

The CVFMA Newsletter

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Connecticut Valley FM Association, Inc.



Summer 1994

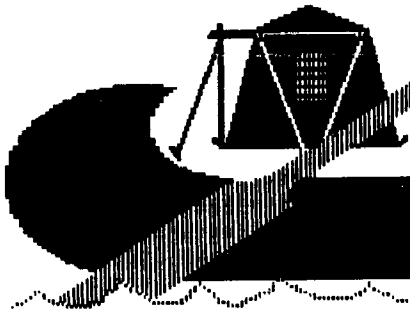
An ARRL Affiliated Club

Field Day '94 ! (or, it's almost, but not TOO late.)

The President's Corner

By the time you read this we will probably have had our planning session and the troops will be suitably fired up for beating last year's score. At great expense I've acquired a generous amount of adrenalin pumping pills. No drug testing allowed at this year's site.

If you'd like to see some A1 ops in action, or even try your hand at racking up a few points for the club, or helping out with some logging, fetching



... so, if erecting screen houses, installing antennas and swatting black flies turns you on ...

liquid refreshment, or whatever, drop on by. We'll be setting up on Saturday AM, June 25th, so if erecting screen houses, installing antennas and swatting black flies turns you on we'll look forward to seeing you. Help is also appreciated when it's all over at 2 PM on Sunday, the 26th.

This year's site is at the QTH of Collins, WZ1C, and Helen Parker in Windsor, VT. Fortunately, you CAN get there from here. At the Brownsville General Store on VT Route #5 take Route #44 for three miles to a RIGHT turn on Willow Brook Road (cream colored house on the corner). Follow Willow Brook Road for 3.5 miles to Wadner Hill Road and Burgundy mailbox #791. Take a left up the hill to the field day site.

If reading directions is not your forte, turn your 2 meter rig to the 76 machine and give a shout. Someone will guide you in. We'll also try to have someone tuned to 58 simplex.

CU then.....

73 de Darrel/KL7DN
1994 Field Day Chairman

The April Membership meeting was well attended and the Pot Luck dinner was enjoyed by all.

After the meeting, Wally, KL7HKS, put on a slide show and very interesting talk on Alaska. We will surely miss Wally and his family when they leave in June. Maybe they will decide to return to this area.

Not much news from here, just waiting for summer to get here, sure hates to warm up. Lots of summer activities planned. Field Day is set for the weekend of June 25th and 26th. Samrats breakfast and many other events. Everyone enjoy the summer.

73 from Marlon, KA1SMC
President, CVFMA

..... CVFMA VE Corner

The March 26, 1994 CVFMA test session saw 26 applicants in attendance. Six of these were under the age of 20, with some of them in the elementary grades from local schools. Of the 26 in attendance, 24 either upgraded or passed elements which will eventually lead to an upgrade. Our next test session will be on Saturday, Sept 10, 1994 at the Sugar River Savings Bank.

September will see the the tenth anniversary of the CVFMA's VE team. It

was in the summer of 1984, when I applied for and received the ARRL's approval to establish a VE team as part of the CVFMA.

In September of 1984, the CVFMA held New Hampshire's first VE session (the second in New England) at the King Ridge Hamfest, King Ridge Ski Area, New London, NH. Since then, there have been over 40 sessions, and many changes. Look for an anniversary article in the fall newsletter.

73, Conrad, WB1GXM

inside...

CVFMA Scholarship Awards, NH Law exempts towers from taxes
Satellite Update, GEARS Happenings, From the Vault...
FCC Changes message-content rules
Birthdays, Anniversaries and Coming Events

page 2
page 3
page 4
page 5

Ham Towers Exempted from NH Real Estate Tax

It is with great pleasure that the ARRL New Hampshire Field Organization announce that New Hampshire Bill 1380 was signed by Governor Stephen Merrill on April 22, 1994.

The bill as enacted reads:

" 72:7-c Exemption; Radio Towers, Antennas and related Structures. Radio antennas, towers and related or supporting structures used exclusively in the operation of an amateur communications station under Federal Communications Commission amateur radio service rules and regulations, shall be considered personal property and are not taxable as real estate."

Effective Date. This act shall take effect April 1, 1994

"... shall be considered personal property and are not taxable as real estate."

Thanks to Representatives Rosen, Borsa, Kirby and Wiggins, and Senators Delahunty and MacDonald for their support of Amateur Radio.

Thanks to Warren Rothburg WB1HBB, Cal Calvitto W1WOK, Jack Sheehy WA1ALM who joined me in Concord. A special thanks to George Iverson Director of New Hampshire Office of Emergency Management and those Amateurs who contacted their Congressional representatives in support of this landmark bill.

New Hampshire is the only state to have successfully argued the real estate vs real property issue.

Look for major coverage in

QST of this most important New Hampshire news item.

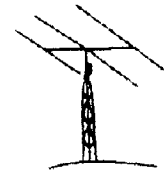
73,
Alan K. Shuman, N1FIK
ARRL Section Manager &
President of the NHARA.

Ed. Note: This is seen by many as a landmark event. The precedent set here could result in other states passing similar legislation.

ARRL Council Chris Imlay, N3AKD, called the bill "an important precedent," saying that it may have

far-reaching effects throughout the US as amateurs continue to seek relief from local and state regulation.

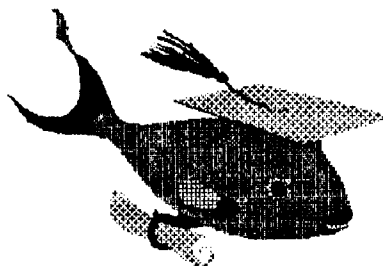
The matter came to a head when a New Hampshire town added \$9,000 to an amateur's property value, for tax purposes, based on his towers and antennas. When he appealed the assessment in court, Rep. Rosen and others initiated the legislation.



CVFMA Scholarships for 1994 awarded

The annual scholarship fund goal of \$ 500.00 has been reached and surpassed with the generous assistance of the many contributors during the year. Student applications have been arriving from all points of the compass. Selecting one applicant from Vermont and New Hampshire, is always challenging for the committee due to the high qualifications of each applicant.

For this year the application submission deadline was May 5, 1994. Shortly thereafter, the scholarship committee met. After reviewing each application and much deliberation, they selected the following applicants for the 1994 CVFMA Scholarship Awards:



From Vermont:

Andrew J. Erickson
(son of Jerry, W1FRE, SK)
Woodstock Union High School
Woodstock, VT

From New Hampshire:

Richard Mook, KA1VZS
Hanover High School
Hanover, NH

Our best wishes go out to the two high school scholarship recipients named above as they strive towards their goals.

73,
Conrad Ekstrom, WB1GXM
Chairperson, Scholarship Committee

SATELLITE OVERVIEW.....

With the increasing activity overhead, I thought it might be a good time to add additional comments about the Orbiting Satellite Carrying Amateur Radio or OS-CAR.

During the recent STS-59 flight, NIPPP, NIPKP, NILVL, NIMPU, and other local Amateurs snagged a contact with Endeavor, as it glided effortlessly by overhead during the early morning hours. Mir, the Russian space station was in the area during the same early morning hours. This is a good one to try out and hone your skill and techniques. Some of the national radio magazines have run recent articles on contacting Mir.

"You may already have what's needed to reach out and touch the OSCARS..."

Another denizen of the heavens above is AO-21. It can be heard on or about 145.985/990 (FM) on the downlink, with the uplink frequency on 435.016 (FM). Playing hide 'n seek along with AO-21 is its newest cousin, AO-27. It's very similar to AO-21 in that it uses FM, both on 145.850/uplink and on 436.800 on the downlink.

For an antenna a 6-element 440 beam can be used for AO-21 uplink and on AO-27's downlink. Not fancy at all. For a transceiver, a 2m/440 dual-band, that can transmit from 430-450 would be nice. Using two separate radios would work also. For AO-27 there have been many reports of contacts being made with an HT running about 3 watts.

In late May, the GEARS group (see below) made packet contacts with the MIR station, and even used the satellite as a digital repeater to contact others on the ground.

So look around your shack, you may already have what's needed to reach out and touch the OSCARS. Gary, NIPKP, used a quarterwave ground plane for his shuttle contact. For additional information on satellites, you can contact AMSAT at POB 27, Washington, DC 20044, or your local AMSAT Area Coordinator, WB1GXM, who can send you a packet of material to help you set your sights higher in the heavens. Hope to hear you on.....

73, Conrad,
WB1GXM



From the Vault...

The Connecticut Valley FM Association is a non-profit organization, incorporated in the state of New Hampshire. For the last 8 months, I have been handling the Club's finances, as treasurer. I would like to share with you a few highlights on where the Club's funds come from, and where they go.

Full membership dues are \$15 for individuals, \$25 family. The club's paying membership varies, but averages around 150 people. In addition to regular dues, many members contribute to the CVFMA scholarship fund and/or the repeater fund.

Scholarship donations are maintained in a separate savings account from the general operating funds. Any specific donations toward the repeater fund are tallied on the treasurer's report, and these funds are spent first for repeater costs. It is only with the assistance of specific donations for the repeater fund, that the equipment for establishing a 440Mhz repeater could be acquired.

By far, our largest operating expense is in your hand. The production, printing and mailing of 4 newsletters per year runs around \$600. Some of the other biggies are phone service for Auto-Dial, and insurance on the Club and its gear. A fair amount of our expenses are tied up in postage. Unfortunately, our mailings are not large enough, in general, to qualify for reduced rates. We will take a bit of a hit when the new Postal rates go into effect, in 1995, I believe.

There has been some discussion at the Board meetings around re-designing the Membership Form, to make it easier to donate funds for specific uses. It may even be easier to read. (We'll see.) Stay tuned for developments there. That's it for now, and Thanks to all members for their support.

Bruce Beford, KA1ORB
Treasurer, CVFMA

G.E.A.R.S. Happenings

This school year has been very busy for the kids of GEARS. They participated in the annual School Round-up, made many contacts on HF, packet, VHF, followed the Space Shuttle's progress, enjoyed the many school transmitter hunts, and studied very hard for their license test.

On April 20, 1994, the 1994 GEARS class took their Novice test elements. It was the hard work, the dedication exhibited by the fourth and fifth graders, the materials used "Riding the

Airwaves with Alpha and Zulu", and "Now You're Talking" practice tapes that enabled them to achieve their goals. Two of the kids started halfway through the school year. They doubled their efforts to catch up with their classmates to be ready for the test session. They simply did magnificent.

On behalf of the kids, I'd like to say thank you to all who assisted in one way or another during the school year, to make this year another successful year.

73, Butch, WB1GXM

FCC Revamps rules on message content responsibility

- Voice and Packet both affected -

On April 13, the FCC released its Report and Order in PR Docket 93-85 regarding messages relayed by amateur high-speed networks. The new rules, effective June 1, 1994, will establish what the FCC calls "a compliance policy for amateur stations participating in automatic message-forwarding systems."

The new rules relieve most station operators in such networks of responsibility for the content of the messages relayed by their stations.

Under current rules, all licensees in a chain of forwarding stations are responsible for message content. Originators of messages continue to be responsible for their content, and the first forwarding stations are responsible either for the content of the message or for verifying the identity of the originator.

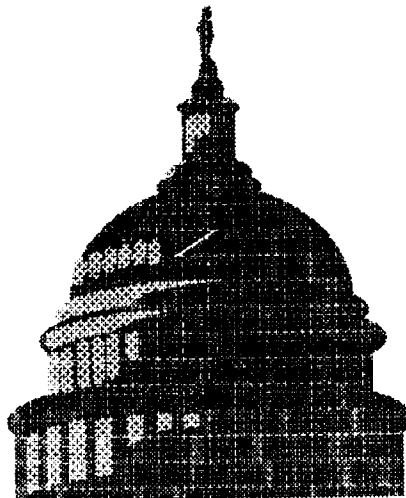


The new rules will also relieve repeater control operators of responsibility for inadvertent retransmission of communications that violate the rules. All operators remain responsible for discontinuing communications that violate the rules as soon as the violative communications are discovered.

Here are the exact wording changes in FCC Rules Part 97:

97.3 Definitions.

(7) Auxiliary stations. An amateur station, other than in a message forwarding system, that is transmitting



communications point-to-point within a system of cooperating amateur stations.

(28) Message forwarding system. A group of amateur stations participating in a voluntary, cooperative, interactive arrangement where communications are sent from the control operator of an originating station to the control operator of one or more destination stations by one or more forwarding stations.

(36) Repeater. An amateur station that simultaneously retransmits the transmission of another amateur station on a different channel or channels.

97.109 Station control.

(e) No station may be automatically controlled while transmitting third party communications, except a station participating as a forwarding station in a message forwarding system.

97.205 Repeater station.

(g) The control operator of a repeater that retransmits inadvertently communications that violate the rules in this Part is not accountable for the violative communications.

[Section 97.216 is redesignated Section 97.217]

97.219 Message forwarding system.

(a) Any amateur station may participate in a message forwarding system, subject to the privileges of the class of operator license held.

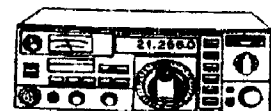
(b) For stations participating in a message forwarding system, the control operator of the station originating a message is primarily accountable for any violation of the rules in this Part contained in the message.

(c) Except as noted in paragraph (d) of this section, for stations participating in a message forwarding system, the control operators of forwarding stations that retransmit inadvertently communications that violate the rules in this Part are not accountable for the violative communications. They are, however, responsible for discontinuing such communications once they become aware of their presence.

(d) For stations participating in a message forwarding system, the control operator of the first forwarding station must:

(1) Authenticate the identity of the station from which it accepts communications on behalf of the system; or

(2) Accept accountability for any violation of the rules in this Part contained in messages it retransmits to the system.



Birthdays

July

W1IXA Roger 7/2
 KA1CZO Robert 7/11
 N1PHU James 7/17
 N1LBZ David 7/20
 K1AOA Donald 7/21
 KL7HKS Wally 7/22
 Edward J. Colby 7/22
 K4BSX Arthur 7/23
 KA1DKQ Jay 7/25
 AA1EK Roger 7/31

August

K2ICY, Stanley 8/2
 N1MVU, Kim 8/13
 K1BFG Robert 8/18
 KA1QCH Eunice 8/19
 N1PHN, Joseph 8/21
 N1RGG, Laurel 8/24
 W1MOI Elizabeth 8/24
 N1JRD Neil 8/27
 KA1QEJ Ray 8/29

September

K2DGW Margaret 9/2
 N1HRY Russell 9/7
 N1JRA Carl 9/7
 N1MEW Richard 9/15
 WA1WVS William 9/15
 N1QBX Dan 9/18
 K1KFW Leo 9/25
 KA1QCG Joseph 9/28



Anniversaries

July

Opal, KB1AZG and Bill,
 KB1BCO 7/4
 Roger, W1IXA and Marion,
 WB1APU 7/14
 Aime, W1FVQ and Alice 7/15

August

Paul, N1NTL and Ruth 8/2
 Ernest, AA1IK and Jeannette 8/6
 Rudy, W1GUA and Doris,
 WA1THF 8/6
 Frank, NU1A and Kay 8/7
 Marlon, KA1SMC and Bea 8/17
 Alan, K1YOT and Linda 8/18
 Bob, N1NCT and Lea 8/28
 Donald, K1AOA and Judy 8/29
 Jeanne, KA1BGT and Philip,
 KA1GOG 8/30

September

Steve, KA1NYP and Karen 9/2
 John, KA3SYI and Julie 9/4
 Richard, N1JSG and Kathleen
 9/4
 Wally, KL7HKS and Edith 9/5
 Ray, KA1QEJ and Sandra,
 KA1TLP 9/12
 Tom, K1VNE and Jeannine 9/14
 Manson, W1GGT and Deborah
 9/14
 Jeff, WB2NWR and Eileen 9/21
 John, WA1DLA and Aula 9/24
 Cliff, WB1FIC and Micky 9/25
 James, N1PHU and Lisa 9/29
 Ham, KA1PVS and Diana 9/30

Other Events of Interest

June

24th & 25th
 Field Day 1994
 (see page 1 for details)

July

2nd, 10:00 am
 SAMRATS Breakfast
 Buster's Restaurant
 Claremont, NH

24th, 7:00 pm
 CVFMA Board Meeting
 Claremont Police Station
 Claremont, NH

August

6th, 10:00 am
 SAMRATS Breakfast
 Buster's Restaurant
 Claremont, NH

September

17th, 8:00 am
 VE Testing Session
 Sugar River Savings Bank
 Newport, NH



The CVFMA is an ARRL-affiliated organization 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 174.24/84 on Moose Mountain in Hanover, NH. A third machine, at 442.400/7.400, is being prepared on Silver Mountain in Lempster, NH. We also offer two yearly scholarships to a graduating senior from Vermont and New Hampshire. These scholarships are "kept alive" ONLY by member contributions beyond the regular dues structure.

We would urge that you never lose sight of the fact that this is YOUR club. Your participation and contributions of time, talent and ideas are sincerely desired. We hold two general meetings a year in April and October, but the Board of Directors meets once every other month to cuss, discuss and carry on the business of the club. All of these meetings are well publicized in the newsletter and on the air. If unable to always attend personally you are still encouraged to contact any Board member and share ideas, concerns and/or suggestions concerning the growth and well being of the CVFMA.

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

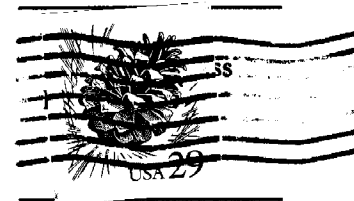
The club sponsors Field Day activities every year in either Vermont or New Hampshire. There are also three daily weather nets on the Mount Ascutney repeater at 6:30 AM, 5:30 PM and 10:00 PM. A weekly emergency preparedness net is held each Tuesday at 7:30 PM. We sponsor examinations quarterly through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

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

Pres: Marlon Wood, KA1SMC * Vice Pres: Carl Snyder, N1JRA * Secretary: Steve Hopkins, N1NPP
 Treas: Bruce Beford, KA1ORB * Director at Large: Ed Ellis, KA1IJ * Entertainment Polly Ellis, KA1III
 Trustee: Rudy Adler, W1GUA * VE and Scholarship Chairman: Conrad Ekstrom, WB1GXM
 Newsletter Editors: Reade Williams, N1GEP and Darrel Daley, KL7DN



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Carl E. Snyder, N1JRA 1994

David Snyder, N1LBZ 1994

Steven E. Snyder, N1OGH 1994
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 Cavendish VT 05142-9706

inside...	CVFMA Scholarship Awards, NH Law exempts towers from taxes	page 2
	Satellite Update, GEARS Happenings, From the Vault...	page 3
	FCC Changes message-content rules	page 4
	Birthdays, Anniversaries and Coming Events	page 5