



# DIGITAL DISPATCH

## A publication of the West River Radio Club



July — 2009

Volume VI—#7

### VITAL STATISTICS

The West River Radio Club, an ARRL Special Service Club, was founded in 2004 through the efforts of KA1ZQX, Tim Bell, and N1JSG, Richard Pierce.

Our 52 members pride themselves on belonging to an active and productive organization with involvement in many aspects of this great hobby: public service, special events, Field Day, repeaters, emergency communications, contesting and chasing DX.

Current officers are:

N1TOX, John Borichevsky; President  
W1CWB, Chas Baker; VP  
KD6MPY, Sean Sanderson/WK1L, Bro. Frank Hagerty ED/VE Liaison  
K1KU, Darrel Daley; Secretary/Treasurer  
KA1ZQX, Tim Bell, Public Relations / ARES

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

## Happy 4th of July



While many of you have served in the Military Service, some of us have not. I want to say "Thank You" to you all for your service and dedication to your country and making the USA the free country we all love. Independence Day is our celebration of the birth of America, but most of all, we celebrate another year of being free.

Speaking about those in the service, let me tell you a bit about my dad. My dad was in the Air Force (as were many of the Borichevsky family) during the Korean War and was a Staff Sergeant. His primary deployment was in Alaska and listening to the radio conversations from far away and deciding if it was war strategy or casual conversations. While he

never talked about his deployments or where he was until his last days, and he was always proud of his Air Force experiences. I have seen his hundreds of slides of his deployments in Alaska, mostly, and the other locations he was stationed at. The one picture that sticks in my mind was one of him and his buddies with about 20 salmon laying on the ground in front of them that they caught. If you have read my web page, you know that dad passed away in 1997. I still thank him for his contributions to America and helping to keep America the free country that it is.

So no matter what your ranks is or was, whether it was the Air Force, Army, Navy, Marines, National Guard, Coast Guard or one of the specialized service divisions like the Navy Seals, Thank You all.... Anchors Away, Semper Fidelis, Let's Fly, Hooah....



So as I am writing this, our dear editor of the "WRRC Digital Dispatch" is recovering from surgery. I am sure we have all send our individual "Get Well Messages" to him in thoughts and prayers. Get well soon Darrel... We are looking forward to your return and good humor...

Until our August Edition and when normalcy returns (and it will),

John Borichevsky—N1TOX  
President West River Radio Club

## HAVE YOU TRIED "TPA"?

Burt Eldridge—W1ZS

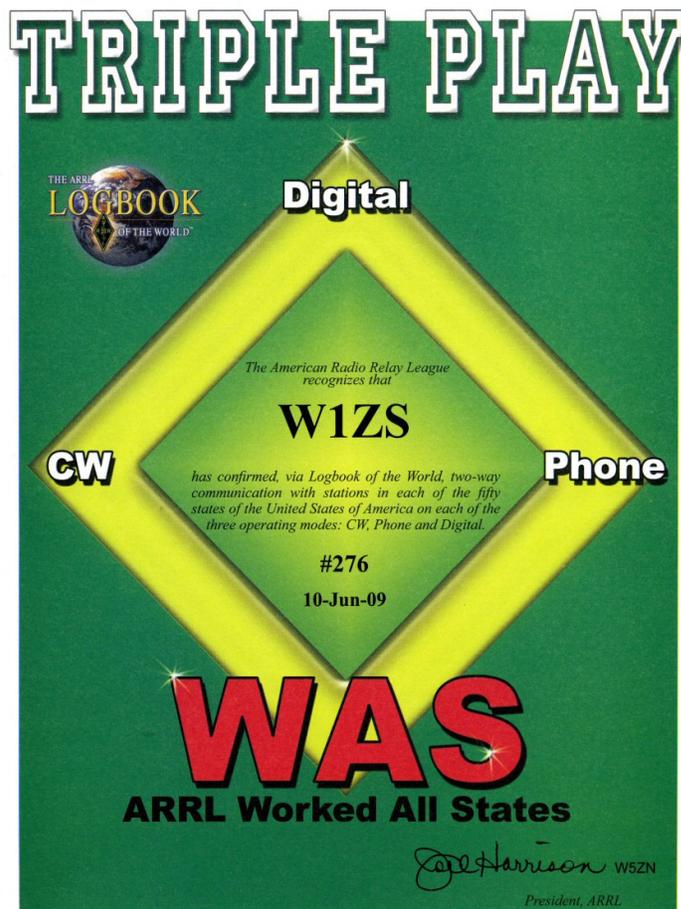
Having been a ham for more than fifty years, I have always been interested in working DX stations. Since my first DX qso in September, 1957 with DL4USA in Germany, I have chased DX. Having worked DXCC on 8 different bands and accumulated almost 100,000 qsos over the years I thought it was about time to try another challenge. I found that challenge in the TPA.

The TPA is the "Triple Play Award" sponsored by the American Radio Relay League. The requirements consist of working all 50 States on SSB, on CW and also on a digital mode ( RTTY, PSK etc). From the East Coast of the US that can be a challenge for the last two states....Hawaii and Alaska. All the states can be worked on any band as long as the three modes are completed.

Surprisingly I found that qsos with Alaska and Hawaii were relatively easy on 20 meter CW and RTTY but more of a challenge on SSB. Actually, my last two needed states were Kentucky and Rhode Island. Using only 100 watts and often a dipole CW and RTTY are easier modes to get thru the QRM and QSB. I did use the K3UK website for many of the qsos. This website can be found at <http://www.obriensweb.com/sked/>. I recommend this site for not only the TPA award but for many awards as well as general qso and chat.

For this award one must use the Logbook of The World (LoTW). Information for this program can be found at <http://arrrl.org/lotw>. All confirmations of contacts are confirmed via the LoTW and therefore there is no need to send qsls via the mail. This means no cost for stamps, envelopes, etc. Also all confirmations are almost immediate. If one doesn't care about the TPA this is also a very good way to get the Worked all States (WAS) award for any band or all bands. On the K3UK website there is more information on other challenges as well as a place to schedule general chats with anyone using that site. Now that I have completed the TPA I may go back to chasing DX or maybe.....work some states on different bands or maybe even Slow Scan Television.....but that's a story for another day!!

Pres Comments—Congratulations Burt!! A well deserved award. That sure is a lot of qsos!!



### Quote of the Month

The way to get started is to quit talking and begin doing.—Walt Disney



**K1KU K1KU where r u?**



## UPCOMING EVENTS & LOOKING AHEAD

**July 14, 2009:** Our Regular meeting at Grace Cottage Hospital at 7 PM in the EMT Training Room. We will be planning for Fair Day and talking about Field Day 2009.

**July 25, 2009:** Our regular BOD / Luncheon meeting at PanAsian. We start at 11:30 AM

Have a wonderful summer, if it ever stops raining.



## Greetings from Washington State

*Gordon Pugh—W2NH*

The venue should be obvious, Seattle Washington. This was sent to us by KC7ECY, John Pugh, who attended a WRRRC meeting a year ago as Gordon's, W2NH, guest. For perspective, the fireworks are beyond the space needle. The item that looks like a "Red Owl" in the lower left is actually the Museum. It must have been a great dinner location if you were eating at a table in the Space needle with the fireworks in the background. Just spectacular.

## FINANCES

**T**he data below is valid as of the publication of this issue of the Digital Dispatch

46 Full members—7 Associate members  
62.2% of the full members belong to the ARRL

Checking = \$1503.35

Cash on hand = \$62.48

(Source 6/09 Digital Dispatch)



## Electronic Repairs needed?

Jack Adams—N1HOS

I sent my amps to a ham friend in Charlestown, NH and he fixed them. He also fixed my old Icom 751. His prices are cheaper than most other radio shops. His name is Vin Augustinowicz. Vin can be contacted via Email [vin11866@gmail.com](mailto:vin11866@gmail.com) or via phone 603-445-5680. Vin's is als an amatreu radio operator and his call sign NX1DX. He has a great shop with a ton of equipment. He fixes airplane radios on the side. Should anybody need a repair to any new or old equipment, he is good as a repairman. Vin lives in Charlestown. It's an easy place to find as right off route 12.

*(Presidents note: This is not a WRRRC endorsement, but information to have at your fingertips should you need something repaired.)*

## What? Nothing about Field Day 2009?

John Borichevsky—N1TOX



Do you think we would not mention Field Day 2009!! Silly you, we are saving the best for last. As our figures are not tabulated "yet", we can share that we had 150 CW contacts, 261 Phone contacts and 2

PSK-31 contacts.

Thunderstorms were abundant, the fire was roaring and the food was cooking. Oh yea, we lit up a few antennas with good radio contacts from south eastern Vermont reaching out as far as the west coast! One was my very first west coast contact too!

Field Day is more than being with your friends and using your radios, it is a drill for remote operations where you do not have the luxuries of your warm (or cool) and dry house. You are in the great outdoors, with battery power, generators and your radio equipment making contacts all over the globe.

Now, let's put the rumors to rest here and say there was also good food, humor, excitement, friendship along with some visitors from near and far visiting the site of Paul and Tina Blais' house in W Halifax, VT. Thanks to our host and hostess

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for allowing us to invade their home and make some really strange noises for 24 hours. They must be radio operators too!!

There will be more information about Field Day 2009, and maybe even a few pictures, in the August edition of the "Digital Dispatch".



### West River Radio Club

*(Vermont's Newest Amateur Radio Club)*

Communicating from the West River Valley in Windham County, Vermont, USA to the World!

Come join us at Grace Cottage Hospital in Townshend, VT every second Tuesday of the month at 7 P.M. for our regular meetings.

For more information about our club, visit our Webpage - <http://www.westriverradio.net> or Email us - [wrrcnet@sover.net](mailto:wrrcnet@sover.net)



WIRRC

## Who just received their license?

Please welcome our newest members who received their license after our latest June 2009 VE Session.

PJ Blais—KB1SPC  
Tina Blais—KB1SPD  
Richard Cogliano—KB1SPG

Welcome to the group and we are looking forward to talking to you on the air.

Want to upgrade to a General License? We will be starting a General Licensing Class in the Fall. Check our website for more information.

We are also going to have an Extra Review Session for those whom wish to obtain the ultimate in Amateur Radio Licenses. Contact "Bro. Frank Hagerty (WK1L)" at [hagertysse@myfairpoint.net](mailto:hagertysse@myfairpoint.net) if you are interested in joining this study group.

