NVARC
Nashoba Valley
Amateur Radio Club

SIGNAL

SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB

de N1NC

June 2008 Volume 17 Number 6

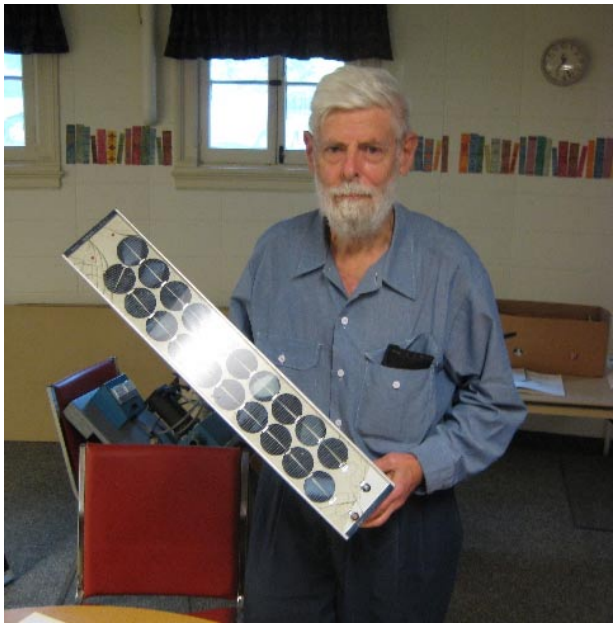
This Month's Meeting

The program for the June meeting will be an interactive discussion What are you doing? What have you done? How many of the many aspects of Ham Radio have you tried? Come, bring your experiences.

Meeting site info and maps on the back page and the NVARC Website.

Wear your badge to the meeting so new members can tell your name and you can introduce your self to them. It may be worth your while.

Last Month's Meeting



Last month's meeting was on Alternative Energy by Walt W1ZPB. Some of you may recognize Walt's name or call as he was our tour guide for the wind turbine tour the club organized to Vermont several years ago. Walt has been using alternative energy for many years. Walt talked about photovoltaic cells and modules, micro water turbines and wind turbines. He had samples of all these devices. He also talked about current developments in commercial wind turbines.

May meeting attendance:

Bob AB1CV, Dennis K1LGQ, Gary K1YTS, Larry KB1ESR, Ben KB1FJ, Skip K1NKR, Phil KB1JKL, Nancy KB1KEF, Stan KD1LE, Ralph KD1SM, John KK1X, Joseph N1QDX, Jeanine N1QIT, Peter N1ZRG, Jim N8VIM, Bob W1XP, Erik W1ZBT, Rod WA1TAC, Russ WR1Y

Speaker and Guest Walt W1ZPB and Betty XYL

Need a Ride?

Do you need a ride to the club meetings? Do you know someone who does? If you do please contact Bob W1XP 978-448-6559 and leave a message. We'll see that you get to the meeting.

Longsjo Classic Bike Race July 4 & 6

The Longsjo Classic Organizers are asking for assistance from Amateur Radio operators for the 49th Fitchburg Longsjo Classic bicycle race.

To accommodate the Independence Day activities in downtown Fitchburg, the order of the events this year is different from most previous years. The main event that needs our assistance is the Wachusett Mountain Road Race, which will be on Friday July 4. 12 to 14 operators are needed for the mountain course. The Downtown Criterium will be held on Sunday as usual. 4 to 6 operators can cover this course adequately.

Please contact Ralph KD1SM if you are available for either of these days.

Parker Road Race

May 18th NVARC provided communications for the Parker Road Race on Devens. What started out looking like a rainy weekend turned out to be sunny and warm. Joel W1JMM acted as net control and liaison to the race coordinator. The rest of the assignments were along the race course. The races went off without difficulty and we tracked leading runners for relay to the public address announcer as well the last runners to ensure the courses were clear of participants

The race support crew gets their assignments and race info. Above (L-R) Tom K1JHC, Larry KB1ESR, Dave N1MNX, John KK1X, Joel W1JMM, Stan KD1LE

Gerry AA2T number 90 running in the Parker Race

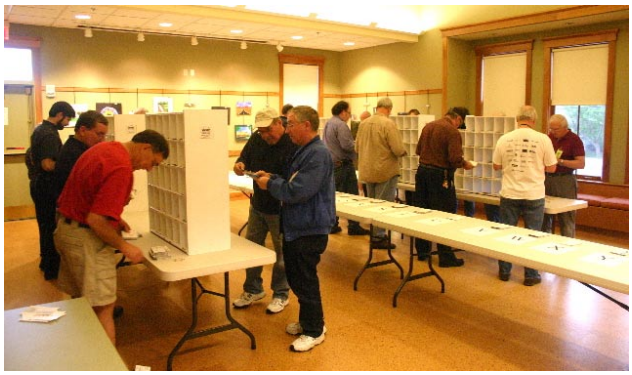
Thanks to the following for supporting this event.

Gary K1YTS, Nancy KB1KEF, Ralph KD1SM, Joel W1JMM, Larry KB1ESR, Stan KD1LE, Tom K1JHC, Dave N1MNX, John KK1X.

MARA Card Sort

NVARC decided several years ago to solicit for and help other clubs who volunteered to sort QSL cards for the W1 QSL Bureau. After we built the sorting boxes we also decided we would loan them to clubs sorting for the bureau. MARA decided to run a QSL sort this year so we supported them. We provided the sorting boxes and helped organize the sort. We also added a few more NVARC volunteers to help and answer questions. MARA sorted about 12,000 QSL cards at their event.

Thanks to NVARC members who participated; Dennis K1LGQ, Bob W1XP, Stan KD1LE, and Tony KX1G.



MARA meets at the Lunenburg Library meeting room. Above in red Dennis K1LGQ. Far left Joseph N1QDX, and on the other side of the room Stan KD1LE, Tony KX1G and John KK1X are mixed in the crowd.

Above (L-R) Stan KD1LE, Tony KX1G, Dennis K1LGQ, and Gordon N1MGO working on the final consolidation and screening the letter piles.

PSLIST

Every event needs communications volunteers

Date Location Event Contact Tel/Email

July

4-6 Fitchburg Lonsjo Classic Ralph KD1SM

12 Woburn MA New England Classic Tour Mike K1LJN 978.244.0417 k1ljn@arrl.net see http://www.newenglandclassic.org

18 Rindge NH New England Classic Tour Mike K1LJN 978.244.0417 k1ljn@arrl.net

Jul 26 Devens, MA Alzheimer's Assn Memory Ride Ralph KD1SM 978.582.7351 kd1sm@arrl.net

Board Meeting

Working on future speakers.

New England Cabinet in Leominster June 21st.

Longsjo Classic Friday and Sunday this year.

Den reported the Pepperell 4th July Committee requested support to stage the parade as usual.

Wrap up of MARA card sort.

Preliminary planning for cookout for August and budget approved.

Preliminary Field Day Budget approved.

Discussed Field Day Planning. SSB and CW station Captains set. We need to have operator support for the event.

Present at the meeting KD1LE, KD1LE, KK1X, N1ZRG, W1XP, K1NKR.

Adopt A Highway

Next road cleanup is Sunday, June 22nd.

Treasurers Report

Income for May was $140 in membership dues, $6.85 in bank interest, $4 from ARRL renewals, and $1 from road cleanup findings. Expenses were $16.80 for newsletter postage, $25 for speaker honorarium, $8.41 for miscellaneous postage, and $171.90 for restocking PowerPole connectors for members, leaving a net expense of $70.26 for the month.

Current balances:

General fund	$4,367.78
Community fund	$2,386.83

As of 9 June we have 58 members who are current with their dues and 10 renewals outstanding. Please check the member roster that is circulated at the monthly meeting if you do not remember your renewal date. Your membership date also appears on your newsletter mailing label. You can always ask Ralph if you are in doubt.

If you are not yet an ARRL member please consider joining and showing your support for the programs developed by our national organization. If you let me send in your membership then the Club pays for the stamp and receives a portion of your ARRL dues. Bring your check to a Club meeting or to Saturday breakfast payable to NVARC in the amount of your ARRL renewal and Ralph will do the rest.

Ralph KD1SM

ARRL Letter

HAMS HEAD INTO SPACE

On Saturday, May 31, the space shuttle Discovery launched into the heavens carrying a crew of one Japanese and six American astronauts to the International Space Station (ISS); of the seven crew members, two are Amateur Radio operators. NASA's Greg Chamitoff, KD5PKZ, is the ISS Flight Engineer and Science Officer on Expedition 17 and will spend six months living and working onboard the ISS, returning home on Endeavour (STS-126), currently targeted for November 10. Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency's (JAXA) Akihiko Hoshide, KE5DNI, is a mission specialist.

Chamitoff will replace Garrett Reisman, KE5HAE, who arrived on the ISS in March; Reisman will return to Earth when Discovery leaves the ISS. It is expected that the ISS Crew -- Commander Sergei Volkov, RU3DIS; Flight Engineer Oleg Kononenko, RN3DX, and Chamitoff -- will conduct Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) contacts while on the ISS.

This mission, STS-124 -- the 123rd space shuttle flight and 26th shuttle flight to the ISS -- docked with

the ISS at 2:03 PM (EDT) on Monday, June 2. Discovery carries with it the second component of JAXA's Kibo laboratory, the Japanese Pressurized Module (JPM). The 37 foot, 32,000 pound JPM will be attached to the left side of the Harmony connecting node by shuttle and station crew members during a series of three spacewalks. The JPM will join the first component of Kibo, the Japanese Logistics Module, which was launched on the last shuttle flight, STS-123 on Endeavour, in March.

Kibo (which means hope in Japanese) is so heavy that only its primary set of avionics systems can be launched inside it. The second set was launched in the logistics module delivered on STS-123 so that it will be available, if needed, when Kibo is activated. "Kibo is just a beautiful piece of work," said lead shuttle flight director Matt Abbott. "I know the Japanese space agency had an element installed on STS-123, but this is really their pride and joy. This module is amazing."

"It's going to be a world-class laboratory," said astronaut Mark Kelly, Discovery's commander. "It's its own little spacecraft, in the sense that it has an environmental system, electrical system, its own computer system, its own robotic arm. It's got a lot of capability, and I'm hopeful that over the years that the laboratory produces significant discoveries in the fields of chemistry, physics, material science and life sciences. It certainly has that potential." The Kibo laboratory complex includes two robotic arms that also will be delivered on Discovery. A third and final shuttle mission to complete the complex will launch an exterior platform for the Kibo laboratory complex that will allow experiments to be exposed to space.

On Earth, STS-124 will mark the first time the JAXA flight control team will activate and control a module from Kibo Mission Control in Tsukuba, Japan. JAXA is scheduled to take over final activation of Kibo on the fifth day of STS-124, the day after the module is installed. "That's a big day for Japan," Hoshide said. "We'll be doing vestibule outfitting, which is basically hooking up all the jumper connections between Node 2 and the pressurized module for power signals, data cables, fluid lines, all that stuff. Once that's done we will be activating the main computer in the pressurized module from our laptop computer inside the station - we call that the initial activation. "Then, once the computer's activated, the Mission Control Center in Tsukuba Space Center can start commanding, so we'll hand it over to them. They will start doing the final activation of the module."

In addition to Kelly, Hoshide and Chamitoff, the STS-124 crew consists of Pilot Ken Ham and Mission Specialists Karen Nyberg, Ron Garan and Mike Fossum. Discovery is due back to Earth on Saturday, June 14 at 10:45 AM (EDT) at Kennedy Space Center's Shuttle Landing Facility. -- Information provided by NASA

ARMY MARS OFFERS FREE FATHER'S DAY MESSAGES FOR SOLDIERS OVERSEAS

If Jeff Hammer, N9NIC, gets his way, he'll be an awfully busy soldier in the run-up to Father's Day on June 15. Captain Hammer, who represents the Army Military Affiliate Radio System (Army MARS) in Iraq, has appealed to the families of troops deployed overseas to "shower down with Father's Day messages" for their loved ones.

According to Army MARS Public Affairs Director Bill Sexton, AAA9PC/AAR1FP/N1IN, these free messages -- called MARSgrams -- date back to the Korean War when many thousands were delivered. The service continued during the Vietnam conflict and the first Gulf War, but had fallen off with the advent of e-mail and cell phones.

As the military's Middle East operations continue, Sexton said that the responses from that area indicate that the soldiers treasure the printed MARSgrams as mementos of their deployment: "It's not just a greeting. E-mail just isn't the same." MARSgram traffic spurted last Thanksgiving and Christmas, and Captain Hammer reports that he is "100 percent set up" to handle MARSgrams for Father's Day.

A National Guardsman from Indiana, Hammer arrived in Baghdad just this spring after previously serving in Afghanistan. In addition to volunteering for the MARS assignment, he is acting as station custodian for the Baghdad Amateur Radio Society. Hammer shipped in his own low-power ham station and began direct receipt of messages May 25; he has to shoehorn his volunteer Amateur Radio activity into his off-duty hours.

On Sunday, June 1, five soldiers including Hammer gathered for a meeting of the Baghdad ARS. Besides Hammer, three Amateur Radio operators are part of the group: Warrant Officer 2 Edward Mendez, N3BZA, who also operated the military MARS station ABM4USS in Korea for an Aviation Maintenance Company; Barry Coronado, KC8RTK, a Department of Defense employee, and Wayne Gale, W0GTO, a contractor.

The subject of Sunday's meeting was preparing for the hoped-for Father's Day surge. After a period of instruction on MARS procedure during which the participants wrote their own MARSgrams, Hammer took

the members to his personal MARS station to attempt transmission despite difficult propagation conditions.

"We are only running 5 W on a Yaesu 817, but we wanted to give it a try if for no other reason than to see the equipment and demonstrate the procedure," Hammer messaged afterward. "God must have been smiling down on us because after only a few attempts we connected to AEN3QT in Qatar on 40 meters and got all the messages through without any problems."

Family members can easily send free MARSgrams overseas by entering their message on the MARSgram Web site <http://www.mymars.org/>. The Army MARS WinLink system will automatically relay the Iraq-bound messages to Hammer and his helpers; they will produce printouts and envelopes and hand them off to the Military Postal Service for final delivery. A MARSgram travels much faster than ordinary mail and can be delivered wherever American troops serve.

Army MARS is a Department of Defense-sponsored organization of more than 2700 Amateur Radio operators who provide emergency communications backup for government agencies in times of civil calamity; active-duty service personnel are welcome to join. Parallel MARS units serve the Air Force and Navy-Marine Corps, making the three-prong program more than 5000 members strong.

ARRL WELCOMES YAESU AS PRINCIPAL SPONSOR OF LOGBOOK OF THE WORLD WEB SITE

The ARRL welcomes Yaesu as the principal sponsor of the Logbook of The World (LoTW) <http://www.arrl.org/lotw/> Web site. LoTW is a repository of log records submitted by users from around the world; when both participants in a QSO submit matching QSO records to LoTW, the result is a QSL that can be used for ARRL award credit. With almost 21,000 amateurs registered on LoTW, more than 170 million QSO records have been entered into the five year old system, resulting in more than 13.4 million QSL records.

"Yaesu is absolutely delighted to be the Principal Sponsor supporting the extremely popular ARRL Logbook of The World Web site," said Yaesu's Executive Vice President for Amateur Radio Sales and Marketing Dennis Motschenbacher, K7BV. "It provides Yaesu with an opportunity to serve the Amateur Radio community. We hope LoTW users will note our support and judge this action for what it is intended to be -- a 'Thank You' to the thousands of avid DXers and other active operators worldwide." In return for its sponsorship of the LoTW Web site, Yaesu will receive promotional consideration in QST and on the LoTW Web site.

Motschenbacher said he understands that hams have felt the "pain" of postal price increases around the world: "I am certain that a huge number of hams have had to give up their dream of having prestigious ARRL certificates and plaques on their wall simply because they could no longer afford the postage costs associated with exchanging QSL cards to verify contacts. Those QSO verifications are, however, absolutely essential for maintaining the integrity of ARRL's DXCC and other awards. LoTW, with its global acceptance, now allows nearly everyone interested in the excitement that goes along with chasing DX and awards to provide most if not all of the required all-important QSO verifications without burdensome postage expenses. LoTW provides a very valuable service for both the individual users and ARRL."

ARRL Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B, thanked Yaesu for their ongoing support of the ARRL. "We look forward to working with them on

Morse Code Returning to MARS Toolbox

After more than a dozen years, Morse code will soon be returning to Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) nets. In the mid-1990s, the Department of Defense (DoD) did away with CW operation across the board -- including MARS nets – as automatic systems such as the Internet, SATCOM, cell phones and e-mail became available and the payroll cost of manual operators escalated. Army MARS launched a limited test of CW nets in four Midwestern states in late 2007. During a DoD interoperability test this past March, a Transportation Security Administration (TSA) station used it to communicate with Fort Huachuca. In announcing the return of CW to MARS nets, Navy-Marine Corps MARS Chief Bo Lindfors cited an emergency where CW was sorely missed: "I remember the [1998] Northeast Ice Storm shortly after I became [Navy-Marine Corps MARS] Chief and the unnecessarily lengthy effort by all of southern New England to receive one voice EEI [Essential Elements of Information Report] from a northern New England member whose antenna was covered in ice and lying on the ground. It took more than an hour when CW could have handled it in a few minutes. As more and more of our members enter MARS with no Morse code experience, I am afraid that we will soon lose that skill set if we don't do something." Army MARS Chief Carter said the imminent return of CW will not replace modes such as

WinLink, Pactor 3 and MT63. "Our CW nets will focus on maintenance of skills and will necessarily be limited by the shortage of available frequencies and trained members," he said. "But if members want to add CW to their skills, the nets will be available for training."

* Be Careful on 10 Meters: With recent band openings beginning on 10 meters, ARRL has received word that a number of US amateurs have been heard using SSB below 28.300. "We urge everyone to remember that 28.000 to 28.300 MHz is reserved for RTTY and data, including CW," said ARRL Field and Regulatory Correspondent Chuck Skolaut, K0BOG. "Phone is permitted from 28.300 to 28.500 for Novice and Technician class licensees with a maximum power of 200 W. Phone and image are allowed from 28.300 up to 29.700 for General, Advanced and Extra class license holders." Skolaut, who manages the Official Observer and Intruder Watch programs, said that people have called and e-mailed ARRL HQ inquiring about hearing IDs repeated in code on various 10 meter frequencies. "What they are hearing are beacons," Skolaut said; he suggests checking out some Web sites for more information on beacons you might hear on 10 meters <http://www.dxzone.com/cgi-bin/dir/jump2.cgi?ID=1114> and other bands <http://www.ncdxf.org/beacons.html>.

HAMS HEED THE CALL WHEN TORNADOES SWEEP THROUGH COLORADO

On Thursday, May 22 at approximately noon MDT, a large tornado touched down in northern Colorado near the town of Windsor. Windsor, with a population of nearly 19,000, is located approximately 10 miles southeast of Fort Collins, and 50 miles north of Denver. According to ARRL Colorado Section Manager Jeff Ryan, K0RM, initial reports indicated that there was the possibility of extensive damage. Ryan said that Colorado ARES District 10 was activated and David Markham, W0CBI, the Colorado Section Emergency Coordinator, monitored the situation.

The funnel cloud, accompanied by golf-ball sized hail, blackened the skies over Windsor as it knocked down power lines, shredded crops in fields outside the city and blasted whole neighborhoods; the southeast side of town was hit the worst by the storm. "It will be a long time before the town recovers from this," Windsor Mayor John Vasquez said.

Ryan said reports indicated the Windsor tornado was just one of several that swept across northern Colorado and part of Wyoming: "The storm resulted in one fatality, and more than 100 people were treated on the scene for some type of injury with another 18 people treated at area hospitals. Damage is widespread and includes homes and business in Weld and Larimer Counties. We also received damage reports from the smaller towns of Gilcrest and Platteville."

The Weld County Sheriff's Office reported that the lone fatality, Oscar Manchester, 52, a US Marine and Vietnam veteran, was killed in a recreational vehicle that was destroyed in the storm at a campground west of Greeley, about 60 miles north of Denver.

Colorado ARES District 10 Emergency Coordinator Randy Long, W0AVV, reported that 31 operators provided communications service to the Emergency Operations Center and Fire Department in Windsor, the Weld County Emergency Operations Center, the Larimer County Emergency Operations Center, the City of Loveland Emergency Operations Center, the Loveland Mobile Command post and two Red Cross shelters.

"On Friday, the town was still without power and remained so until local utilities could complete a survey of electrical transmission lines in the affected area that is expected to take up to 48 hours," Ryan said. "A mandatory evacuation for sections of Windsor is in effect due to gas leaks and downed power lines. The National Guard is on duty and is responsible for escorting emergency responders in and out of the area."

Colorado Governor Bill Ritter ordered the National Guard to aid rescue and cleanup efforts. He visited the town Thursday evening, saying the number of homes damaged was "significant" and declared a state of emergency for Weld County. Representatives from FEMA were on the scene conducting damage assessments. On Monday, President Bush approved Colorado's request for federal disaster aid to help with the costs of the storms and tornadoes, and declared Weld and Larimer Counties federal disaster areas.

On Friday, Markham placed an additional 15 Amateur Radio operators in Larimer and Weld County on standby in anticipation of an overnight shift; he also requested adjacent districts to prepare in support of the ongoing operations if necessary.

Windsor, Fort Collins and Loveland lie in the shadow of the Rocky Mountains, where the Great Plains give way to steep hills. "It's very unusual to see [a tornado like] this by a mountain range. It's kind of a freak thing," said Captain Steve Fleming of the Poudre Fire Authority.

Ryan said that at the peak of the ARES operation, "Colorado ARES District 10 had 55 operators supporting emergency response and relief efforts in the aftermath of the tornado that touched down near Windsor."

AMATEURS ASSIST WITH FLORIDA FIRES

Amateur Radio operators in Brevard County, Florida responded in a support role during a recent spate of wildfires that ravaged the towns of Palm Bay and Malabar. The fires, all of which were deemed "suspicious" by fire authorities, began on Sunday, May 11. Dubbed the "Mother's Day Fires," they burned close to 13,000 acres in southern Brevard County. Located about 25 miles east of Orlando, Brevard County is home to Kennedy Space Center, site of NASA's space shuttle launch area.

John Weatherly, AB4ET, and Clayton Bennett, KA4NHW, manned a 2 meter station in a shelter set up by the American Red Cross. Additionally, the Brevard Emergency Amateur Radio Services (BEARS) donated the use of their mobile command center to public safety agencies. The command vehicle, dubbed BEARS-I, was obtained through a $100,000 grant from the State of Florida. The interior was designed and built by a group of Amateur Radio operators from local Brevard County clubs that are members of BEARS. BEARS-I is outfitted with Brevard County 800 MHz public safety radios and amateur equipment.

BEARS-I was used as a command post in the week-long operation. The Palm Bay Fire Department, the Palm Bay Police Department, ARES and Florida Power and Light manned the four operating positions. The unit was put in place at Bayside High School when the fires started; it was relocated the next day to the US Air Force tracking station that became the new command center, as well as the staging area for trucks and teams from other counties. BEARS-I was used as a self-contained command center around the clock for over five days

According to official sources, the Mother's Day fires destroyed more than 30 homes with an estimated value of $5.6 million, and damaged almost 250 residences. A man is in custody on three counts of intentional burning of lands after witnesses reported seeing him light several small fires one night that were quickly extinguished. According to authorities, the investigation continues into whether the suspect set all the fires, or if others were involved. -- Some information provided by Jan Heise, K4QD, and Dan Fisher, AI4GK

CHINESE OFFICIALS GIVE KUDOS TO AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS

As disaster recovery efforts continue following the earthquake in the Wenchuan area of China's Sichuan province on May 12, China's Information Office of the State Council reports that the death toll has reached more than 67,000 persons as of May 27. Communications in some of the surrounding areas were cut off, and communications in some other areas experienced network congestion due to drastically increased traffic. According to the Chinese Radio Sports Association (CRSA) -- the Chinese IARU Member-Society -- Chinese government officials and the news media have recognized that when communications failed after the earthquake, Amateur Radio operators stepped in to provide vital links.

CRSA designated 14.270, 7.050 and 7.060 MHz for emergency communications use during the quake, but these frequencies are now no longer restricted for this use; should a severe aftershock occur, CRSA said it will make the call for them to be kept clear again.

On Monday, May 26, China Central Television (CCTV) reported that, "When all other communication means failed, Amateur Radio operators came out! An Amateur Radio emergency communication network was set up, and one of the commanders, Liu Hu [BG8AAS], called for Amateur Radio operators on air to provide services for disaster relief."

Fan Bin, BA1RB, on behalf of CRSA, said, "Thankfully, one main repeater survived during the earthquake. This repeater provided 100 km coverage to Mianyang. Amateur Radio operators from Chengdu, Shenzhen, He'nan went to the center of the disaster area, set up repeaters in Beichuan County
and provided various valuable first hand information from the center."

CRSA officials said they hoped to report more detailed information on the role of Amateur Radio emergency communications in the big earthquake at a later date. In the meantime, Fan said, CRSA acknowledged that the main organizer of local Amateur Radio traffic, Luo Minglin, BY8AA, "continuously coordinated VHF/UHF communications for a 100 km radius from Chengdu, the capital of southwest China's province of Sichuan. More repeaters were set up in both Beichuan and Mianyang -- among the worst hit areas outside the epicenter -- to form an effective Amateur Radio communication network."

Zhang Zhen, BG8DOU, said that right after the earthquake, "Two ham radio operators drove to the center of the earthquake area and had a repeater set

up by the morning of May 13. This repeater enabled the transmission of rescue instructions and status reports, and was a main communication channel for public use. The repeater carried communications for the Mayor of Mianzhu City who gave orders to those on the front line rescue and recovery activity."

The CRSA said it appreciates the support given by the Amateur Radio community in helping to keep clear the emergency communication frequencies of 7050 kHz, 7060 kHz and 14270 kHz during the critical period after the earthquake: "Thanks for the cooperation and efforts made by all Amateur Radio societies." The CRSA also acknowledged having received inquiries and the "warm concerns" of Amateur Radio societies worldwide. -- Information provided by Fan Bin, BA1RB, on behalf of CRSA, via IARU Region 3 Disaster Communications Committee Chairman Jim Linton VK3PC

FIRST ARRL BOOK PUBLISHED IN CHINA

The first of several ARRL books has been translated and published by Posts and Telecommunications Press (PTPress) of Beijing, People's Republic of China. "Getting Started with Ham Radio" by QST Editor Steve Ford, WB8IMY, will be available for purchase in China next month. Other ARRL books to be translated and published in the PRC include "The ARRL Handbook," "ARRL Antenna Book," "Experimental Methods in RF Design," "Understanding Basic Electronics" and "Ham Radio on the Move."

Posts and Telecommunications Press is one of the largest Chinese print and electronic media publishers. It is a specialized publishing house operating under the management of the Ministry of Information Industry. At present, PTPress annually publishes 3600 book titles in 10 categories such as communications, computers, electronics and electrical engineering technology.

"Getting Started with Ham Radio" was translated and adapted for its Chinese audience by Zhang Hong, BG1FPX.

New Russian Satellite in Orbit:

A Russian rocket launched from Plesetsk on May 23 carried a number of payloads to orbit, including a new Amateur Radio satellite named Yubileiny -- Russian for jubilee -- since christened Radio Sputnik 30 (RS-30). Operational details are vague at this time. Amateurs throughout the world report receiving signals at 435.315 and 435.215 MHz; some report reception of CW telemetry while others report what appear to be image transmissions from the satellite. RS-30 is orbiting at a maximum altitude of 1500 km, creating a substantial communications footprint below. The satellite will broadcast audio and video about the history of the Soviet and Russian space programs, as well as signals imitating those broadcast by Sputnik I in 1957. According to the satellite's launch team, "The motive for development of the Yubileiny small spacecraft was the 50th anniversary of the first space satellite. With the help of that satellite, the new space systems and equipment are expected to get flight qualification, and radio-amateurs all over the world will be able to receive information on the history of space development and domestic cosmonautics achievements."

NVARC Club Net

Topics discussed on the Club net recently; emergency communications preparedness, NMAEPC radio programming, programming member's mobile radios with common frequencies, Upcoming meeting, need for volunteers for Parker Road Race, Winlink setup.

Recent participants include Leo K1LK, Bob W1XP, Larry KB1ESR, Skip K1NKR, Stan KD1LE, Les N1SV, Richard W1LTN, Den KD2S.

The net is a good place to bring information for the club and questions or discussions. The net meets at 8:00 PM Monday evenings on the 442.900 N1MNX repeater.

2008 Flea Markets

June

July
12 Pen-Bay ARC Union Me

August
9 Rason Hamfest Ledyard CT
22-24 NE Division Convention Boxboro

Advertisements

Tell them you saw it in the Signal. Advertisers should contact the NVARC Treasurer for information.

N1MNX Repeater Support

The N1MNX repeaters cover the area of our club members and are supported by user donations. Donations for support of the repeaters should go Dave N1MNX.

Contest, DXpeditions and Special Events

The information for a DXpedition can be quite detailed and may include bands, dates, number of stations, and times of day they plan to work certain continents so I can not list it all here. But if a country or prefix is of interest you can get more information at www.425dxn.org.

Contests 2008

June
28-29 ARRL Field Day

July
12-13 IARU HF World Championships

August
2-3ARRL UHF Contest
16-17 ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest

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Vice President: Peter Nordberg N1ZRG
Secretary: John Griswold KK1X
Treasurer: Ralph Swick KD1SM
Board Members:
Joel Magid W1JMM 2006-2009
Bob Reif: W1XP 2007-2010
Skip Youngberg K1NKR 2008-2011

Editor: Stan Pozerski KD1LE
Emergency Coordinator: Larry Swezey KB1ESR
Photographer: Ralph Swick KD1SM
PIO: Dave Peabody N1MNX
Librarian: Peter Nordberg N1ZRG
Property Master: John Griswold KK1X
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
442.900 + 100Hz Repeater
147.345 + 100 Hz 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.

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