



DIGITAL DISPATCH

A publication of the West River Radio Club



August—2009

Volume VI—#8

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

PREZ KORNER

New Things on the WRRC Horizon....

The West River Radio Club has grown over the past few years in membership, and we have all seen this. We started with just 11 members who attended our first organizational meeting, and now we are over 50 members strong today. From a group who shared a common interest, to a strong group who will work with people, offer licensing classes, promote the art of Amateur Radio and offer technical assistance, Em-Comm, and public relations. This is why we are an ARRL Special Services Club. We earned it!

Did you see our home page? There is a map the very bottom showing the countries from which people have looked at our website. This is just a little thing, but you will notice that we are being reviewed worldwide. Ok, some might be some stray hits from a search engine, but they called up our URL and we were at least looked at for a few seconds or even longer!

With the increase of activities that our club is involved in, the board has found it more difficult to make sure we are all aware of events and keep us all "in the know". Now, in order to better control our schedule of events within the club, or activities that hams might want to know about, we have created a group calendar. The New WRRC Meeting and Event Times manual calendar has a new look, more information, easier to manage and easy to

use. There are 2 ways to view the calendar. The *Agenda View* will give you a list of things coming up, and there the *Calendar View* is where you can see what is going on for that month.

What we like about this, and we are sure you will also, is that we'll not just put our own club's information in there, but information we receive from surrounding clubs (like VE sessions and annual events for example), radio contests, or anything related to Amateur Radio that the club feels fit to put in there. If you would like to post something of interest related to Amateur Radio and the WRRC in the calendar, please contact a board member with the details. Let us know what you think about the calendars. Go to www.westriverradio.org and click on Meeting and Event Times on the left.

Attention RACES members! Did you mark your calendars for the VEM – RACES Annual Conference on Saturday October 3, 2009 in Pittsford? No? Why not? This will be a conference where we will be talking about Interstate Emergency Radio Communications. VEM-RACES is taking the bold step to start talking with neighboring states on how we can work together and how we can best communicate across state lines during emergencies. With Break-out sessions and many more things on tap, we hope to see you there.

So what can we do for you? We have had great request to do more hands on sessions during our meetings. Antenna building is a class we will start off with. If you have any other hands on sessions you would like to have, kit building, radio tune-ups, soldering PL-259's, AirMail, SSTV, or whatever, please let us know. This is your club and we want your input. This is what keeps us being the great club we are, and growing in popularity

Until next month!
73

.....
de N1TOX
John Borichevsky – President
WRRC





HAM RADIO NEEDS YOU

We have a poster like this graphic in our garage. For the purpose of this article I went on the web and discovered the below. Don't you just love it when you learn something new?

J. M. Flagg's_1917 poster, based on the original British Lord Kitchener poster of three years earlier, was used to recruit soldiers for both World War I and World War II. Flagg used a modified version of his own face for Uncle Sam.

My hope is that some graphic or not so graphic artist will modify this to call in all kinds of volunteers for the cause of Amateur Radio.



It is with sadness as your editor that I have to make the following SK notifications.

KA1YLN - SK

Tim Bell, KA1ZQX, has regretfully informed me of the passing of Joseph Armstrong, KA1YLN on June 16 in Brattleboro.

Joe was a former Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator, VT Official Bulletin Station, EC for Windham County, and Official Observer.

RIP



KB1OVK - SK

It is with deep regret that I announce the passing of WRRRC member, Michael Hill, KB1OVK, of Hinsdale, NH. Mike lost a valiant battle with pancreatic cancer at the age of 52.

He came to Ham radio via WRRRC classes and VE program and was involved with Emcomm drills at Brattleboro Memorial Hospital where he had worked with facilities services for 28 years.

Besides Amateur Radio Mike was an avid motorcyclist and loved old cars and trucks. He was involved in several restoration projects. He is survived by numerous family members, including his wife, Joan Robertson.

RIP



KB1OVK, Michael Hill

(Ed: My thanks to the ARRL web page where I "lifted" this information.)

CBS newsman Walter Cronkite, KB2GSD, who held the title of "Most Trusted Man in America," passed away Friday, July 17 after a long illness. He was 92. Cronkite anchored CBS Evening News for 19 years until 1981 when he retired. During that time, he reported on such subjects as the Kennedy assassinations, the Civil Rights movement, the Apollo XI lunar landing, Vietnam and the Vietnam-era protests, the Arab-Israeli Six Day War, Watergate and the Begin-Sadat peace accords.

Cronkite, an ARRL member, narrated the 6 minute video *Amateur Radio Today*. Produced by the ARRL in 2003, the video tells Amateur Radio's public service story to non-hams, focusing on ham radio's part in helping various agencies respond to wildfires in the Western US during 2002, ham radio in space and the role Amateur Radio plays in emergency communications. "Dozens of radio amateurs helped the police and fire departments and other emergency services maintain communications in New York, Pennsylvania and Washington, DC," narrator Cronkite intoned in reference to ham radio's response on September 11, 2001. "Their country asked, and they responded without reservation."



RUNNIN' ON EMPTY

#5 Is History

For the uninitiated that "#5" refers to the WRRC's fifth adventure in Field Day. And it was a great adventure.

Thanks to Paul, KB1OQH, Tina, KB1SPD, KB1SPC, PJ, and Meagan for their hospitality in opening their QTH for us over the weekend. It was greatly appreciated.

Thanks to those who came out during a monsoon on Friday, June 26 to get things all set up. They had faith in my promise that the rains would stop. They did and we managed to erect 4 antennas and a screen house while having fun at the same time. That set up crew consisted of KB1SPC, PJ, KBQSPD, Tina, KB1OQH, Paul, WK1L, Frank, W1CWB, Chas, and K1KU, Darrel.

Here's my list of operators and guests. When you observe the high class of personnel present we're hoping that you'll be motivated to come and join the fun for #6.

PHONE:

N1TOX, John Borichevsky
 W1CWB, Charles Baker
 KB1OQH, Paul Blais
 KA1ZQX, Tim Bell
 WK1L, Frank Hagerty
 KB1SPC, Paul Blais
 KB1J, Richard Austin

CW:

WK1L, Frank Hagerty
 W1ZS, Burton Eldridge
 K1KU, Darrel Daley

YOUTH:

Meagan Blais
 KB1SPC, Paul Blais

GUESTS:

W1ERE, Irving King
 KB1SPD, Tina Blais
 N2JFS, Hans Hammarquist and son



KB1SPC, PJ



N1TOX, John
 WK1L, Frank



WK1L, Frank-
 KA1ZQX, Tim



W1CWB,
 Chas



KB1OQH, Chef Paul



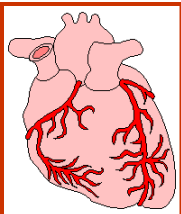
Chef
 Paul's
 Entree
 AKA Road
 Toad ala Mode



FOR SALE NOT AVAILABLE IN STORES

Get the DVD of K1KU's quadruple bypass surgery—just as seen by the surgical team.

For the first time ever hear their irreverent quips and learn how they deal with dropped surgical tools—sterilization? HA!!



Watch the comedy of several grown men groping for that missing sponge.

See what happens when the head surgeon's dog gets into the OR and starts begging for scraps.

BUT WAIT! THERE'S MORE!

Order within the next 10 minutes and we'll toss in a private interview with K1KU's personal pole dancer turned nurse, the one, the only, Vivian VA VA VOOM. Mention this ad and get Vivian's special Double D discount for your next surgery, bachelor party, outdoor cook out, you name it.

Don't wait—Act today. Supplies are limited. Send your check, cash, or money order to:
Double D Enterprises
POB 445
Putney, VT 05346

You can have it all for \$19.95 plus nominal \$12.95 S/H charges. We look forward to hearing from you.

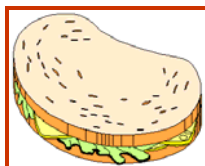
UPCOMING EVENTS & LOOKING AHEAD

Ongoing: WRRRC ARES net...19:30L, 147.015, positive offset and 100 Hz PL tone.

August 11: Regularly scheduled meeting of the WRRRC in the EMT room of Grace Cottage Hospital, Townshend, VT. 19:30L

August 13: CERT meeting at the Putney Fire Department, 19:00L.

August 29: This month's luncheon meeting will be at the House of Pizza by Staples in Brattleboro, VT.

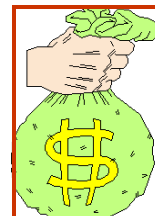


FINANCES

The data below is valid as of the publication of this issue of the Digital Dispatch

54 Full members—5 Associate members
659% of the full members belong to the ARRL

Checking = \$1507.97
Cash on hand = \$56.48



THE WOOD TOSSERS

My roving reporter, AKA, W1CWB, Chas, informs me that a productive day was spent in June at the repeater guru's QTH preparing things for the upcoming winter.

Present were:
KB1HCG, Mark—W2NH, Gordon—W1CWB, Chas—W1ERE, Irv

I'm also informed that a mid day meal was prepared by the loving(?) hands of the host. There have been nor reports of local drug stores selling out their anti-acid supplies.



A NEW GENERAL

Heartly congratulations to David Keniston (formerly KB1LLI and now N1DLK) on his upgrade to General. In an email David offered his personal thanks to Jack, N1HOS, and the other members of the VE team that signed off on his paper work.



BULLETINS ANYONE?

Here's a chance to test your receiver and learn something at the same time. If you go to the link below you'll find a schedule for all of the ARRL bulletins. There are mode choices and times galore, such as voice, CW, RTTY. Beginning on August 17 the AMTOR and ASCII bulletins will be replaced with PSK31 and MFSK16 respectfully.

This OT personally finds it gratifying that the League continues to send CW bulletins and code practice sessions. I'm probably not the only one who used these sessions religiously to get their code speed up to the necessary 20 WPM for so I could earn that coveted Extra license.

<http://www.arrl.org/w1aw.html#w1awsked>

AA1XU PIX

Here are a few pictures taken by AA1XU, Dick at a recent meeting. Thanks for the sharing these with the club, Dick.

W1CWB, Chas. Apparently it was broken, or he wouldn't be trying to fix it.



N1TOX, John
AA1XU, Dick
K1KU, Darrel
KB1KSR, Ed
All having fun, as usual

KB1NWT,
John

WK1L, Frank

Being serious, as usual



QUOTE OF THE MONTH

John Kennedy once said to an assembled group of scholars in the White House...

"I think this is the most extraordinary collection of talent, of Human knowledge, that has ever been gathered at the White House - with the possible exception of when Thomas Jefferson dined alone."



FROM W2NH, GORDON

(Ed: In light of all the SK announcements in this issue Gordon felt that the following anonymously written poem deserved publication. I concur wholeheartedly.)

Not - How did he die? But - How did he live?
Not - What did he gain? But - What did he give?

These are the things that measure the worth
Of a man as a man, regardless of birth.

Not - What was his station? But - had he a heart?
And - How did he play his God-given part?

Was he ever ready with a word of good cheer?
To bring back a smile, to banish a tear?

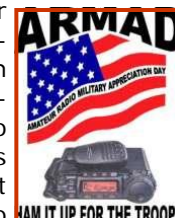
Not - What was his church? Not - What was his creed?
But - Had he befriended those really in need?

Not - What did the sketch in the newspaper say?
But - How many were sorry when he passed away?

These are the things that measure the worth
Of a man as a man, regardless of birth.

ARMAD

So Just what is ARMAD? It stands for Amateur Radio Military Appreciation Day. Now that's something I'm all for. In fact, I'd vote for something longer than one day. I must admit to some bias in favor of our Lads and Lassies in all branches of the military as I spent four years in the US Navy from 1954 to 1958 - sort of dates me, huh? I never saw any fighting and, in fact, spent those four years as a Navy musician doing a lot of marching, and playing in dance bands at assorted military clubs.



One of my goals for the WRRRC has been to get us on the air during one of ARMAD's gatherings such as during the Memorial Day weekend. Maybe in 2010.

I'll close this off with a paste from the group's forum on Yahoo.com that explains in a little more detail what it's all about.

Amateur Radio Operators have begun a unique way of showing support for our Military Veterans, and Active Duty Members. Emery McClendon, KB9IBW, founded ARMAD - Amateur Radio Military Appreciation Day as a way to allow the people of communities worldwide to express thanks, and appreciation to those that serve in the military. Since May 2004, ARMAD has grown, rapidly, with Amateurs joining in from around the world to spread messages of support during this "LIVE" forum. ARMAD 2005 involved over 100 locations worldwide, and troops from Iraq were on the air to listen to the members of our communities say thank you. These troops also responded, and let the world know how much it meant to them to hear

our LIVE voices. Emails and letters are great, but through the gift of Amateur Radio those that serve heard expressions of appreciation LIVE, and were also able to respond back with joy, and thanks to us. ARMAD expects to continue to grow, and invites amateur Radio Operators, Clubs, local community members, and Military Amateur Operators to participate in future events. Amateurs can help to bring awareness to our hobby by spreading the word about ARMAD, and setting up for these events at public venues. For more information please visit: www.armad.net



ANOTHER FAIR DAY

Just as the sun always rises in the east Grace Cottage Hospital has its annual Fair Day the first Saturday of every August. And since they took on the sponsorship of the WRRCC we've been there to show our appreciation and help them celebrate the event by setting up the club canopy and putting on a positive face for Ham Radio in Windham County by greeting fair goers, passing out literature and explaining what our great hobby is all about. We even set up a station and make a few contacts.

Our thanks to those club members who once more helped out with the set up and enjoyed all or part of the day on the Common in Townshend. Thanks to Dick, AA1XU, for some of the pictures below.

Present were:
 N1TOX, John
 KA1ZQX, Tim
 Marion Daley
 KB1J, Rich
 W1ERE, Irv
 KB1KSR, Ed
 KB1SPF, Art
 KA1TWV, Elaine
 AA1XU, Dick
 AB1JY, Janice
 W1CWB, Chas
 KB1OQG, Gaila



**KA1TWV, Elaine
 KA1ZQX, Tim**



**KB1J, Rich
 N1TOX, John ▲
 KA1ZQX, Tim
 Marion Daley**



**K1KU, Darrel
 Marion, his YL**



**K1KU, Darrel
 N1TOX, John
 KA1ZQX, Tim**



KB1J, Rich



CUL es 73 de K1KU SK



**Marion Daley
 N1TOX, John**