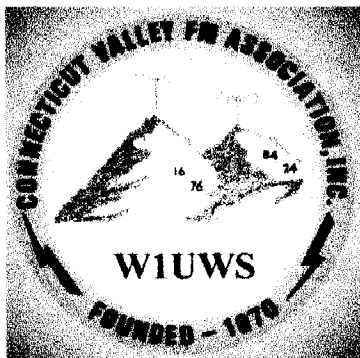


THE CVFMA NEWSLETTER

December 2000

Quarterly Newsletter For the Connecticut Valley FM Association
(W1UWS)



From the President's Desk

One of the most gratifying aspects of ham radio is being a member of CVFMA. Thru all the storms and adversity CVFMA stands straight and tall like the antenna on the repeaters.

Dues had been raised last year to cover the increasing cost of operating CVFMA. It was the right thing to do as membership is down and costs continue to go up. I can say with absolute confidence the CVFMA is a non profit club. The up side of that is we're not in the RED.

The cost of the phone on Mt Ascutney has made it impractical to keep. I could not bring myself to suggest taking the phone out. The ARES group used it on special events and some members still had autodial numbers on it. At the October general meeting the members present voted to discontinue the phone service, this makes more than \$600.00 available for next years budget.

It was decided by the board that the dues will stay the same this year and to put some of the \$600.00 toward a NEWSLETTER. The December newsletter has been sent out to all current members and to a large number of our past members. It is my belief that well informed Amateurs will continue to support CVFMA.

It is time CVFMA steps forward to provide activities and services that the members desire. The board of Directors needs your input to set the goals that we need to strive for. CVFMA has an amazing amount of talent, lets put it to use.

Serving the membership
73's Bob N1NCT



Season's Greetings
To All

NOTICE

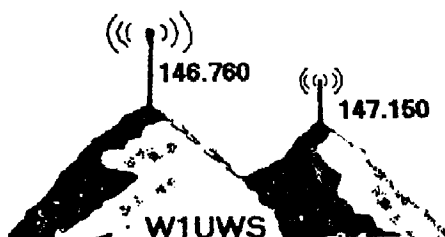
The Moose Mountain Repeater is now on **147.150 (+)**. Please try it out.

The Ascutney Repeater AutoPatch and Emergency AutoDial are not in use at the present time.

I have configured the Ascutney Repeater to pass DTMF tones thru to be retransmitted. Previously they did not go out over the air. This was changed so that members could use them for tone signaling. With this set up we could implement "Long tone Zero" for Emergency Requests using a tone decoder on a monitor receiver.

PL Tones are also passed thru and retransmitted. PL Tones do not affect the operation of the repeater. Please do not transmit a PL of 100 HZ to the Ascutney Repeater because it interferes with the nearby Civil Air Patrol repeater.

Carl, NE1T Trustee,
CVFMA Repeaters



Report of the Repeater Trustee

This summer I worked mainly on the Moose Mountain Repeater. The repeater and duplexer cans were removed from the site for several weeks.

The repeater was recrystaled from 147.24 to the new frequency of 147.150 (+). This change came about because the previous trustee had re-coordinated the frequency. He had applied for a frequency for the proposed Mt. Sunapee location and was told that we had to use 147.24 there to maintain separation from other repeaters. The new frequency has been in the ARRL Repeater Directory for some time.

While the repeater was on my workbench I repaired a power supply problem that was causing a large voltage drop when the transmitter was on. The transmit frequency crystal was installed in a crystal oven providing high frequency stability. (A crystal oven had previously been added to the Mt. Ascutney Repeater.) The Duplexer cans were retuned to the new frequency. This repeater does not receive heavy use, but I have received good reports of its performance on the 50-mile bike race. Please use the Moose Mountain Repeater more!

I would like to thank Neil, N1JRD, for providing the 4-wheel drive transportation to the Moose Mountain site. The road to the site is in terrible condition.

Carl, NE1T Trustee CVFMA Repeaters

Editors Notes

The Newsletter Is Back !

Be careful of what you say because someone may be listening. At the October General Meeting I casually said to the CVFMA president N1NCT, that the club needs a newsletter badly. He agreed and the next thing I knew, I had volunteered to be the newsletter editor.

I'm not a HAM but I sometimes feel like I am. I'm married to the CVFMA president (Bob N1NCT) and I take part in many meetings, special events plus I know many of you by your call sign and by association.

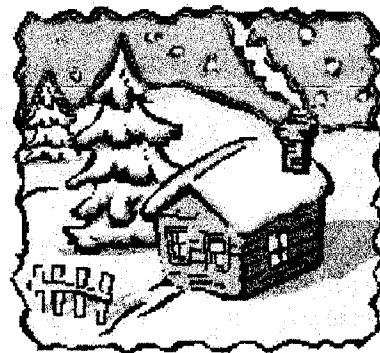
So-o-o, with all of your help, we can publish a great newsletter together. I have some new ideas and if you want to add something, please tell me. If you have an idea or a complaint, I promise you'll have a voice.

Send me an e-mail or write a note by snail mail if you have news, something to sell or swap, or just want to voice your thoughts. My e-mail and home address is located in the CVFMA Directory column.

Till next time.....
73's Lea



Cabin Fever Blues Dinner



Where: Indian Shutters Restaurant
Old Claremont Rd, Charlestown, N.H.

When: January 13, 2001

Cost: \$15.95 includes tax and tip All you can eat buffet

Time: 5 PM....Cocktails and Conversation
6 PM....Dinner

Contact Polly KA1III for reservations and information

Come out and have a good time with your fellow hams and friends. The more reservations Polly receives the larger the room we get. The food is really good !!!!!



SAMRATS BREAKFAST

On October 25, 2000 a good size group of hungry hams, their families and friends gathered at B J Bricker's Restaurant in Claremont, NH. Everyone filled the room with plenty of conversations and laughter; I

noticed many folks going back to the buffet area for seconds and thirds. After a good meal and the coffee cups were refilled, Ed Bennett N1TJN showed off a pre WW11 frequency meter he owned; it sparked much interest and discussion. A card was signed by everyone present and given to Helen and Collins Parker WZ1C. They are moving to Florida and promised they will come back for visits. Collins grew up in a "ham" family. His father W1AJZ became a ham at the age of 11 and his mother was W1TIW. Collins has been a ham for about 20 yrs. And has been a valued member of CVFMA. He and Helen participated in many special events and were liked by all.

The folks who came were... Polly KA1III & Ed KA1III, Jack N1HOS, Leigh WB1EAE & Eunice KA1QCH, Stan KC1HY, Thelma N1PEY & friend Freda, Carl NE1T (formerly known as N1JRA) & Barbara, Helen & Collins W1ZC, Marlon KA1SMC & Bea, Ed N1TJN & Blanch, Jeannie KA1BGT & friend Richard, John W1AKV, and Bob N1NCT & Lea.

Hope you are able to attend the next breakfast. Let Polly know you're coming and we'll save a seat for you.

Treasurer's Comments

The phone patch has been taken off and money saved there will be used for news letters and other functions. If anyone has money in the auto patch and wishes to be reimbursed, let me know. Hopefully membership dues will start coming in so we can keep a respectable cash flow account. Make checks payable to CVFMA. Dues can be sent to me at 412 Horsenail Hill Rd. N. Windham, VT. 05143 or the club address, CVFMA P.O. Box 628 Claremont, NH. 03743-1628

Respectfully Submitted Treasurer,
Clarence W. H. Merritt N1FQS

CVFMA Calendar

SAMRATS Breakfast - Contact Polly KA1III for reservations
Last Saturday of each month at 9:30am at BJ
Brickers in Claremont, NH

CVFMA ARES Training Net - contact Bob N1NCT Tuesday
Nights at 7:30pm on 146.760

CVFMA Chat Net and Sale - each Tuesday night at 7:30pm
except the third Tuesday

Weather Nets - Monday thru Friday at 6:30am, 5:30pm,
and 10:00pm on 145.760

Social Events - contact Polly KA1III for reservations
and info.

Cabin Fever Blues Dinner - Jan. 13, 2001
Indian Shutters Restaurant Charlestown, NH

Valentine Social - Feb 24, 2001

St Patrick's Day Social - March 31, 2001

CVFMA DIRECTORY

Club Officers

President: Robert L. Stewart - N1NCT
802 484-7866 leabob@sover.net

Vice President: Edmond E. Bennett - N1TJN
802 614-6204

Treasurer: Clarence W H. Merritt - N1FQS
802 875-3740 n1fqs@sover.ney

Secretary: Vacant

Director at Large: David W. Wilbur - K1ZS
603 446-7312 k1zs@monad.net

Repeaters

146.760 and 147.150

Trustee: Carl E. Snyder - NE1T
802 226-7724 cbsnyder@sover.net

Volunteer Exam Sessions

Conrad V. Ekstrom Jr. - WB1GXM
603 543-1389 ekstrom@turbont.net

Leigh Damren WB1EAE
603 542-4906 ldamren@turbont.net

CVFMA on the Web

www.cvfma.org

Webmaster: Bob Stewart
802 484-7866 leabob@sover.net

The CVFMA NEWS LETTER

Editor: Lea Stewart

P.O. Box 151
Reading, Vermont 05062
802 484-7866 pennyrug@sover.net

CVFMA TEST SESSION

The Association will be sponsoring a test session on Saturday, Dec 2, in the Sugar River Savings Bank Community Room (on Main Street, Newport, NH). Doors open at 8 a.m. and close at 8:45 a.m. when testing for all levels starts.

There is no preregistration

Bring with you.

- a) original FCC-issued license (if already licensed)
- b) Copy of original license (if already licensed)
- c) Original CSCEs you are claiming
- d) Copies of original CSCEs you are claiming
- e) one photo ID, or two non-photo IDs (one with an address)
- f) at least one pen, two pencils and a non-programmable calculator
- g) \$6.65 for the license fee for all test above Novice

All applicants are expected to have materials that they need and have all paperwork organized; this will help all concerned.

Next Sessions will be in March, September and December. Check for dates in newsletter or on the CVFMA web page.

From the VEs in your CVFMA VE Group, study hard. See you at the next test session

No More Multiple-Choice Code Tests

The National Council of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) has voted to ban multiple-choice code tests on amateur license exams, and to set consistent technical standards for code test transmissions. The NCVEC is an umbrella group representing most VECs in the United States. Meeting in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania in July, the NCVEC decided that only fill-in-the-blank tests (with 7 correct answers out of 10 required for a passing grade) and solid copy of at least 25 consecutive characters would be permitted on code tests given by its members' VE teams after June 30, 2001, although teams could begin sooner. According to the ARRL, the group also specified that audio pitch of exam transmissions must be in the range of 700-1000 Hz, and that characters must be sent using the "Farnsworth method," with letters sent at a rate of 13-15 words per minute (wpm) with spacing between letters slowing down the overall speed to 5 wpm. Slower character speeds would be permitted only as special accommodations for people with disabilities.

The moves came in response to considerable criticism that it was too easy to guess answers on multiple-choice without having actually copied the code transmission, and that there was too much tests variation in the method and technical quality of exams. From Oct. 2000 issue of CQ

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Many of you have been asking for an updated list of birthdays and anniversaries, so I checked out some old newsletters, asked around and here's what I came up with. Thanks for the help Marlon, Polly, and Barbara. Please, if you don't see your special dates here, let me know so you can be added. Happy Birthday and a Happy Anniversary to our December, January, and February folks!

Your Editor *Lea*

December Birthdays

- 1st - WILTD - Robert Marcotte
- 13th - KIVNE - Tom Abare
- 14th - Jeannine Abare, wife of KIVNE
- 17th - NIRX - Bruce Beford
- 17th - Ola Gillespie, wife of WAIZLG
- 23rd - Carol Merritt, wife of NIFQS
- 24th - Lea Stewart, wife of NINCT
- 24th - WBIEAE - Leigh Damren

December Anniversaries

- 10th - KAITYP - Richard & KAIUNC Yvonne Adams
- 14th - WBIEAE - Leigh & KAIQCH Eunice Damren
- 19th - WIIRA - Ira & Eileen Wilner
- 22nd - NICIR - Robert & NIDRE - Claire Boyd

January Birthdays

- 5th - KAIOAR - Carolyn Ekstrom
- 15th - NITJN - Edmond Bennett
- 17th - KAITLP - Sandra Kimberly
- 21st - NUIA - Frank Finger
- 22nd - KIMOQ - Frank Dufiy
- 22nd - NIKCA - Laura Bascom
- 29th - KICLD - William Deal

January Anniversaries

- 1st - KIMOQ - Frank & NIBYG - Heide Dufiy

February Birthdays

- 8th - WAIDHK - Evelyn Johnson
- 11th - W4PAS - Richard Whynall
- 17th - WB2NWR - Jeff Katchen
- 28th - WIRFP - Blanchard Pratt

February Anniversaries

- 21st - WAIZLG - Robert ("Bud") & Ola Gillespie

A New Honorary Life Member

At the October General Meeting it was voted on and passed that **Cheryl Breuning WA1WEY** be given an Honorary Life Membership. Here's a little history of Cheryl with CVFMA.

She started with CVFMA as Secretary - Pro-Tem in 1974 and received her call sign in 1975, WN1WEY. She became Secretary and held the job for 12 years. She is the only woman President of CVFMA and during this time Cheryl and husband Carl N1CB became the "social directors." She ran a weather net control for many years and also help teach amateur radio classes at the Newport High School, teaching Morse Code.

Congratulations Cheryl, you earned it!

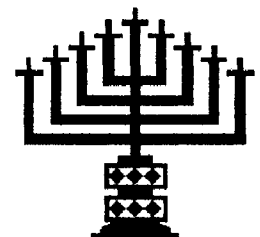
In Cheryl's words -

"I wish to express my sincere thanks to CVFMA for the honor they have bestowed on me. I was so surprised and excited at the same time, that I became speechless (and for those of you that know me, that's a feat in itself). My special thanks to Carl Snyder NE1T for the nomination and for the vote from those present at the pot luck meeting."



Best wishes
for the holidays

And a happy
NEW YEAR





CVFMA
An Affiliated Club

Club Call Sign -- W1UWS
We maintain two mountain top repeaters.
146.760 on Mt. Ascutney in Windsor VT.
147.150 on Mouse Mountain in Hanover, NH.



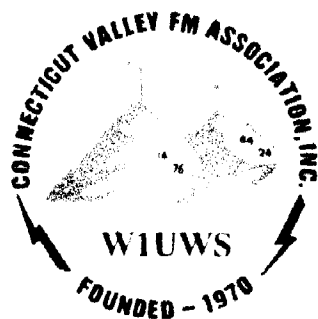
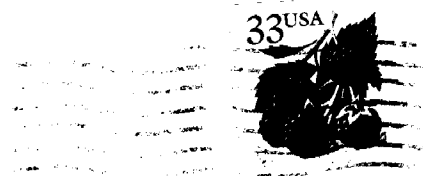
CVFMA On The World Wide Web

CVFMA has a new web page coming soon ! Many people found it too difficult to remember how to get access to the old web page, so the Board approved a web site for CVFMA.

By the end of December www.cvfma.org should be up and running. This web page is for the membership to receive up to date information. What will the information consist of ?????? That is what the membership needs to let me know. See you on the web.

Webmaster Bob NINCT

Connecticut Valley FM Association
P.O. Box 1628
Claremont, NH. 03743-1628



CARL E. SNYDER, N1JRA
856 CENTER ROAD
CAVENDISH VT 05142-9777

2001 Membership application enclosed

05142-9777

