It's first come, first served so contact Ralph if you need a copy.

### From The ARRL Letter and Bulletins

#### HAM RADIO "CC&R BILL" REINTRODUCED IN CONGRESS

Another Congressional attempt is under way to provide relief to amateurs prevented by private deed covenants, conditions and restrictions (CC&Rs) from installing outdoor antennas. Rep Steve Israel (D-NY) has again introduced the "Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act" into the current session of Congress. The measure, designated HR 1478, would require private land-use regulators such as homeowners' associations to "reasonably accommodate" Amateur Radio antennas consistent with the PRB-1 limited federal preemption. PRB-1 now applies only to states and municipalities.

In remarks introducing HR 1478, Israel said passage of his bill not only would assist Amateur Radio operators but society as a whole. "Organized Amateur Radio op-

erators--or "hams"--regularly provide emergency communication when regular communications channels are disrupted by disaster," Israel pointed out. The growth of developed communities has put a growing number of hams under an "array of inconsistent regulations," he said, that make it harder and harder--or altogether impossible--to erect the necessary antennas.

"Not allowing hams the equipment they need could restrict communication to the local community in similar situations in the future." Israel said his bill "seeks to ensure the continued viability of Amateur Radio through consistent application of federal regulations."

The one-sentence measure is identical to the text of the CC&R bill that was introduced in the last Congress: "For purposes of the Federal Communications Commission's regulation relating to station antenna structures in the Amateur Radio Service (47 CFR 97.15), any private land use rules applicable to such structures shall be treated as a state or local regulation and shall be subject to the same requirements and limitations as a state or local regulation."

HR 1478 has bipartisan support. Leading the list of 13 initial cosponsors for the measure are Reps Greg Walden, WB7OCE, (R-OR) and Mike Ross, WD5DVR, (D-AR)--believed to be the only Amateur Radio licensees in Congress. Joining them are representatives Tammy Baldwin (D-WI), Roscoe Bartlett (R-MD), Marion Berry (D-AR), Rick Boucher (D-VA), Jo Ann Davis (R-VA), Ralph Hall (D-TX), Carolyn McCarthy (D-NY), Michael McNulty (D-NY), Dennis Moore (D-KS), Charles Taylor (R-NC) and Patrick Tiberi (R-OH).

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, said he was happy to see the bill back before Congress. "Of course I am very pleased that Rep Israel has reintroduced the bill," Haynie said. "The League can do the mechanics, but it is now up to our members to write their elected representative and urge support and ask that they cosponsor and support the bill." Haynie noted that the League has recently ramped up its efforts to educate members of Congress about Amateur Radio, but he said lawmakers respond best to individual members.

HR 1478 has been assigned to the House Energy and Commerce Committee. Information about the bill and a sample letter to use when contacting your representative are available on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/govrelations/hr1478/>>.

#### COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIR COSPONSORS SPECTRUM PROTECTION ACT

The chairman of the Senate Communications Subcommittee, Montana Republican Conrad Burns, has

signed on as a cosponsor of the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act, Senate Bill 537. The commitment by Burns, the expected architect of the Senate's spectrum management legislation, indicates that the measure--an ARRL initiative on its third attempt in Congress--now has his attention. Burns' cosponsorship also could convince others to follow suit.

The Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 2003 has been introduced in both chambers of Congress. Florida Rep Michael Bilirakis filed the House version of the bill, HR 713, on February 12, while Idaho Sen Michael Crapo introduced the Senate version, S 537, on March 6.

The legislation would amend the Communications Act to require the FCC to provide "equivalent replacement spectrum" to Amateur Radio and the Amateur-Satellite Service in the event of a reallocation of primary amateur allocations, any reduction in secondary amateur allocations, or additional allocations within such bands that would substantially reduce their utility to amateurs. Bilirakis and Crapo, both Republicans, have twice before sponsored similar legislation at the League's recommendation.

The bills point out Amateur Radio's volunteer role in providing emergency communication "before, during, and after floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, forest fires, earthquakes, blizzards, train accidents, chemical spills, and other disasters." They also note that FCC actions "have resulted in the loss of at least 107 MHz of spectrum to radio amateurs."

A Billings, Montana, amateur with a professional and personal relationship with Burns--ARRL member Terry Whiteside, W7WWW--was instrumental in calling the senator's attention to the measure. A transportation attorney, Whiteside called the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act "a natural" for inclusion in spectrum management and reform legislation expected to come out of this session of Congress.

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, has encouraged League members to urge their senators and representatives and to cosponsor the bills. Cosponsorship lends support to legislation while it's in committee. The House bill has been referred to the Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet; the Senate bill will be considered by the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee. "Letters and e-mails are the key to getting legislation passed," Haynie says. So far, there are three Senate and 15 House cosponsors.

A sample letter is available on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/govrelations/arspa.html>>. Those writing their lawmakers are asked to copy their corre-

spondence to the League via e-mail <[specbill03@arrl.org](mailto:specbill03@arrl.org)>. The text of HR 713 and S 537 is available via the Thomas Web site <<http://thomas.loc.gov/>>.

## **PETTIT, BOWERSOX SHARE ARISS SCHOOL QSO DUTIES**

US astronauts Don Pettit, KD5MDT, and Ken Bowersox, KD5JBP, handled separate Amateur Radio on the International Space Station school QSOs March 26. In the morning (UTC), Pettit answered 20 questions put to him by students at Japan's Higashi Kaneko Junior High School. Later that day, Bowersox, the Expedition 6 crew commander, did the same for the Selnica Primary School in Slovenia, where the control operator asked the questions. The second contact marked the first ARISS QSO involving a school in Slovenia.

"During the course of our mission, we will celebrate two birthdays in space," Pettit informed one of the students in Japan who had asked if the crew had planned any parties in space. "We have already celebrated the birthday of our commander, and in April, we will be celebrating my birthday." Actually, Bowersox turned 46 last November 14, just before the crew launched on its journey to the ISS. Pettit will be 48 on April 20. Pettit told the students that he was just 12 when he decided to become an astronaut.

Pettit said he would be able to see Japan from space but there are no windows in the Service Module, where the NA1SS ham gear is located. Pettit said he spends his free time mostly doing science projects and catching up on his notes on his computer.

The aurora borealis--the northern lights--is quite a sight when viewed from space, Pettit said. "The northern aurora is most beautiful!" he exclaimed. "It reminds me of a glowing cloud in the sky. I can't think of any other natural event that is more beautiful than aurora." Seventeen students participated in the contact from 8N1ISS.

Students at the Selnica Primary School in Slovenia enjoyed listening in on an evening space chat with Bowersox during which they could also see the spacecraft passing overhead. The ARISS QSO was a public event, with a local Boy Scout club station, S59TTT, set up in a camping trailer in the schoolyard. Scoutmaster Ivan Dobnik, S51DI, doubled as control operator and quizmaster.

Bowersox said the most beautiful views from space are during the nighttime portion of the space stations's orbit-- when the crew can see the stars--and at times of sunrise and sunset. Bowersox--who's known by his

nickname "Sox" within the Astronaut Corps--said he sleeps very well in microgravity. "It's almost like having the perfect bed," he declared. He also was asked if any of the other astronauts snore. "I sleep so well, I've never heard never heard anyone snore here," he said.

Bowersox said he really enjoyed the food aboard the ISS, but with such a beautiful view out the window, "the food doesn't matter so much." The crew is growing some bean plants and some herbs as part of its scientific research, he explained in reply to another query.

Questions regarding personal hygiene have become more common. The contact with Slovenia included one about shaving in space. "The actual process of shaving doesn't feel that great," Bowersox said, adding that it's good to have a clean face. He also told those gathered in Slovenia that he expects construction of the remainder of the ISS to continue, although he noted that NASA is re-evaluating those plans at present.

Some 130 schoolchildren, parents, teachers, the city mayor and several radio amateurs turned out for the occasion.

ARISS is an international program with support from ARRL, NASA and AMSAT.

### **BAGHDAD HAM CLUB STATION DISMANTLED PRIOR TO BOMBING**

The Daily DX <<http://www.dailydx.com>> relays information from Diya Sayah, YI1DZ--one of the primary operators at the Baghdad Radio Club YI1BGD station in Baghdad. Sayah reported just prior to the outbreak of hostilities in Iraq that he had dismantled the YI1BGD station equipment and stored it in a safe place--if there can be such a location in the besieged capital city at this point. The Daily DX Editor Bernie McClenny, W3UR, says he doubts there will be any activity in the near future from YI1BGD "much less any other YI stations." The YI1BGD club station went on the air in the 1970s. The Iraqi Association for Radio Amateurs (IARA) remains an International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) member-society. Its president is Adnan M. Aswad, YI1DX.

### **NUMBER OF GRANT-SPONSORED ARECC GRADS TOPS 1000**

The number of Level I ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course (ARECC) graduates who have benefited from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) homeland security grant topped 1000 by the end of March. ARRL Emergency Communications Course Manager Dan Miller, K3UFG, reports that as of March 28, 1014 amateurs

had completed the Level I (EC-001) course and qualified for fee reimbursement via the \$180,000 CNCS grant to ARRL. Nearly 1800 amateurs have enrolled for the CNCS-subsidized training. Senior amateurs are strongly encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity. To learn more, visit the ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Web page <<http://www.arrl.org/cce/>> and the C-CE Links found there. For more information, contact Miller <[dmliller@arrl.org](mailto:dmliller@arrl.org)>; 860-594-0340.

### **GEORGIA HAMS RESPOND IN AFTERMATH OF KILLER TORNADO**

Amateur Radio operators in southwestern Georgia this week helped their neighbors and relief agencies in the wake of a tornado March 20 that left six people dead and 200 or more injured--dozens seriously. Georgia Gov Sonny Perdue declared a state of emergency in Mitchell and Worth counties--located south of the City of Albany. According to the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA), the tornado rendered dozens of houses uninhabitable and damaged many others. Upward of two dozen amateurs have been assisting responding organizations including the American Red Cross, the Salvation Army and Georgia Baptist Disaster Relief. Albany Metro Area SKYWARN had activated earlier in response to severe weather warnings.

"ARES members of the Albany Amateur Radio Club--who are just about all Red Cross volunteers--have been taking emergency response vehicles (ERVs) to the affected areas to feed victims and provide vital communications," said ARRL Lee County Emergency Coordinator Bob Smith, K4PHE, who's also a Red Cross communications officer. Other hams helped with damage assessment, shelter communications and other duties. Several ARES members volunteered continuously for several days after the tornadoes struck.

By week's end, ARES District 7 (Southwestern Georgia) Emergency Coordinator J.D. Goings, AA4P, reported that the amateurs' response to the tornado in Mitchell County--the worst hit area--was winding down. Goings was among those supporting the Georgia Baptist Disaster Relief team as a communicator for the clean-up and recovery and cooking units. "There is a lot of damage, and it is widespread," he indicated, adding that ARES members did "a fantastic job" helping out in Mitchell and Worth counties.

Two fatalities occurred in Worth County, and four others died in Mitchell County, according to GEMA.

Dougherty County EC Arthur Shipley, N4GPJ, the disaster chairman for the Southwest Georgia Chapter of

the American Red Cross, organized Red Cross and ARES operations. The Red Cross established a shelter at Mitchell County Middle School on March 21, and N4GPJ set up a 2-meter station to coordinate communications from there. The shelter closed March 22.

Goings and Red Cross EC Dale Culp, W1BPP, deployed to the Baptist church in Camilla with the Georgia Baptist feeding unit. They set up a mobile communications trailer with radios on the Albany Repeater--the primary communications frequency. They also erected an antenna and a UHF repeater for local communication.

Smith said the tornado took a northeasterly path from Camilla through Worth County, destroying several other homes in its path. "The devastation in Camilla was unbelievable," he said. "This tornado hit the same homes that were destroyed and then rebuilt when a tornado hit Camilla in 2000." The Valentine's Day 2000 storm claimed 11 lives.

### **ARRL SURVEYING INTEREST IN HIGH-SPEED DIGITAL NETWORKS**

The ARRL High Speed Multimedia (HSMM) Working Group is surveying the amateur community to gauge interest in IEEE 802.11b "Hinternet" activity. The HSMM Working Group encourages spread-spectrum communication modes including such protocols as IEEE 802.11b operating on Amateur Radio frequencies under FCC Part 97 rules. It's adopted Hinternet (a contraction of "ham" and "Internet") as a way to describe the technology. The HSMM Working Group's survey is on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/hsmm>>.

"The primary goal of the survey is to encourage amateurs to get on the air and start playing with this cheap digital microwave gear," says HSMM Working Group Chair John Champa, K8OCL <[k8ocl@arrl.net](mailto:k8ocl@arrl.net)>. Hinternet Radio Local Area Networks (RLANs) typically use direct-sequence spread spectrum between 2412 and 2437 MHz and are capable of simultaneously carrying audio, video and data signals. Hinternet aficionados adapt commercial 802.11b interfaces designed for Part 15 operation to amateur use.

The HSMM Web survey is brief and permits an opportunity for open-ended input. It asks if respondents have a IEEE 802.11 or "other high-speed digital station" running under Part 97. If so, amateurs are asked to register their stations. It also asks respondents to explain how they might use a high-speed digital system or network if they were to set one up.

Champa urged Hinternet-minded amateurs to also report what they've learned and any new applications to

the ARRL IEEE 802.11b reflector operated by Texas A&M University <http://listserv.tamu.edu/archives/arrl-80211b.html> (and linked from the "HSMM Resources" menu under "Contacts").

Asked if the Hinternet is catching on within Amateur Radio, Champa simply points to the more than 15,000 hits to the HSMM Working Group's Web site. The Hinternet also is the focus of the article "High Speed Multimedia Radio" by Kris Mraz, N5KM, in the April 2003 issue of QST.

Hinternet proponent Mark Williams, AB8LN, of Milford, Michigan, says he envisions growth of amateur 802.11b operation to cover all large metropolitan areas in the US, not just the few miles some contend is the outer limit for such point-to-point connections. "This is just too easy," he says. "With some of the Amateur Radio pioneering that we are famous for, we should be able to push this technology to its limits--50, 75 and 100-mile links at 2.4 GHz." He said wireless networks dedicated to Amateur Radio stretching across states and linking hams everywhere with high-speed voice and video are possible.

"File-sharing and e-mail, network gaming and pop-up chat are just the tip of a titanic iceberg," he predicted.

Applications abound for public service work too. Amateurs recently involved in the Texas search for debris from the shuttle Columbia used a 802.11b high-speed system on ham radio to link the net control station in Nacagdoches with the Internet.

More information is available on the ARRL High Speed Digital Networks and Multimedia Web page <<http://www.arrl.org/hsmm/>>.

### **RADIO COMMENTATOR PAUL HARVEY PLUGS HAM RADIO'S EMERGENCYCOMMUNICATIONS ROLE**

Veteran ABC Radio Networks commentator Paul Harvey this week offered some kind words for Amateur Radio. The mention was the second item on "page four" of his March 19 Paul Harvey Noon News and Comment program.

"America's quiet warriors are the legion of ham radio operators, 700,000 of them, who are always at ready for backup duty in emergencies--amateur, unpaid, uncelebrated, civilian radio operators, during and after floods and fires and tornadoes," Harvey said. "After the 9/11 attacks, hams were indispensable in reuniting friends and families. Most recently it was they who expedited the search for debris after the disaster to the space shuttle Columbia, and right now, at this moment,



they are involved in homeland security to a greater degree than you would want me to make public."

The commentary's enigmatic and mysterious final sentence--typical of Harvey's habit of leaving his listeners hanging--apparently refers to the fact that many Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and Radio Amateur Emergency Service (RACES) teams have ramped up their alert status as hostilities get under way in the Middle East.

The entire Wednesday noon broadcast is available on Paul Harvey's Web site <<http://www.paulharvey.com/>>. Click on the Wednesday noon link under "Listen Now."

### **\$April Treasurers Report\$**

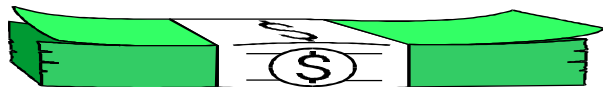
Welcome to new member Bob Johnson from Groton.

Income for March was \$60 from member dues and \$12.50 from PowerPole connector distribution.

Expenses for March were \$14.80 for newsletter postage, leaving a net income of \$57.70 for the month.

Current balances:

General fund:	\$5105.42
Community fund:	\$1842.55



If you are not yet an ARRL Member and are thinking of becoming one, consider letting NVARC handle the paperwork for you. ARRL rebates a portion of new membership dues back to the Club. (There is no longer an ARRL rebate for membership renewals handled through the Club.)

73, Ralph KD1SM



## **Nashoba Valley Amateur Radio Club**

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Pepperell Mass 01463-0900

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<http://www.n1nc.org/>

President: Erik Piip KA1RV  
Vice President: Earl Russell WR1Y  
Secretary: Ian Norrish NZ1B  
Treasurer: Ralph Swick KD1SM

Board Members:

Den Connors 2000-2003  
Bob Reif 2001-2004  
Les Peters 2002-2005

Editor: Stan Pozerski KD1LE  
Photographer: Ralph Swick KD1SM  
PIO: Ron Wood KB1GID

Librarian: Peter Nordberg N1ZRG  
Property Master: John Griswold KB1HDO  
N1NC Trustee: Bruce Blain K1BG

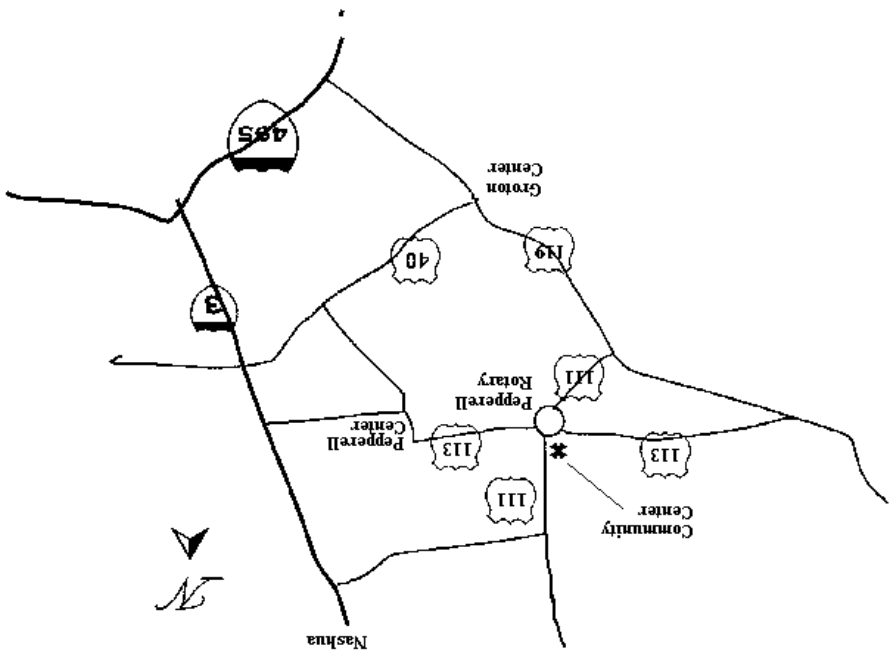
Meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of the month -  
7:30 p.m. - Pepperell Community Ctr. Talk-in 146.490  
simplex

442.90 + 100Hz Repeater  
53.890 - 100Hz Repeater

This newsletter is published monthly. Submissions,  
corrections and inquiries should be directed to the  
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