



WEST RIVER RADIO CLUB

DIGITAL DISPATCH

February – 2006



EXTRA CLASS

Seven scholars are currently fighting the good fight in studying for their Extra Class tickets. We wish them all the very best. They are:
N1ESK, David WA1CUV, James
N1TOX, John KA1ZQX, Tim
NIHOS, Jack K2AEP, Peter
KB1KSR, Ed

They're under the shared tutelage of AA1T, Grant – KD6MPY, Sean – K1KU, Darrel

Sean, KD6MPY, is also busy setting up a Tech class for the spring. With our own WRRC station at Grace Cottage Hospital up and running and every other hospital in the state slowly coming "on line" with amateur radio stations there is a desperate need for fresh blood in the hobby.



A happy General – KB1KSR, May 2005

If you know of someone who wants to get involved in this fascinating hobby give Sean a shout at kd6mpy@arrl.net

Before too long (it may be there now) there will be a class application form on our web site (www.westriverradio.net). This can be filled out and emailed onto Sean.

MARCH DOINGS

- ♦ **March 25** – BOD meeting. 11:30 AM at PanAsian Restaurant next to Staples in Brattleboro. All are welcome.



N1REB, Jeanette – N1ESK, David – W1ZS, Burt Nathan Andrews at the 2005 MOD Walkathon

(Ed note: This walk-a-thon is coming up on May 13. Why not plan on helping out this year. You even get a free t-shirt.)

A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME

I'm forced to admit that "E-Letter" is not the most exciting name going for these monthly mailings.

I have received one other idea for a name. How about the "**West River Current**"? Check that out along with the one I've provided in the header for this issue and let me know your preference.

Or, exercise your fertile imaginations and suggest yet another name. The winning entry will not receive a prize, unless, of course, you consider seeing your name/call in print a prize.

You Know You're a Ham if...

- ◆ You buy electrical black tape in ten packs.
- ◆ You've stripped wire with your teeth.
- ◆ You've told your son that, "One day, all this will be yours", and he doesn't respond.
- ◆ You'd rather help a buddy put up a new tower than mow the lawn.
- ◆ You've grabbed the wrong end of a soldering iron.
- ◆ You start giving out RST reports when you are on the telephone.
- ◆ The propagation forecast means far more to you than the local weather forecast.
- ◆ The microphone or visual aids at a meeting don't work and you rush up to the front to fix it.
- ◆ You tell the XYL, when she notices a new rig in the shack, "Why that has been there for years." (I've used this one more than once)
- ◆ Your watch is set only to UTC.
- ◆ At night, when you pray, it starts off something like: CQ CQ CQ GOD DE (your callsign).
- ◆ You ever had to patch your roof after an antenna project.
- ◆ Ham radio magazines comprise more than 50% of your bathroom library.
- ◆ You ever put a GPS tracker in the XYL's car, just so you could watch her on APRS.
- ◆ You and the XYL took a cruise so you could visit the radio room.
- ◆ You ever tapped out HI in Morse on your car horn to another ham.
- ◆ You ever had an antenna fall down.
- ◆ Your teenager refuses to ride in your car because it looks like a porcupine.
- ◆ You know the Latitude and Longitude of your home QTH.
- ◆ You go into the local Radio Shack store and the clerk asks you where something is.



THE AMATEUR'S CODE

By Paul M. Segal W9EEA (1928)
(Not a bad idea in 1928 – or 2006, for that matter.)

The Radio Amateur is:

CONSIDERATE: never knowingly operating in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL: offering loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs, and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE: with knowledge abreast of science, a well built and efficient station and operation beyond reproach.

FRIENDLY: with slow and patient operation when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, co-operation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCED: Radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

PATRIOTIC: with station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

STRESS FREE CONTESTING

Your humble correspondent had loads of fun operating in the VT QSO Party this month – 222 contacts with 42 states and Canadian provinces, plus 3 DX calls.

With enough interest this might become a club activity. After all, we have 2 club calls to use. We're a relatively rare state and there is a lot of interest in working a Vermont. We also have an excellent club QSL card to send along to te deserving – just another way to put our name out there in other parts of the world. It's always held the first weekend in February.

For further information check out www.ranv.org/vtqso.html

SPECIAL DAYS

Before departing let's take a minute to wish the following a very Happy Birthday.

K1IK, Albert	March 4
N1HOS, Jack	March 14
W1ERE, Irving	March 15
W1ZS, Burt	March 25

ONE LAST SUGGESTION

The next time you're out there surfing the WWW (or you can even go there intentionally) stop by at www.westriverradio.net or www.w1rrc.net and check out the club's fine web site. I can almost guarantee that you'll learn something you didn't know about us or Ham Radio in general.

John, N1TOX, puts in a lot of hours of work and thought keeping this site as good as it is. He is to be highly commended.

CUL es 73 de K1KU SK

