

CVFMA newsletter

WINTER 1992

YOUR NEW PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At last weeks business meeting I was nominated and then voted in as President. I am still in a state of shock. Usually in an organization you start as secretary or treasurer and then move up to vice president and then finally to president. I was voted in without this preparation - so I am really unprepared for the office. I need to know your (each and every member's) ideas and wants for the CVFMA organization and your feelings as to how our club should proceed. There are so many things that I do not know that I will be asking and asking and asking for your input. Please share with me your feelings on all aspects of our club so that when the time comes I can represent your wishes to the best of my ability.

I know that you are pretty much governed by a board of directors. We can take care of the mundane day-to-day business of the club. I think that none of the other members of the board will let me make any serious mistakes. I certainly will listen intently and try to take your desires into consideration when the board meets. So - take out your pen, typewriter, or word processor and some paper and let me know your thoughts.

We have a fine club, a good membership and lots of worth while activities. Lets continue to share good fellowship, good amateur radio and, most importantly of all, thoughtfulness for the wants and desires of other members. I have been impressed with the kindness and fun loving fellowship of the club so far and I only hope I might be able of foster its continuance.

Happy Halloween and Merry Christmas to you one and all! And, once again, thanks for

your confidence in electing me to this important post in the CVFMA organization.

To you traffic handlers - please note on page 105 of the November QST a change in handling "BOOK" messages. We no longer refer to one text going to multiple addressees as a "BOOK". We list each message separately as traffic and count it as such. I have handled some "BOOK" traffic and it was confusing. The new system seems to me to be an improvement.

And those of you who are not ARRL members might purchase a November QST and refer to page 108. I am really excited about this and the reason is as follows.

I was a radio operator on a freighter / passenger ship from 1935 through 1938. On the water we monitored 600 meters day and night. We had an auto alarm that would ring bells in the radio room, the radio operator's quarters and on the bridge in case an SOS was sent by some ship in distress. We could then hustle into the radio room, listen, and respond if necessary.

Today all recreational boats monitor marine VHF channel 16 whenever they are on the boat. At least they are supposed to do this. This is a wonderful way to render a service to our friends in dire trouble.

Now a proposal has come forth to monitor the repeaters and have an alarm to alert you in case someone needs help. This would be a wonderful service that all of us as Hams could render. This article gives a circuit to be connected to our 2 meter receiver that would alert us if someone were in need of help.

You would connect it to the receiver's output, and it would be quiet until an emergency tone - a three second DTMF (touch tone pad) - was received. The cost is minimal and the potential value to others immense. More later.

Sincerely, Frank A. Finger, NU1A
President, CVFMA

IMPORTANT DATES

CVFMA Board Meeting	Jan. 22
Cabin Fever Blues Dinner	Jan 30
NH QSO Party	Feb. 14,15

WELCOME FRANK

We members of CVFMA are twice blessed by having two brand new Presidents from Arkansas at the same time. One is about to move into the White House in Washington and the other is our own Frank Finger, NU1A. As far as the Washington President goes we will just have to wait and see, but in Frank we have a real winner. Frank has been involved in radio and electronics from an early age, as a shipboard radio operator, with the FAA working with aircraft communication and navigation equipment, and as a long time Amateur.

In addition to his Amateur Radio interests Frank is a Past Commander in the United States Power Squadrons and is currently the Co-op Charting Chairman for District 19 of that organization. Frank is an expert in piloting and navigation and frequently teaches courses in those subjects. Frank is a radio operator with the New London Fire Department and is setting up a computer system at the Department to help pinpoint the locations of fire calls.

Frank lives in New London with his wife Kay. Both Frank and Kay are regulars at the Saturday AM breakfast meetings at McKenna's Restaurant in New London.

FOURTH ANNUAL CABIN FEVER BLUES DINNER

Saturday, January 30, 1993
Homestead Inn, Walpole, NH
Happy Hour 5 PM - Dinner 6 PM

Choices are: Broiled Scallops - Roast Beef - Baked Ham - Baked Chicken - Baked Fresh Scrod.

All for the price of \$14.95 including tax, tip, and desert.

Don't miss out!! Reservations must be received no later than January 22, 1993. Send Check, Money Order, or Electronic Funds Transfer to:

**Pauline R. Ellis
66 Jarvis St.
Windsor, VT 05089**

ASCUTNEY NOTICE

The Mount Ascutney open phone patch for local calls has been disabled due to abuse by non-members. Any current member, whether local or toll from the Ascutney 674 exchange, may request a two or three digit AUTODIAL number. Contact Rudy, W1GUA or Marlon, KA1SMC.

ARES IN ACTION

On October 10th, NH ARES participated in the 1992 ARRL Simulated Emergency Test. This represented the first state-wide test of the NH Emergency Communications Plan. In the NH simulation, hurricane HAM passed over New Hampshire with winds in excess of 120 MPH, taking out commercial power across its path. Statewide, it is estimated that 150 ARES members participated.

On the local scene, the Sullivan County ARES net was activated on the 146.76

repeater, bringing in check-ins from around the region. A total of 19 hams joined in the exercise. Liaison stations were established between the local net and the State-Wide HF Net, local Red Cross, Claremont Police and New London Fire Department. Simulated emergency traffic was passed and all stations involved did a very good job.

At one point all stations went to emergency power use for the remainder of the test. A few stations also conducted cross country checks on the NH ARES simplex frequency. Some good info was collected, and each station involved got a good taste of Emergency Communications procedures. Many stations stayed with the net throughout the 4 hour exercise. All participants are to be congratulated on a job well done.

Simulations such as this are vital to the development of emergency plans, and help to identify both strong and weak points in the system. A big THANK YOU to all those who helped make SET'92 a real success.

Bruce Beford, KA1ORB

RAFFLE MANIA

No, we're not going into competition with the Tri-State Lottery, but we're going to give you a deal with a lot better odds! I'll take a second or two now while you flip pages and look at your 1993 CVFMA Application and Renewal form. (Hint: Look at the upper right hand corner.) All done? Good! I'll proceed.

That triangular section at the top is where your call sign is placed. If you happen to forget, no need to worry. We are diligent and will do the job for you. Fill in the rest of the blanks on the form with the pertinent information and mail same in with your check. If the postmark is stamped with a

date prior to January 24, 1993, the triangular part of your form will be placed in a hat, box, or whatever and a drawing will be held on the evening of January 27. We will immediately notify the winner by phone.

I can hear you asking, "What has the winner won?". The winner will get two free dinners at the Homestead Inn for our annual Beat the Cabin Fever Blues dine-out on Saturday, January 30, 1993. This affair starts at 5:00 PM with conversation and/or drinks and dinner will be served at 6:00 PM. But, you say, I can't attend because that's the night that PBS features Sesame Street reruns. Not to worry. If unable to join your friends for a great evening eyeball of food and conversation we will provide you with a gift certificate at the Homestead Inn worth the cost of two dinners. This amounts to \$30. This certificate must be used during the year of 1993.

You have every right to wonder whence comes this rash of generosity on the part of your board of directors. The truth is that we are searching for a way to motivate our members to renew on time. Our bylaws state that members who have not renewed by January 31 must be notified of their oversight. This notification can and has caused us to dig into the treasury for postage and paper, not to mention the donated time spent in preparing the mailings. For the above reasons the club's financial picture will improve significantly if we can get more folks to join on time. We will also gain from the extra interest earned as a result of making substantial deposits early in the year and not having them trickle in.

So, take a chance! Get that application form filled out now, if not sooner, and mail it in with your check post haste! Your board is anxious to buy you and your bride, XYL, YL, sister, son, daughter or whatever two dinners on January 30. CU there!

73, Darrel, KL7DN

TALKING S-METER

While the Mt. Ascutney machine was down for repair and repackaging the Talking S-Meter feature of the ACC controller was wired in. To access the feature: Announce your call, say "testing", press 73 on your touch tone (TT) pad, and then release the mike button. The controller will respond in voice with your relative signal strength into the mountain receiver. Please try not to abuse the feature. This feature, along with other TT accessible features, is disabled when the controller is in night mode.

NEW HAMPSHIRE QSO PARTY

The 1993 New Hampshire QSO party sponsored by the NH Amateur Radio Association (NHARA) will take place from 1900 UTC February 13 to 0700 UTC February 14 and from 1400 UTC February 14 to 0200 UTC February 15. This event is open to all license classes. Technicians w/o HF privileges are invited to join in the fun on simplex above 50 MHz and on the various modes found there. Exchange signal report, QTH, and County with NH stations. Exchanges with non-NH stations should include state, VE province, or DXCC country.

Scoring: All stations count one point per phone QSO (AM, SSB, FM), two points per digital QSO (RTTY, CW, PACKET). Contact with the following NHARA Contest Club Stations will allow 20 points to be counted for each contact. Contest Club Stations are W1ET, WB1CAG, N0CUH, W1WQM, N1ICK, K1RD, WB1FFZ, KC1OX, NE1K, W1GUA, WB1ASL, WW1G, K1BKE, N1LT, WK1P, and W1OC. Include the 20 points for Club station contacts in the total QSO point score before the multiplier. All contacts may be made on a once per band per mode basis. (This includes contacts with the 20 point NHARA Club stations.)

NHARA Contest Club Stations are allowed to operate two transmitters on a single band, one for each mode of operation. The two modes are Phone and Digital as defined above.

Multipliers: NH stations count number of NH counties, states, VE provinces, and DXCC countries. Non-New Hampshire stations count number of NH counties worked only.

Suggested operating frequencies:

CW - 1810, 3535, 7035, 14035, 21035, 28035 Khz.

SSB - 1875, 3935, 7235, 14280, 21380, 28320, 50115, 144205 Khz.

FM - 29.610, 52.540, 146.550, 223.500, 446.000, 902.100, 1296.100 Mhz.

Logs must be postmarked by March 31, 1993. Include an SASE when requesting summary sheets, contest rules, and for contest results.

Send logs and requests to:

G.E.A.R.S
Conrad Exstrom, WB1GXM
P.O. Box 1076,
Claremont, NH 03743-1076
(603) 543-1389

FOR SALE

Cushcraft Vertical Antenna - Model AV-5
80-10 meters w/manual, mast and 80 ft RG-8U.

Shakespeare Big Stick Vertical Antenna Model 376GB for 10-11 meters w/10 ft mast, mt brackets, clamps & 40 ft RG-8U. Used very little. Contact Ken, W1RPK at (802) 674-5577

2 Meter FM mobile - KDK 2033 w/ PL, scan & memories.
Contact Rob, KA1WZB at (802) 875-4302.

Leather case for a regular battery sized HT.
Contact Butch, WB1GXM at (603) 543-1389

Anemometers, Analog & LED readout (wind direction and velocity).
Contact Dan, KA1UJQ at (603) 899-5200

BIRTHDAYS

Rick Lowe, N1GKZ	Jan. 02
Jennifer L. Adler, KA1PVX	Jan. 05
Jack Bacon, N1HGG	Jan. 11
W. Thomas Hall, N1MSH	Jan. 15
Ernest J. Gregoire, KA1YVM	Jan. 16
Sandra Kimberly, KA1TLP	Jan. 17
Wayland Scott, N1HXC	Jan. 19
Frank A. Finger, NU1A	Jan. 21
Frank H. Duffy, K1MOQ	Jan. 22
Doris A. Adler, WA1THF	Jan. 23
Elaine Scott, KA1TWV	Jan. 24
Richard W. Olmsted, AB1O	Jan. 26
Leslie A. Smith, N1MCE	Jan. 28
William R. Deal, K1CLD	Jan. 29
A. Josephine Hollis, KA1KPJ	Jan. 29

Thomas Fix, N1GPQ	Feb. 08
Richard Pierce, N1JSG	Feb. 09
H. Jeffry Katchen, WB2NWR	Feb. 17
Dawn Cummings, K1TQY	Feb. 24

Yvonne Adams, KA1UNC	Mar. 05
Lisa A. Adler, KA1MDT	Mar. 08
Daniel P. Keech, K1FKX	Mar. 09
Henry J. McCarthy, W1ATC	Mar. 19
Warner E. Jones/MD, W1ECB	Mar. 21
Leslie S. Lyon, WY1L	Mar. 24
Sydney S. Letter, WA1PFK	Mar. 25
Alan Peterson, K1YOT	Mar. 25
Stanley C. Dickenson, KC1HY	Mar. 26
Ken Pollard, W1RPK	Mar. 26
Robert Provost, KA1IIA	Mar. 26
John W. Whittaker, NN1D	Mar. 26
Robert McQuaide, N1KWD	Mar. 29
Howard A. Baxter, KB1JT	Mar. 31

ANNIVERSARIES

Heidelise Als, N1BYG (Frank, K1MOQ)	Jan. 01
Frank H. Duffy, K1MOQ (Heide, N1BYG)	Jan. 01
Stanley C. Dickenson, KC1HY (Thelma)	Jan. 11
Robert A. Payne, K1BFG (Virginia)	Jan. 17
Leo Poulin, K1KFW (Marcia)	Jan. 21
Ronald Kobylenski, WC1S (Sara)	Jan. 31

Lemuel R. Cummings, K1IOJ (Vivian)	Feb. 05
Robert J. Ravlin, Jr., KA1WZB (Sherry)	Feb. 17
Carl M. Anderson, W1SIO (Shirley)	Feb. 21
Harvey E. Merrick, W1TIM (Harriet)	Feb. 22
David C. Schaller, W1IS (Meg)	Feb. 23

John W. Whitaker, NN1D (Marguerite)	Mar. 14
Edward H. Bort, KT1Q (Mary)	Mar. 18
Richard W. Olmsted, AB1O (Mary)	Mar. 18
Roland W. Aldrich, Jr., K1LEC (Kenna Jean)	Mar. 27
W. Thomas Hall, N1MSH (Susan)	Mar. 27

MAGNETIC SIGNS AVAILABLE

Quick on-off permanent magnetic material signs stating "AMATEUR RADIO COMMUNICATIONS" in black with the Amateur Radio Emergency Service logo and lightning bolts in orange are available through CVFMA. These white, 8" by 19" signs provide visible recognition of your involvement in public service events. The signs are available at \$10 each (below regular single quantity price) from Rudy Adler, W1GUA.

FOR ARRL MEMBERS ONLY

When renewing your ARRL Membership, make a contribution to CVFMA! Here's how:

Make out your check for the renewal amount, but make it out to CVFMA and send it to the Treasurer: Darrel L. Daley, P.O. Box 445. Putney, VT 05346. Darrel will renew your membership according to your wishes, but he will be able to keep some of your renewal money for the CVFMA. It is that easy!

COMPLAINTS OR SUGGESTIONS?

Do you have any gripes, complaints, or bright ideas for a better CVFMA? Your board is anxious for feedback from the membership. Come to any board meeting or pass your suggestions or complaints along to Director-at Large Marlon, KA1SMC.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Our special thanks go to the following individuals and groups for their donations to the CVFMA Scholarship Fund.

Lem, K1IOJ, Dawn, K1TQY, and Vivian Cummings - \$25 in memory of Edward Kaliski, KA2RWT.

Robert Boyd, N1CIR and the Sugar River Hamfest Committee - \$35.

ARMY MARS - WHAT IS IT? - WHY JOIN?

Americans love to join organizations and the Radio Amateur is no exception.

Psychologically, the "Joiners", whether they realize it or not, are looking for something. It might be friendship, an outlet for energies or emotions, even a challenge, but regardless of what it may be, they are looking for something.

Unfortunately, many times the organizations they join cannot give them whatever it is they need. So, the members either quit, or, what is sometimes worse, stay and try to change the organization to fit their needs. This can result in either deterioration of the organization or frustration on the part of the members. In order to avoid either of these calamities, let's take a close look at what Army MARS really is, for the MARS organization is not for everyone.

Just what is Army MARS? A stock answer is, "Army MARS is a military communications network". That's fine, but what exactly do those words mean?

A communications network is exactly the same thing as a commercial radio or TV network. It is a group of independent stations, in our case military and Amateur Radio, that are capable of operating independently, yet join together in order to reap the benefits of combined operation. By uniting themselves into a network they can cover a larger area more effectively, improve the quality of their operation, standardize their operation for greater efficiency, and broaden their knowledge and communications skills. They can attract more customers for their services, for they have more to offer. However, there is cost associated with these benefits. The fact that there is a cost to operate in MARS is one factor that is not always understood by new members. This misunderstanding can be a source of irritation to those have joined MARS, not realizing what they are getting themselves into.

Although there is no material cost, that is, members do not have to pay money, the expense is in the loss of some independence and a demand on time. Army MARS members are required to learn and use military procedures. Their operation is controlled and they are expected to take and follow orders from a chain of command as long as they are operating on military frequencies. It does not, of course, in any way affect how or when they operate on Amateur frequencies. but when operating on military frequencies MARS members are expected to abide by military regulations.

There is a demand on the members time for they are expected to learn and use military procedures, participate in their state nets, and obligate themselves to judicious handling of military messages. A minimum of 12 hours participation a quarter (each 3 months) is required.

Next time -- How the affiliate member fits into the organization.

Edited by: Rudolf A. Adler,
AAM1EC/AAR1EQ/W1GUA

BREAKFAST GATHERINGS

SAMRATS (Saturday AM Radio Amateur Technical Society) meets for breakfast on the last Saturday of every month. The meeting is at the Rib Room, Windsor, VT - across from the Windsor Station Restaurant. Contact Polly KA1III for reservations.

An informal Ham Radio breakfast gathering takes place every Saturday morning at MacKenna's Restaurant, New London, at 8:00 AM. All area Hams, XYLs and guests are welcome to drop in and have a cup of coffee with the group. Recent regulars are Roger Prior, NS10, Bill Eachus, KB1DL, Bob Buckley, W1GUX, Frank Finger, NU1A, Howard Baxter, KB1JT, and Reade Williams, N1GEP.

CONNECTICUT VALLEY FM ASSOCIATION
APPLICATION AND MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL
1993

(Please type or print)

CALL SIGN: _____ NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY/TOWN, STATE, ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: () _____ LICENSE CLASS: _____

EXPIRATION DATE: _____ LEAGUE MEMBER? Yes/No _____ Reg. _____ Life _____
(If you're a League member please renew via the CVFMA. As an affiliated club we can retain \$2. Join the League through us and we can keep \$5. There is NO extra charge to you.)

() FULL MEMBERSHIP. ANNUAL DUES/\$15.00 _____

() FAMILY DUES. ANNUAL DUES/\$25.00
(One newsletter per address) _____

() STUDENT MEMBERSHIP. ANNUAL DUES/\$7.50 _____
(Applies to any full time student under age 18)

() Please accept my contribution to the CVFMA
scholarship fund in the amount of _____

() Please accept my contribution to the repeater
maintenance and expansion fund in the amount of..... _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____
(Protect yourself. Pay with a check.)

Signed: _____ Date: _____

MEMBER INFORMATION

Birthdate: _____ Spouse's Name: _____

Spouse's Birthdate: _____ Anniversary Date: _____

Date first licensed: _____ Other Calls Held: _____

Favorite Amateur Radio interests: _____

Other Hobbies and Interests: _____

Return completed application and payment to:

Treasurer/CVFMA, INC.
POB 1628
Claremont, NH 03743-1628

Board of Directors...Pres: NU1A, Frank; Vice Pres: W1GUA, Rudy; Secretary: KY1U, Sandy; Treasurer: KL7DN/Darrel; Director at Large: KA1SMC/Marlon; Editors: N1GEP/Reade and KL7DN/Darrel; Entertainment: KA1III/Polly

The Connecticut Valley FM Association is a group of over 160 mostly like minded Hams. The organization was formed in 1970. We maintain two mountain top repeaters, 146.76/16 on Mount Ascutney in Windsor, VT and 147.24/84 on Moose Mountain in Hanover, NH.

We also offer two yearly scholarships of \$250 each to a graduating high school senior from Vermont and New Hampshire. These two scholarships are "kept alive" **ONLY** by member contributions beyond the regular dues structure.

Two general meetings are held during the year, in April and October. The business of the group is handled by a Board of Directors which meets every other month. **ALL** members are invited and encouraged to attend and contribute to these meetings.

There are numerous social gatherings throughout the year, some scheduled and others of an impromptu nature. Many of us gather on the last Saturday morning of each month at the Future Restaurant in Claremont, NH at 10 AM for a scheduled meeting of SAMRATS (Saturday AM Radio Amateur Technical Society). Every January the membership meets at the Homestead Inn in Walpole, NH for a dine out and eyeball.

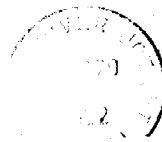
The club sponsors Field Day activities every year in either Vermont or New Hampshire. There are also three daily weather nets on the Mount Ascutney repeater at 6:30 AM, 5:30 PM and 10:00 PM. A weekly emergency preparedness net is held each Tuesday at 7:30 PM. A newsletter is sent out quarterly.

All of these numerous activities require many man, woman, person, whatever hours of time and effort. Won't you give serious consideration to volunteering to serve Amateur Radio through the CVFMA in some capacity to help spread the work load and help further the cause of Amateur Radio in our small part of the world.

CONNECTICUT VALLEY FM ASSOCIATION

POB 1628

Claremont, NH 03743-1628



NOVICE/TECH COURSE...STEVENS HS/CLAREMONT, NH
JAN 29, 93 (FRI) - APRIL 16/18:30-8:30 PM
INSTRUCTORS: RUDY, W1GUA & DARREL, KL7DN
FOR FURTHER INFO CONTACT RUDY 603-863-4356
OR DARREL 802-387-5822...TELL YOUR FRIENDS!

CARL E SNYDER N1JRA 92

DAVID SNYDER N1LBZ 92
RFD #1/BX 57
CAVENDISH VT 05142-9706