



de NINC

March 2011 Volume 20 Number 03

This Month's Meeting

This month's meeting is Thursday March 17th at 7:30 at the **Pepperell Lawrence Library**. The meeting presentation will be Linux by WA1TAC.

Last Month's Meeting

Last month's meeting program was RF Exposure by K1MC. Mal covered the source regulations and how they evolved.



In attendance were

Dennis K1LGQ, Leo K1LK, Ken K1NKR, Tom K1NNJ, Gary K1YTS, Larry KB1ESR, Peter KB1LZH, Stan KD1LE, Ralph KD1SM, John KK1X, Peter N1ZRG, Jim N8VIM, Roland NR1G, Paul NW1U, Bob W1XP, Rod WA1TAC, guests Mal K1MC, Jean KB1VDP

From the President

At the last Board Meeting John KK1X brought up the subject of newsletter mailing costs. I bring it up here because I suspect few people read the Board Meeting notes. The cost of newsletters and mailing is our third largest expense behind field day and insurance. And that is even though we do not pay for printing. If we had to pay for printing the expense would be closer to Field Day than our insurance premium.

Call it going green, saving money, or being cheap many clubs have dropped the printing and mailing of newsletters. But there may be some instances where members have limited or slow internet service. For this reason we are not considering com-

pletely dropping the mailing at this point. But rather if you read the newsletter on line, use it as a reference where you could get what you want on the Website, or for whatever reason could do without the printed and mailed copy please let Ralph KD1SM know so he can take you off the mailing list and save some trees and money.

I'm sure this will come up again as the cost of everything is going up. The Postal Service is having significant losses due to cost increases and looking forward to higher fuel increases. Every penny gas increases costs the Postal Service eight million dollars a year. The rise in the last year is close to a billion dollars which hasn't yet shown up in rate increases because they need approval to change their rates.

On a different subject I had a nice visit from a foreign ham last weekend. Erik ES5RV stopped in for a few hours to visit. Some of you may remember Erik as KA1RV from Groton. He moved to Estonia maybe six years ago.

Lantern Battery Challenge

Well the Lantern Battery Challenge is over. Remember the logs and summary sheet are due by the close of the March meeting. If you can't make the meeting contact me and we will make arrangements to get your log. You can E mail them to me. I will have summary forms at the meeting and I hope to be able to E mail them to those that want them. The old form died with the computer that turned up its toes so I've got to make up a new one. I hope everyone had as much fun as I did. Bring your stories and share them with us all at the next meeting or at the awards presentation at the April meeting.

73 Bob

Groton Road Race

de Ralph KD1SM

Groton Road Race is April 10

If you're tired of this winter and looking forward to spring activities, allow me to turn your thoughts to the Groton Road Race. This race is one of the high-visibility events for Amateur Radio support. We typically field a crew of 35 to 40 radio operators to support this event.

This year the race is being held two weeks earlier than previous years -- the event organizers must be optimistic about a change of weather. I sure hope

they've called this one correctly! Spring will be here by Sunday April 10 (think positively, think positively, think ...).

As you know from previous years our radio communications is held by the Groton Police Department to be a vital component of this event. Amateur Radio support of the Groton Road Race is one of the best public relations activities we can do for Amateur Radio locally.

I am again looking for 40 volunteers. Please let me know if you're available this year to help on April 10. If you have a preference for assignment, please let me know that as well.

The greatest number of operators are needed on station at 12:30 for the 10k race. If you are available to be on station at 11:30 for the 5k or 9:15 for race official shadows, parking, and other logistics, please let me know that too.

Photos of some previous years are available:
<http://www.n1nc.org/Events/GRR2003/>
<http://www.n1nc.org/Events/GRR2006/Photos/>

For other race details, please see
<http://www.grotonroadrace.com/>

The World of Ham Radio 1905-1950

A book Review by Bob Reif W1XP

This book "The World of Ham Radio, 1901 -1950" by Richard A Bartlett is a history of amateur radio during the first half of the twentieth century, written by the younger brother of a lifelong amateur. The narrative traces amateur radio from the beginning days of radio at the turn of the previous century to the rapid expansion of the hobby in the post WWII period.

The author starts off with a brief description of the development of early spark radio interwove with the story of his brothers early interest in radio. The book then traced the movement of amateurs to the radio spectrum below 200 meters in 1912 and the effects it had on amateur radio and radio in general. The total shutdown of radio during the US involvement in WWI and how the Navy tried to take over the control of all radio at the end of the war is covered next. The book they covers the development of commercial radio broadcasting in the early 1920s and how this affected amateur radio. Most of the rest of the book is dedicated to covering the many expeditions that used amateur radio for vital communications and the many examples of amateur radio being used for

communications in natural disasters. Examples include the devastating Ohio River flooding in 1937 and the hurricane of 1938 here in the north east. Also well covered is the close partnership that developed between both branches of the military and amateur radio during the period between WWI and WWII. There is coverage of the development of amateur radio on the international level and how the strong support of amateur radio by both the government and military of this country lead to the establishment of the amateur radio service by international treaty. Amateur radio now existed by international law.

The book covers many examples of amateur radio being used by scientific expeditions from the jungles of the tropics to the Arctic and Antarctic. There are also interesting descriptions of radio's use in both lighter than air craft and conventional aircraft. I found this a very interesting part of the book.

What is brought out in many of these narratives is how these amateur radio activities kept amateur radio in the press and how this produced a positive attitude of the public toward the hobby. Maybe something that has fallen in recent years.

The coverage of amateur radio during the war years is brief. True there was little amateur activity during the period. The War Emergency Radio Service (WERS), a special radio service set up to license amateur operation on VHF and UHF frequencies to provide emergency communication, is described and some of the critical aid provided by the service in natural disasters is covered.

Although the author states right up front that it is not a technical book there are several things of a technical nature that amateurs accomplished during the period that I think should have been included. The main one being the discovery of the propagation of short wave signals via reflection (refraction) from the ionosphere. But the book is a good read. I would put it in on the same Must Read list as Two Hundred Meters and Down. I think it is so important to know where we came from when choosing where we are going. The book is listed on Barns and Noble's web page as \$45.35 on line price. Amazon.com doesn't recognize the author.

Till next time, 73 Bob W1XP

NVARC Net

The NVARC net meets on 442.900 N1MNX repeater Mondays at 8:00 PM. The net is for sharing information and asking questions. Recent topics were a

quiz on snow records, meeting programs, antenna suggestions for new hams.

Bring your questions and topics for discussion so that we can all learn something.

Recent checkins Jim N8VIM/NCS, Dave N1MNX, Stan KD1LE, Gary K1YTS, Skip K1NKR, Dick W1LTN, Bob W1XP, George KB1HFT and Roland NR1G, KB1ESR .Larry.

PSLIST

Squannacook River Canoe and Kayak Race (April)

Groton Road Race - 10 April

Adopt-a-Highway cleanup starts - 24 April

Parker Road Race (May)

See www.n1nc.org/Events for the latest information

Board Meeting

Ralph gave the treasurers report which is reported in its own section. He also discussed the newsletters that we send out randomly to area hams looking for new members. We discussed ways to get lists of new licenses and other prospects.

John KK1X brought up the subject of newsletter mailing expense. There was a discussion what to do and we decided that at this time we would encourage people to get and use the newsletter electronically. John also mentioned that is doubtful the Parker Road Race will take place this year.

Roland was there to discuss Field Day plans. The current plan is to run 3A with SSB, CW, and Digital stations. A rule change allows any "A" club entry to have the U/VHF station free, but that was always true for 2A and above. We discussed possible and proposed sites, approval requirements and issues. At present the only site that is both likely (permission wise) and has been checked for how well it would work (historical) is the Pepperell Conservation Commission Heald St site. For the two sites in Groton that were being considered one may have permission issues but neither has been "walked" due to the high snow to determine suitability. There was also a discussion about getting more operators as the stations last year had significant down time because of no operators. We would encourage everyone to get on the air and operate at Field Day. If you do intend to operate we encourage you to find

someone (member or not) to assist or log for you as a way to encourage new operators and to get them comfortable.

Reminder Reminder Reminder

The March Club meeting will be at the Pepperell Lawrence Library and is already in their calendar.

In attendance were Stan KD1LE, John KK1X, Ralph KD1SM, Bob W1XP, K1BG, Bruce, Roland NR1G (Field Day Chairman).

Adopt A Highway

Next clean up will be in April 2011.

Treasurers Report

Income for February was \$30 in membership renewals, \$4 in ARRL membership renewals, and \$51 from the book raffle. Expenses were \$17.60 for Newsletter postage leaving a net income of \$67.40.

Current balances:

General fund	\$3,871.28
Community fund	\$4,336.41

As of 3 March we have 41 members who are current with their dues and 26 renewals outstanding. Please check your renewal status on the roster circulated at the monthly meeting or ask Ralph.

If you are not yet an ARRL member and are interested in joining, please consider letting Ralph send in the paperwork for you. The Club will buy the stamp and will get a commission from ARRL.

If your ARRL membership is ready for renewal, you can let Ralph mail it in for you and the Club will still get a (smaller) commission. ARRL membership checks should be made payable to NVARC; we deduct our commission before we forward your paperwork to Newington.

ARRL Letter

Legislative News: ARRL Asks Members to Write in Opposition to HR 607

The ARRL is asking its members to contact their US representatives in opposition to the sections of HR 607 that could affect the Amateur Radio Service allocation at 420-440 MHz. HR 607 -- The Broadband for First Responders Act of 2011 -- would address certain spectrum management issues, including the

creation and maintenance of a nationwide Public Safety broadband network. It was introduced into the US House of Representatives February 10.

ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, clarified that the League opposes HR 607 in its present form. "We do not oppose the concept of dedicated spectrum for the development of a Public Safety infrastructure and wireless network. We object to the bill because of the inclusion of 420-440 MHz as part of the spectrum to be swapped and auctioned to commercial users." You can find a sample letter, "How to Find your Representative" and the contact information for ARRL's legislative consultant, Chwat & Co.

Public Service: New Zealand Amateurs Assist in Earthquake's Aftermath

This map shows the intensity of the Christchurch earthquake. See a larger version here. [Image courtesy of the US Geological Survey]

A 6.3 magnitude earthquake struck the Canterbury region in New Zealand's South Island on Tuesday, February 22 at 12:51 PM local time (2351 on February 21 UTC). According to IARU Region 3 Disaster Communications Committee Chairman Jim Linton, VK3PC, 10 radio amateurs are using their two emergency broadcast vans to keep rescue teams and Civil Defense staff in touch. One is at a major welfare center, providing portable communication so they can talk to Civil Defense, and the other vehicle is on its way to assist search-and-rescue teams in an area where communication is poor. Read more here.

WRC-12 : Amateur MF Allocation Moves a Step Closer

Amateur Radio has moved a step closer to a medium frequency (MF) allocation below the AM broadcast band. During the first week of the Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM) for the 2012 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-12) of the International Telecommunication Union, held in Geneva February 14-25, delegates completed the drafting of nine pages of analysis of the technical and regulatory issues related to WRC-12 Agenda Item 1.23: consideration of a possible secondary allocation to the Amateur Service of about 15 kHz somewhere between 415 and 526.5 kHz. Two possible methods of satisfying the agenda item, along with the possibility of there being no change (and therefore no allocation), are set out in the CPM Report, along with the advantages and disadvantages of each.

In the News : Three Yachtsmen Killed by Somali Pirates were Hams

Four Americans -- including three Amateur Radio operators -- who were being held hostage on their yacht by pirates off the coast of Oman have been killed. Scott Adam, K9ESO, and his wife Jean, KF6RVB, along with Bob Riggle, KE7IIV, and Phyllis Macay were on board the S/V Quest when pirates boarded their vessel on Friday, February 18. The Adams were based in the Los Angeles area; Riggle and Macay were from Seattle.

Scott Adam, K9ESO, and his wife Jean, KF6RVB -- along with friends Bob Riggle, KE7IIV, and Phyllis Macay -- were killed by Somali pirates on their 58 foot yacht early in the morning on Tuesday, February 22.

According to the US Central Command, the boat was in the Indian Ocean, headed toward the Somali coast when on Friday, the 58 foot yacht sent a distress signal. The boat was being trailed by US Navy forces; it was about a two day sail from the Somali coast. They had begun tracking the yacht after being alerted that a Danish naval helicopter had seen the Quest off Oman under the pirates' control. The Central Command oversees US anti-piracy operations in the Indian Ocean.

Officials were in the process of negotiating for the Americans' release when gunfire was heard around 1 AM (EST) on Tuesday, February 22. "As (US forces) responded to the gunfire, reaching and boarding the Quest, the forces discovered all four hostages had been shot by their captors," a statement from US Central Command said. "Despite immediate steps to provide life-saving care, all four hostages ultimately died of their wounds."

Amateur Radio in Space: ARISSat-1 Deployment Postponed

According to the AMSAT News Service, the deployment of the ARISSat-1 satellite from the International Space Station -- previously scheduled for Wednesday, February 16 -- has been postponed. The postponement was necessary because of changes in the work schedule for the February 16 space walk. Instead, ARISSat-1 deployment will be added to a spacewalk scheduled for July 2011.

ARISSat-1 team members prepare the nanosatellite for vibration testing at the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas.

When launched, ARISSat-1 will add another dimension to science classrooms worldwide, in addition to space communications for the Amateur Radio community. Unfortunately this delay will considerably narrow the window of opportunity for US school calendar activities, but may provide opportunities for summer learning activities.

The project is a cooperative effort between AMSAT, ARISS (Amateur Radio on the International Space Station,) RSC-Energia (the Russian space agency) and NASA. The design, development and construction of the satellite were done entirely by AMSAT volunteers. Original plans called for the satellite to be hosted inside an old Russian spacesuit. But when the suit became unavailable, the radio equipment was modified and refitted to a newly designed space frame and named ARISSat-1.

After it is deployed from the International Space Station, ARISSat-1 is expected to be operational in orbit for up to six months. For more on ARISSat-1, check out this article from the February 2011 issue of QST.

Dayton Hamvention : Astronaut Doug Wheelock, KF5BOC, to be Honored Guest of ARRL and AMSAT

Astronaut Doug Wheelock, KF5BOC

Doug Wheelock, KF5BOC, will be attending the 2011 ARRL EXPO - part of the Dayton Hamvention@ -- as a special guest of the ARRL and AMSAT. While at Hamvention, Wheelock will share his experiences about using Amateur Radio in space. Wheelock spent six months on the ISS, seven weeks as ISS Commander; while on board the ISS, he, along with fellow astronaut Shannon Walker, KD5DXB, participated in the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program. Together, the two made 22 ISS-to-school and ISS-to-camp QSOs.

Rockers with Ham Connection Win Big at Grammys

One of the biggest prizes handed out during the February 13 Grammy awards went to rockers Arcade Fire. Their highly acclaimed album *The Suburbs* was crowned Album of the Year. While Arcade Fire's win was a surprise -- facing competition from Eminem, Lady Antebellum, Lady Gaga and Katy Perry -- it wasn't totally unexpected, as *The Suburbs* dominated many critics' best-of lists of 2010.

Arcade Fire's Win Butler was visibly stunned as the group accepted their trophy and then quickly rushed to perform the last song of the night. Band members

Win and Will Butler are the grandsons of the late orchestra leader Alvino Rey, W6UK.

The song We Used to Wait from their winning album relates to communications and, during their concert performances of the song, the band displays images of Amateur Radio QSL cards. Arcade Fire was profiled in an article by ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, in the November 2010 issue of QST.

Radio Club d'Haiti Receives Repeater from ARRL and Radio Club Dominicano

Representing the Radio Club Dominicano (RCD), Douglas Lapin, K1OY (left), presents Radio Club d' Haiti President Jean-Robert Gaillard, HH2JR, with a repeater donated by the ARRL and the RCD. [Photo courtesy of Radio Club Dominicano]

As part of the relief efforts after the earthquake in Haiti, the ARRL -- through its Ham Aid Program -- with the help of IARU Region 2 and the Radio Club Dominicano (RCD), delivered a Vertex VXR-7000 repeater to the Radio Club d'Haiti. This repeater, part of the original equipment sent by the ARRL during the devastating Haitian earthquakes in January 2010, will help with radio communications coverage in that devastated nation. Both the Radio Club Dominicano and the Radio Club d'Haiti are IARU Member-Societies.

DXCC News: DXCC Desk Approves 9X0SP Rwanda 2010 DXpedition

ARRL DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, reports that the 9X0SP 2010 DXpedition to Rwanda has been approved for DXCC credit. "If you had cards that were recently rejected for this operation, please send an e-mail to the ARRL DXCC Desk," Moore said. "Please note that due to extremely heavy e-mail, DXCC staff may not respond to your message. Once your record is updated, results will appear in Logbook of The World (LoTW) accounts or in the live, daily DXCC Standings."

Upcoming Contests

Upcoming contest information - domestic

Credit to Bruce Horn WA7BNM for all information. For more information visit <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.html>

March 2011

QRP Fox Hunt 0200Z-0330Z, Mar 9
<http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/>

CWops Mini-CWT Test 1100Z-1200Z, Mar 9 and 1900Z-2000Z, Mar 9 and 0300Z-0400Z, Mar 10
<http://www.cwops.org/onair.html>

QRP Fox Hunt 0200Z-0330Z, Mar 11
<http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/>

ARCI HF Grid Square Sprint 1500Z-1800Z, Mar 12
<http://www.qrparci.org/content/view/8346/118/>

Idaho QSO Party 1900Z, Mar 12 to 1900Z, Mar 13
<http://idahoarri.info/qsoparty/rules.htm>

North American Sprint, RTTY 0000Z-0400Z, Mar 13
<http://www.ncjweb.com/sprinrules.php>

SKCC Weekend Sprint 0000Z-2400Z, Mar 13
<http://www.skccgroup.com/sprint/wes/>

Wisconsin QSO Party 1800Z, Mar 13 to 0100Z, Mar 14
http://www.warac.org/wqp/wiqp_rules.htm

NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint 1800Z-2000Z, Mar 14
<http://naqcc-eu.org/SprintHelp/SprintRules.pdf>

QRP Fox Hunt 0100Z-0230Z, Mar 16
<http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/>

NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint 0030Z-0230Z, Mar 17
<http://naqcc.info/sprint201112mw.html>

QRP Fox Hunt 0100Z-0230Z, Mar 18
<http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/>

10-10 Int. Mobile Contest 0001Z-2359Z, Mar 19
http://www.ten-ten.org/Forms/QSOPartyRules_05312009.pdf

Feld Hell Sprint 1200-1400 local, Mar 19
<http://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/Home/contests>

Oklahoma QSO Party 1300Z, Mar 19 to 0200Z, Mar 20 and 1300Z-1900Z, Mar 20
<http://okdxa.org/web/html/rules11.htm>

Virginia QSO Party 1800Z, Mar 19 to 0100Z, Mar 21
http://www.qsl.net/sterling/VA_QSO_Party/2011_VQP/2011_VQP_Rules.html

North Dakota QSO Party 1800Z, Mar 19 to 1800Z, Mar 20
<http://www.w0cq.com/ndqso2011.pdf>

SKCC Sprint 0000Z-0200Z, Mar 23
<http://www.skccgroup.com/sprint/sks/>

CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB 0000Z, Mar 26 to 2400Z, Mar 27
<http://www.cqwp.com/rules.htm>

QRP Homebrewer Sprint 0000Z-0400Z, Mar 28
<http://www.njgrp.org/data/qrphomebrewersprint.html>

April 2011

ARCI Spring QSO Party 1200Z, Apr 2 to 2359Z, Apr 3
<http://www.qrparci.org/content/view/8347/118/>

Missouri QSO Party 1800Z, Apr 2 to 0500Z, Apr 3
and 1800Z-2359Z, Apr 3
http://www.w0ma.org/mo_qso_party.htm

QCWA Spring QSO Party 1800Z, Apr 2 to 1800Z, Apr 3
<http://www.qcwa.org/qso-party.pdf>

ARS Spartan Sprint 0100Z-0300Z, Apr 5
http://adventure-radio.org/wiki/index.php?title=Spartan_Sprint_Rules

Montana QSO Party 0000Z, Apr 9 to 2400Z, Apr 10
<http://www.fvarc.org/?q=node/77>

PODXS 070 Club PSK 31 Flavors 1200-1800 local, Apr 9
<http://www.podxs070.com/31-flavors>

New Mexico QSO Party 1400Z, Apr 9 to 0200Z, Apr 10
http://pages.swcp.com/~n5zgt/nmqso-party/documents/NM_QP_forms.pdf

Georgia QSO Party 1800Z, Apr 9 to 0359Z, Apr 10 and
1400Z-2359Z, Apr 10
<http://gqp.contesting.com/Rules.htm>

SKCC Weekend Sprint 0000Z-2400Z, Apr 10
<http://www.skccgroup.com/sprint/wes/>

NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint 0030Z-0230Z, Apr 13
<http://naqcc.info/sprint201112mw.html>

CWops Mini-CWT Test 1100Z-1200Z, Apr 13 and 1900Z-
2000Z, Apr 13 and 0300Z-0400Z, Apr 14
<http://www.cwops.org/onair.html>

NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint 1800Z-2000Z, Apr 13
<http://naqcc-eu.org/SprintHelp/SprintRules.pdf>

TARA Skirmish Dig Prefix Contest 0000Z-2400Z, Apr
16
http://www.n2ty.org/seasons/tara_dpx_rules.html

Feld Hell Sprint 1600Z-1800Z, Apr 16
<http://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/Home/contests>

Michigan QSO Party 1600Z, Apr 16 to 0400Z, Apr 17
<http://www.miqp.org/Rules.htm>

Ontario QSO Party 1800Z, Apr 16 to 1800Z, Apr 17
<http://cco.ve3xd.com/oqp/rules.htm>

ARRL Rookie Roundup, SSB 1800Z-2359Z, Apr 17
<http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup>

73 de KK1X

2011 Flea Markets/Conventions

February 26 -- ARRL Vermont State Convention,
Colchester, Vermont

Advertisements

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should contact the NVARC Treasurer for information.



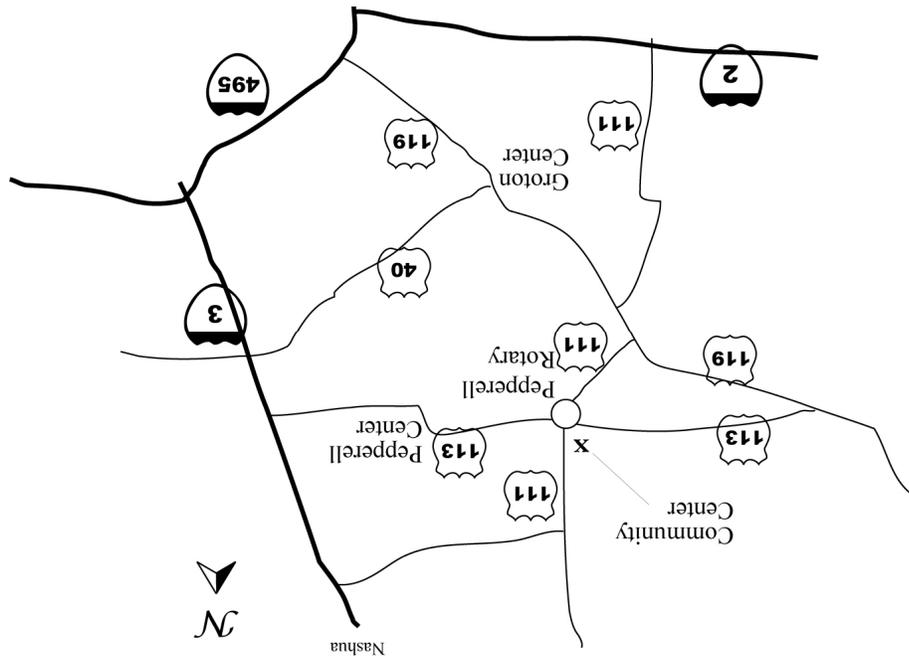
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Annual membership dues are \$15; \$20 for a family
Meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of the month
7:30 p.m. - Pepperell Community Ctr.
Talk-in 146.490 simplex
442.900 + 100Hz Repeater battery power
147.345 + 100 Hz Repeater
53.890 - 100Hz Repeater battery power
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