

# Nashua Area Radio Club Bulletin



See you at our next meeting!  
February 4th, 2002, 7PM  
Nashua Public Library

Volume 25 Number 1 & 2

Meetings: Seven PM, First Monday of the month at the Nashua Public Library

January/February 2002

## January was launched with Project Month... February will continue the upward movement with the Civil Air Patrol

Ed DiCroce, KB1HLX

### NARC Programs

January is the month that gives our hams a chance to show off their projects. This year we were treated to some inspiring projects. They even got me into the project building mood. How about you? I would like to thank the project participants for sharing their projects with us. Below is a summary of what we saw.

Les Zaraza, W1LZ, presented his modified Ham IV rotor controller. Les stated that the circuit board was easy to build and that most of his time was spent on mounting it into the case. Yes, sometimes the mechanics are more difficult than the electronics. However, he did a fine job with it.

Tom Geis, K1ZQ, treated us with his 220MHz repeater story. He gave us an insight into what it takes to put up a repeater. To sum it up, a repeater isn't an easy project and perseverance is the key. However, the

rewards in terms of add-on projects and continued fun are great. Tom did a first class job with this repeater – right down to the last nut and bolt!

Neil Rosenberg, K1VY, showed us the value of thought before proceeding with a project. He needed a switching solution to handle PSK31 and audio elements between his radios. The solution could have been implemented in a very elaborate way. However, Neil came up with a very simple, effective, and inexpensive solution. The answer was a printer switch. Yes, a printer switch can give you all sorts of switching capabilities. Thanks for the lesson Neil.

Fletch, N1MEO, also demonstrated what a simple solution can do for you. The magic could be seen when he placed a couple of items on the overhead projector. What were these items created from stiff pieces of wire? Microphone holders! Yes, you can customize stiff wire into meeting your microphone mounting needs. Fletch had one that snaps into the heating vent of his vehicle. He doesn't need to hunt for the microphone anymore!

Jack Warren, WB4MDC, let us in on his plans to build a Sterba Curtain antenna for 6 meters. We saw what he came up with on the drawing board and also saw the parts

needed. Jack, keep us posted on this unique antenna. I think we can all learn something from your project.

Darryl Wagoner, WA1GON, shared his Wrist-Rocket project with us. Darryl put together a modified sling shot used for the installation of dipole antennas. The modified sling shot is used to launch fish line high into the trees. The fish line is then used to pull the dipole into place. Darryl, have fun and keep us posted!

**Our next meeting, February 4<sup>th</sup>**, brings us our very own Paul Mondoux, N1GSN. Paul is a 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. in the Civil Air Patrol and will be presenting us with another type of emergency service. I think you'll find Paul's presentation to be quite interesting.

You don't have to be a member of NARC to come enjoy our meetings. It's a great time to make some friends and become involved in what's going on. So don't be shy! Meetings are generally held at 7PM on the first Monday of every month (weather permitting, and holidays push it out a week). They take place downstairs at the Nashua Public Library. For more information please contact me, Ed DiCroce (KB1HLX), at (978)250-1194, or any of the NARC board members listed near the back of this bulletin. Hope to see you there!

## In this issue . . .

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OK, So Who Are We?
- Meet Francis
- Field Day Chairman
- New Breakfast Location
- Apology
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- 1 Nashua Area Radio Club Internet Home Page:  
<http://www.n1fd.org>
- 2
- 3 NARC Internet re-mailer:  
[narc@bbn.com](mailto:narc@bbn.com)
- 4
- 4 FCC Hotline: 1-888-225-5322
- 6
- 6 FCC ftp site: <ftp.fcc.gov>
- 6
- 6 ARRL Ham Hotline:  
800-32-NEWHAM
- 7
- 8 Nashua Area Radio Club meetings are accessible for the physically challenged

**Deadline for the March  
Bulletin is  
Friday February 8th,  
2002**

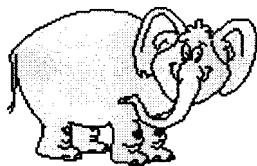
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# Tiny Elephant's Contest Corner

The Latest Contest news -

A NARC Bulletin Exclusive

A monthly column by Ed Deicher, K2TE



## 6 January, 2002 Stack of Troubles

A few weeks ago, the club meeting kicked off the new year with its traditional Project Night. I remember presenting my design for stacking a pair of beams for 15 meters. The design was based on a simple broadband configuration that featured a 50-ohm feed point. None of this balun or gamma match stuff for me, thank you. I don't mind baluns that much, although they are one more thing to hang on the beam. I swear someone who likes to play with sliding aluminum around invented the gamma match. If setup right, the beam works as well as a dipole. If the match is off by a little - as often happens when the element gets bumped during installation - you could find yourself with a good SWR on only part of the band. Trying to recover the full band usually means several loosen-move-tighten-measure-loosen-move adjustment cycles to get the thing to work.

Ok, so I'm more impatient than most when it comes to antennas. I prefer to think of it as avoiding a lot of back strain that usually results from being turned around in my climbing belt to mess with the gamma match. A firm believer of the KISS principle, you can imagine how quickly I embraced the straightforward yagi design of Joe, W1JR. I used the formulas for Joe's antenna and my EZNEC modeling program to play around with the dimensions of my present 4-element 15-meter beam and the remains of a sick TA-36 tribander. What I came up with last year looked very promising as my foray into stack arrays, the contesters' ultimate weapon.

I spent the spring and summer (procrastinate? Me?) working on the project. Antenna projects like most things in life, firmly adhere to the principle of the effort to complete a task will expand to completely occupy the time reserved for other tasks. The first step was to modify my existing 15-meter beam. Doing this of course meant getting the beam off the tower first. I devised a scheme whereby I could run a single

tram line up to a spot on the tower above the beam, tie a rope around the beam, fasten it to a pulley on the tram line, and slide the beam down the line to the ground.

One of the critical things for this type of arrangement is to make sure the tramline is taut. It should have almost as much tension as guy wire so that the antenna will not cause it to sag under its weight. Getting the line taut is easy; its something we do all the time during Field Day. Unfortunately, I do not have buffalo grips for my come-along. Oh well, I rationalized, I'll just have to pull the line as snug as I can and hope it doesn't sag too much.

I made several trips from the garage up to the tower lugging the tramline, clamps, pulleys, rope, and assorted tools whether I needed them or not. I fastened the tramline to my climbing belt and climbed up about 50 feet to the beam, fishing the line around my 80-meter quad junction box in the process. I secure the tramline a few feet above the beam and go back down the tower to loop the line around a tree some distance away from the tower. I feed the pulley onto the line before wrapping it around the tree and pulling it tight.

After tying the rope to the pulley, it's back up the tower. I slip another piece of rope through the tower and pull it snug around the boom of the beam to hold it while I undo the clamps. Once the clamps are free, the beam tilts slightly against the tower. So far, so good. I take another small piece of rope and fashion a loop around the boom-to-mast plate to eventually fasten the tramline pulley. I tie a second pulley a few feet about the beam near the tramline anchor point and feed the tramline pulley rope through it. (By now, I'm sure all of this is familiar to those of you who graduated from the Rube Goldberg School of Engineering.)

Now, the real job begins for jockeying the beam around to connect the tramline pulley. It is at this point that I discover a little-known special case of Newton's Law of Gravity: an object's weight increases by the square root of its distance in feet above the earth. Thus, I am now trying to hoist 7 times the beam's weight around the tower. I man-

age to rest the boom across my forearms while flicking my wrists as if they were handcuffed to tie the boom to the pulley. This process is somewhat difficult and is made quite challenging by the boom-to-mast plate hardware digging into my flesh. After the beam is secured to the pulley, I wait for the feeling to return to my arms before lowering the beam down the tramline. I firmly grip the rope in one hand while sliding my other hand along the boom to slowly turn it toward the tower as it glides down the tramline. This phase proceeds smoothly until I have the boom parallel with the tramline. It is at this point that I suddenly remember why I had that nagging feeling all morning that I had forgotten something. The best way to keep the boom parallel with the tramline while lowering it is to use a second pulley to tie the end of it to the tramline so that it glides down in a straight line. Right. I forgot the second pulley.

While cursing my sudden loss of intelligence, I was painfully brought back to reality by the loss of feeling in my fingers on the hand holding the tramline rope. Hmmm, I thought, maybe I can position the tramline rope between the element bolts of the second director and let it slide down that way on the rope. Initially, this seems to work until the beam gets about 10 feet away from the tower. The beam begins to roll to one side like a graceful eagle banking on a thermal. Unfortunately, it keeps rolling until the director slips off the rope and the beam starts to rotate perpendicular to the tramline. Luckily, I am able to grab the end of the element that came swooping by my head and slow the beam's rotation.

I ponder my next move while waiting for my heart to slow down and my arms to stop shaking. Ok, it looks like I'll have to lower the beam exactly the way I did NOT want to do. Maybe if I go slowly it will stay level. This works fine for about a foot before the fact that the tie point to the pulley is not the weight center takes over. In the next few seconds the beam is pointing toward the ground like an Olympic diver nailing a 10. The beam is now binding the pulley as it turns, making any downward progress very difficult. I try pulling up on the rope in the hopes of gaining a few inches of downward movement. This helps a little. I then add some gentle tugging of the tramline to help it move further. The beam responds to my coaxing by continuing to roll past vertical. The beam now looked like a dead spider.

# The Secretary's Report

Respectfully submitted by Fletcher Seagroves, N1MEO

## Board meeting Nov 26, 2001

DON K1EER called meeting to order at 7.04PM. Present at the meeting were Darryl WA1GON, Neil K1VY, Nancy KW1LTR and Fletch N1MEO. The Secretary's report was accepted as written in the Bulletin.

**Treasurer's report:** the treasurer was not at the meeting.

**Activities:** Nancy reported that there were about 35 tickets sold for the Christmas party. The party is being held December 4th.

**Programs:** Neil reported that the program for December was ARES with Don KA1GOZ as the speaker. January will be project night.

**Training:** Darryl reported that there wasn't any training at this time.

**Membership:** Skip was not at the meeting.

**Old Business:** the door on BOB can not be repaired and should be replaced. The board voted to have Charles replace the door. This is a wooden door and will be replaced with wood.

**New Business:** the club received a letter from AI N1FIK the Section Manager asking if the club or someone in the club would like to run the New Hampshire QSL Party. The board would ask the membership at the next meeting. There wasn't any more business and the meeting was adjourned at 8.20PM

## Club Meeting December

Club Meeting December 4th, 2001 The meeting was called to order by Don K1EER at 7.08PM. We then had introductions. The budget for 2002 was voted on and accepted as published in the Bulletin and presented in November by the treasurer.

**Elections:** with only one person running for each office Pauline made a motion to have the secretary cast one vote for those on the ballot. The motion was seconded by Mary Jane and passed by the membership.

The new board for 2002 are Chairman Darryl WA1GON, Vice Chairman Frank N1DGQ, Treasurer Mark N1ZYY, Programs Ed KB1HLX, Secretary Fletch N1MEO, Actives Charles KB1DOK and Membership Dave NR1DX. The speaker was Don KA1GOZ and Gary N3CLZ on ARES in the Nashua area and in the state.

**Awards:** A plaque was presented to Fletch N1MEO for the 5 years that he was in charge of Field Day. Other awards were given to AI K1ALE, Larry KA1VGM, Charles KB1DOK, Mary Jane WA4WIJ, Malcolm G0UCX, Dylan KL0KP, Ed K2TE, Matthew N1ZYY and Mark KB1DFE. The eight ball award was presented to Bill KA1SSR for his e-mail message of "HELP". This was followed by another e-mail with 'whoops'.

**Treasurer report:** we have \$3424.95 in the checking account and \$121.41 in the post office account. The report was accepted by the membership.

**Programs:** January will be project night and anyone can bring in a project that they are working on or have completed.

**Secretary report:** was accepted as written in the Bulletin.

**Membership:** we have 141 members.

**Activities:** Nancy reported that the Christmas party was a good time for all. Old business- there wasn't any old business. New business- there wasn't any new business. Meeting was adjourned at 821pm

## January Board Meeting

The Board meeting was called to order by Don K1EER at 7.00PM. Present were Don, Darryl WA1GON, Frank N1DGQ, Neal K1VY, Ed KB1HLX,

Mark N1ZYZ, Nancy KW1LTR, Skip K1NKR, Dave NR1DX, Charles KB1DOK, Fletch N1MEO, Jack WB4MDC And Mary Jane WA1HIJ.

Don welcomed new board members and thanked the outgoing board members for a good year. Don hoped that the new Chairman would have better luck in changing the meeting night then he did.

**Department reports.**

**Training:** Darryl reported that there wasn't any training at this time. Frank N1DGQ is now the training person as well as the Vice-Chairman.

**Treasurer:** Mark reported our balance was \$3447.25 with 121.41 in the post office account. He sends a check to the soup kitchen for \$50.00 and at the club meeting we will present the library with \$100.00 check. Mark N1ZYZ is the treasurer for the year 2002.

**Membership:** Skip K1NKR reported that we have 143 members. Dave NR1DX is the new Membership person.

**Programs:** Neal K1VY reported that January program was Project Night and the new program person Ed KB1HLX had three or four people lined up. The February program would be C.A.P. Activity: Charles reported that there were no activities planned at this time. The board thanked the outgoing active person Nancy.

**Old business:** It was asked if the work on BOB had been done and Charles reported that it would be completed in the next few weeks. This is to replace the door that was in bad need of repair. It was also asked who had keys for BOB and Fletch said he would check and see.

**New Business:** JACK WB4MDC is now making Club badges and he will mail out the badges to the respective person. Darryl will work with Joel and come up with a new Mailing List/reflector that only subscribers can post a message. Darryl reminded the board that the club needs a Field Day chairman because planning should start soon. There wasn't any more business and the meeting was adjourned at 8.58PM after Don K1EER ate the last cookie. 73 Fletch

## Club Meeting January 2002

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Darryl WA1GON at 7.04 PM. After introductions a check was presented to a representative of the library. The Secretary read the minutes of the December meeting and a motion was made and seconded to accept.

**Programs:** the program for February will be C.A.P. Training: Frank reported that there was no license course running at this time.

**Treasurer:** Mark was not present and there was no report.

**Membership:** Dave reported that we have 140 members at this time.

**Activities:** Charles reported no activities at this time.

**Old Business:** Jack posted a list of badges that we ready for pick up.

**New Business:** Anyone that has something that they want on the agenda can e-mail it to Darryl before the meeting, E-mail reflector; Darryl reported that he would be working with Joel to make changes so it would work like a majordomo. Neal K1VY talk about the Nashua Soup Kitchen and what they need. He will be picking up and dropping off the food that is brought to the meetings. They could also use any types of clothing that is still in good shape. For field day this year we need a new Chairman. Anyone who would like to head up field day contacts any board member. Darryl had attended the ARRL New England Division meeting and he gave a brief run down on what happen.

There was no new business. We then had five people with project that they showed the membership. Meeting was adjourned at 08.27PM 73 Fletch

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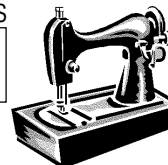
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## OK, SO Who Are WE?

### Skip Youngberg, K1NKR

The December Bulletin contained an article, "There's More than FM Mobile." It was intended to highlight how many different aspects there are to our hobby, but it also sparked a lot of interest in comparative demographics among club members.

Sixteen people sent in replies. That's about twelve percent of the club—not too bad a return rate. The results may be a little skewed, though. Extra class licensees represented 75% of the survey, but are 39% of the membership; Advanced 13% versus 11%; General 6% versus 20%; Tech Plus 0 versus 7%; Technician 6% versus 21%; and 0 Novice versus 1%.

Obviously these folks have an emotional investment in their hobby. They have been hams for an average of 21 years, having been first licensed at an average age of 27. (Five of the respondents were actually first licensed at 14 or younger!) They get on the air about four days per week, mixed HF-only through all bands through 2M FM only—nothing stands out. Their operation is evenly distributed among DXing, contesting, and ragchewing. There a couple of "sparse" stations among the respondents but most described as their station as "average"—no "big guns."

Eight respondents said that Amateur Radio influenced their careers. This influence was mostly in career choice. But, interestingly, some attributed "confidence in speaking" and "overcoming shyness in meeting others" to their experience on the air.

Other interests? How about: running, cycling, hiking, astronomy, SWL, winemaking, horses, maps, coins, travel, movies, commercial aviation, computers,

Red Cross, hunting, photography, bluegrass, sound reinforcement, model railroad, British cars, SCUBA, electronics, hiking, drowning worms (don't catch many fish), healing arts: massage therapy, Reiki, audio stereo systems, muscle cars, camping, search and rescue, chess, Judo, Native American culture, news junky, short-wave listening, and languages. There's even a public radio DJ among us.

How about "ham career" activity? (Don't forget. This isn't current activity. It's lifetime experience.) In order of popularity, the bands people have operated on are: 2M and 75M at 94%; 40M, 20M, 15M, and 10M at 88%; 80M at 81%; 160M and 18M at 75%; 6M, 70cm, and 432MHz at 63%; 30M at 50%; 1.25M at 38%; 10GHz at 25%; and the 902 and higher bands at 19% or lower. SSB and FM operation experience predominated, followed by CW and AM, then RTTY, packet, and PSK31.

Fifty percent had talked to an airplane; 69% to a ship; 25% to a train; 25% to the Shuttle (none to Skylab or the ISS); 19% to a famous ham. And 81% had talked to a kid.


Most everybody had built an antenna. Over two-thirds have built equipment from scratch as well as from kits. Half have chased RFI/TVI. And 13% have built satellites!

Maybe what people hadn't done a lot is more telling. Not much MARS or CAP. Or Handi-Ham. Newsletter article authoring ranks low. Only one respondent had been to a Wouff Hong ceremony. And although 75% of this self-selected group claim to have been an Elmer, and 69% claim to have had one, there still needs to be more of it... Otherwise the results will remain skewed.

## Meet Francis . . .

*a monthly series of personal club member biographies*

1. Name: Francis A. Swiech
2. Elected Office: Vice Chairman, Nashua Area Radio Club
3. Call Sign: N1DGQ (licensed 17 years, since November 1984)
4. License Class: Extra
5. Current Age: 57 (first licensed at age 40)
6. How I Became Licensed:
  - a. I was always interested in ham radio. When I was in the seventh grade, I visited the Novice station of a ham radio operator about my age. He had a Heathkit DX 40 transmitter and a Hallicrafters receiver. He operated crystal controlled on 40 meters CW. Since I did not know the international Morse code, his demonstration CW QSO did not mean too much to me. I did, however, get to see some of the interesting QSL cards he had collected. A few years later, when I was in high school, my parents bought me a Hallicrafters SX-99 receiver. This gave me the opportunity to explore short-wave radio listening, log distant broadcast band AM radio stations, and listen to many ham radio QSOs. At that time the sun spot cycle was at its peak, 10 meters was open, and many hams were still using AM. The Hallicrafters SX-99 was not a single side band (SSB) receiver, but I could copy SSB signals by switching the radio to the CW mode and adjusting the beat frequency oscillator (BFO).
  - b. Many years went by, and I continued to enjoy listening to short-wave broadcasts, ham QSOs on the high frequency (HF) bands, distant AM broadcast band stations, and 2 meter repeaters. However, I did not pursue getting a ham radio license because



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*Tiny Elephant - Continued from page 2*

Out of every hopeless situation comes an opportunity. The beam's full rotation has freed up the pulley so I can once again begin lowering it. Things proceed along smoothly for another 10 feet or so before I notice the beam starting to turn again as if being pushed by an invisible hand. Well, more accurately, by a wire. It seems the second director has snagged one of the loops of my 80-meter quad. Several attempts to pull it free by alternately pulling the beam up and down succeed only in making it rock again. This means a trip down the tower accompanied by invectives against any functioning brain cells I may have. As I undid the loop support and pulled it away, I found out why the beam had snagged: the tree used for the tramline anchor was not perpendicular to the boom for the 80-meter quad so that the tramline angles toward one of the loops. Unfortunately, it was the only tree at the right distance from the tower.

Back up the tower to untie the rope and continue feeding the antenna down. I started to lower the beam, now free of the quad loop. However, something was puzzling me after I had untied the rope. Then it hit me: the rope was too short for the beam to make it to the ground. This fact became painfully obvious when I noticed I had just a few feet of rope left before it would be through the tower pulley. With a raised "why me?" look on my face, I tied the rope off and went back down the tower for a trip to the garage and more rope.

I climbed back up Mount Everest with the new rope and carefully pulled the existing rope through the pulley to the two pieces together. I now had the weight of the beam pulling me out from the tower instead of me pulling down through a pulley. It is at times like these that I wish I had a "belt arrestor" of a butt to keep from being pulled out of the belt.

Fortunately, the beam was moving easier now and getting close to the ground. About 10 feet from the ground, the beam started turning again from still another invisible hand. Looking closer, I noticed that one element was hung up on a sapling. (I swear that tree was not there when I started.) Just when I thought this wasn't happening, Lady Luck finally smiled on me and the tree let go. The sudden release nearly pulled the rope out of my tired hands as the beam glided down toward a soft landing at the base of the tree.

I slowly descended the tower for the last

time that day. I wearily coiled up the rope and untied the beam to set it on some old stumps. I shuffled down the hill to the garage to put all the junk away. Plopping down on the front steps with a cold one, I pondered why I bother to run 10 miles when all I have to do is an antenna project.

So much for phase one...I'm gonna get on the air.

Five States QSO Party, 2-3 February. This is not a new QSO party but rather five separate state QSO parties in one weekend. The states of Delaware, Maine, Minnesota, New Hampshire, and Vermont all claim a chunk of this weekend as their own. The important thing is that it is NEW HAMPSHIRE's weekend, too. This contest is a fun way to learn how to handle a mini-pileup from stations needing NH counties. You can also be resourceful and hop around with the other state contests and exchange counties and numbers, etc. to give each other credit. For the NH contest, operating is on 160 meters all the way up to 1296 MHz with categories of Single Operator/QRP, Low Power, and High Power and the same grouping for multi-operator stations. The bonus stations are N1FD, W1FGM, W1FZ, W1WQM, W1AKS, K1BV, K1BKE, and K1NCR. Multipliers are 10 NH counties, 49 states, 13 Canadian provinces, and a DXCC contact for a total of 73 multipliers. Check the [www.nhradio.org/nh-qso](http://www.nhradio.org/nh-qso) website for rules and contest software.

World-Wide RTTY WPX Contest, 9-10 February. The second major RTTY contest of the year covers the 48 hours of the weekend. Single operator and Multi-single stations are limited to 30 of the 48 hours while multi-multi and multi-two stations operate all 48 hours. Single operator categories can enter as a High Power, Low Power, or Single Band class. The contest occupies 80 through 10 meters. Contacts on 80 and 40 meters are worth 6 points for contacts between dif-

ferent continents, and 3 points for 20 through 10 meters. For countries on the same continent, scoring changes to 4 points and 2 points for the same band clusters. Finally, QSOs within a country count as 2 points and 1 point for these bands. Contest exchange is RST and a 3-digit serial number. Logs must be sent to W6/G0AZT by 14 March 2001, via snail mail or [edlyn@california.com](mailto:edlyn@california.com).

ARRL CW DX Contest, 16-17 February. The second major CW DX contest of the season anchors the middle of the month. The rest of the world tries to work the US and Canada which means a lot more of us will be running a frequency than the DX. Contest exchange is RST and state for us, RST and power level for DX stations. One thing to remember: working Canadian stations does NOT count. Logs must be submitted directly to the ARRL or via email to [DXCW@arrl.org](mailto:DXCW@arrl.org) by 19 March 2001.

CQ Worldwide 160-Meter SSB Contest, 22-24 February. This is for the truly nuts. Here is your chance to see how good your ears REALLY are. CQ's Top Band SSB contest starts 2200Z on Friday, the 22nd, and goes through to 1600Z on Sunday. Contacts with other states count as 2 points; with other countries in North America, 5 points; and countries on other continents (if you're lucky) count 10 points. The exchange is RST and a state for us. Multipliers are the total states (48) worked, DC, total Canadian provinces (14), and total DXCC countries. Logs go to K4JRB by snail mail or [cq160@contesting.com](mailto:cq160@contesting.com) by 31 March 2002.

I KNEW there was a good reason for antenna projects!

Peter Gailunas/KA1OKQ

[ka1okq@nhrc.net](mailto:ka1okq@nhrc.net)

**NHRC**  
REPEATER CONTROLLERS

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Meet Francis - continued from page 4

of the code requirement that existed at the time. Sometime in 1983 or 1984, I attended a ham radio picnic, sponsored by John Fryer (WA1THH - Silent Key) at Greeley Park in Nashua. At that picnic I met two older women who were grandmothers and also ham radio operators. Listening to them talk, it became evident to me that I was smarter than these grandmothers. If they could learn the code and get a ham radio license, so could I.

c. In June of 1984, on a local repeater, I heard that the Nashua Area Radio Club (NARC) Field Day was being held at Sanders Corporation on Spit Brook Road, so I went to visit and inquire about becoming a ham. I met the NARC President, Bill Burden (WB1BRE), who advised me to buy an ARRL Tune in the World book with a 5 WPM code practice cassette tape, and to learn the code over the summer. NARC, specifically Maurice Cote (K1HDO), would be giving a ham radio and code class in the fall. It so happened, that Maurice knew me. He was one of the Project Engineers who worked on a microwave switch Research and Development contract that I managed when I was in the Air Force, assigned to the Air Force Avionics Laboratory at Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio. Anyway, by the time the code class had begun, I had already learned to copy the code at a very basic level from the Tune in the World code practice tape. Maurice invited me to his house to see his ham station and to give me some additional code practice. He also put me in contact with the hams who were giving one of the first Volunteer Exams at the ARRL New England Convention in Boxborough, MA that fall. I made an appointment, and took the exam. At that time walk-in candidates for the exam were not permitted. After I had passed the 5 word per minute (WPM) code test, I was given the Novice written exam. I explained that I did not want a Novice license, I wanted a Technician license and I needed the General written exam. At that time there was no separate Technician written exam. I was told that I had to first pass the Novice written exam before I could take the General written exam. I had not understood this, and I had only glanced at the Novice test questions. Fortunately, however, I passed both the Novice and General written exams. In November 1984 I received my

N1DGQ call sign and Technician license in the mail. With further code practice, mostly listening to a 13 WPM code tape and listening to the ARRL CW bulletins, I upgraded to Advanced and then to Extra in about three years.

7. Other Hams in Family: None

8. My Elmer: Dave Shaw (K1BXZ) was my CW Elmer. He encouraged me to practice using the code and to upgrade my code speed. He and I would have local CW practice QSOs on 15 meters, and sometimes on two meters FM using code oscillators.

9. How Often Do I Operate: Most every day

10. Bands I Operate: 2 meters, 220 MHz and 440 MHz FM, mostly repeaters. I live in a condominium and I have antenna restrictions which limit my ability to operate on the HF bands.

11. Types of Operation: Ragchew

12. My Station: Sparse

13. Do I Build Equipment: Very little, mostly J pole, 2 meter antennas made from 300 ohm TV twin lead wire.

14. Other Ham Radio Activities:

a. Volunteer Examiner: I am a Volunteer Examiner with the ARRL and also W5YI. I regularly assist in administering the Amateur Radio Exams in Nashua, NH; Derry, NH; the Hosstraders Flea Market; and elsewhere as needed.

b. New England Repeater Directory: I also gather information about New England amateur radio repeaters. With inputs from others, I maintain and update the database for the New England Repeater Directory. Jeff (N1ZZN) maintains this Directory on his web site, <http://www.qsl.net/n1zzn/nerep>. This activity originally got started after I got a 220 MHz radio and jotted down a list of local 220 MHz repeaters on a single sheet of paper. From there this list grew to a larger list of repeaters on various bands, maintained with a word processor using a Commodore 64 computer. It has now become a web site of its own, maintained using a Microsoft Excel file.

15. Has Ham Radio Influence My Profession: No. I am retired from the Air Force and did not get licensed until near the end of my Air Force career.

16. Other Hobbies: I enjoy hiking local trails and small hills. I walk very slowly, steadily and carefully, especially downhill. I do not sleep outdoors overnight; I want to come home and sleep in my own bed. I usually take a handheld radio and a spare battery with me when I go hiking, especially if I plan to

climb a hill. When I reach the top of the hill I checkout the repeaters on the 2 meter, 220 MHz and 440 MHz bands. I use the information I gather to update the database for the New England Repeater Directory. But the most important thing I get form hiking is the exercise.

## Field Day Chairman

The board of directors of the Nashua Area Radio Club are looking for a Field Day Chairman. Field Day planning starts around March. Anyone who would be interested contact any board member. This could be more then one person. Also Fletch N1MEO will help as needed.

## New Breakfast Location

The location for the weekly NARC Saturday morning breakfast get-together has recently been changed to:

Charman's Restaurant & Lounge  
537 Amherst Street (Rte 101A)  
Nashua  
(883-4052)

The eggs are well cooked, the coffee is strong, the tea is hot, they have bagels, and the service has been excellent. They will reserve a table for us each week starting at around 8:00 am. Why not join us?

Nancy Rosenberg KW1LTR  
Lame Duck Activities Director

## Apology

The editor would like to apologize for the lack of a newsletter in January. Moving house (see new address for correspondence), a dose of flu, change of website provider and the installation of new radio antenna all contributed to the cause!

**Deadline for the March  
Bulletin is  
Friday February 8th,  
2002**

**Please contribute to the newsletter!  
Your meeting notes, a letter, anything  
you want published. You can email the  
editor articles, pictures or suggestions  
to: malcolm@adsman.com**

# THE NASHUA AREA RADIO CLUB BULLETIN

is published by the Nashua Area Radio Club, Inc.  
just prior to its monthly meeting. It is distributed  
free to members and friends of Amateur Radio.

## BULLETIN STAFF:

Editor/Publisher: Malcolm Taylor, G0UCX (603)471-1207  
Advertising: Marc Slater, KB1DFE (603)673-1674  
Circulation: Mary Jane F Warren

## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:

Annual Dues:	Regular Membership	\$20.00
	Family Membership	\$30.00
	Student Membership:	\$15.00
	Senior Citizen (Over 65)	\$15.00

Club Mail Address: Nashua Area Radio Club  
PO Box 248  
Nashua, NH 03061-0248

## ACTIVITIES & COMMITTEES:

Awards/QSL Manager	Fletcher Seagroves, N1MEO
Club Data:	Jim Heedles, WW1Y
EC/ARES:	Don Dillaby, KA1GOZ
Field Day:	Fletcher Seagroves, N1MEO
Publicity:	Don Dillaby, KA1GOZ
Station Trustee:	John Gaffey, WS1E
Club Property:	Mark Wagner, N1ZYZ
Training:	Darryl Wagoner, WA1GON
Volunteer Exams:	Jim Heedles, WW1Y
Technical Resources:	Mike Graham, K7CTW
Get-On-The-Air-Program:	Open - TBD

## EXECUTIVE BOARD - 2002:

Darryl Wagoner, WA1GON	Chairman	(603)878-1447
Frank Swiech, N1DGQ	Vice Chairman	(603)888-0277
Fletcher Seagroves, N1MEO	Secretary	(603)673-3036
Mark Wagner, N1ZYZ	Treasurer	(603)424-1516
Charles Williams, KB1DOK	Activities	(603)635-2281
David Henderson, NR1DX	Membership	(603)465-7888
Ed DiCroce, KB1HLX	Programs	(978)250-1194

**DEADLINE** for submitting articles or photographs for the next issue is the Friday following the current month's Club meeting. Electronic submissions are preferred and should be sent via electronic mail to malcolm@adsman.com. On-line images may also be sent electronically in any standard image file format. Material for publication can also be sent to Malcolm Taylor, 73 Stowell Road, Bedford, NH 03110.

**ALL NON Bulletin** correspondence should be sent to the official club address: P O Box 248, Nashua, NH, 03061-0248.

**ADVERTISING** enquiries should be addressed to Marc Slater, KB1DFE. Advertising matters must not be raised over the Amateur airwaves. Please consult by telephone with our Advertising Manager.

## NARC Club Calendar 2002

Monday, February 4th, Club Meeting  
Friday, February 8th, Bulletin Deadline  
Monday, February 25th, Board Meeting  
Monday, March 4th, Club Meeting  
Friday, March 8th, Bulletin Deadline  
Monday, 25th March, Board Meeting  
Monday, 1st April, Club Meeting  
Friday, 5th April, Bulletin Deadline

## Weekly Events

Tuesdays 8: 15 PM ARES Net 443.35+ PL 110.8

Tuesdays 8:30 PM ARES Net 146.73- PL 88.5

Thursdays 6:30 PM Pizza Night! Location varies.

Saturdays 8:30 AM Breakfast - Charmin's Restaurant, 537 Amherst Street (Rte 101A)

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## The KY1N Memorial List

## Scheduled Amateur Radio Volunteer Examinations CT MA ME NH RI VT February 2002

02/02/02 10:30	Wes Clement, N1WC	Bath ME	207-729-8563
02/02/02 10:30	Larry Houbre, AA1FS	Dartmouth MA	508-991-6055
02/07/02 19:00	Kevin Cellini, N1KGM	Trumbull CT	203-268-5015
02/08/02 18:30	Ralph T Stetson III, KD1R	Burlington VT	802-878-6454
02/09/02 09:00	Joanne Reid, N1LNE	Falmouth MA	508-548-1121
02/09/02 09:30	Marvin Fleischman, N1AWJ	Stamford CT	203-438-7889
02/10/02 12:00	Bob Quinn, WV1A	Gloucester MA	978-281-1408
02/10/02 15:00	* Tom Sefranek, WA1RHP	Shirley MA	978-425-6672
02/11/02 19:00	Bob Wondolowski, N1KDA	Brookline MA	508-865-5822
02/12/02 19:00	Lawrence Polowy, KU1L	Thomaston CT	860-283-4089
02/13/02 19:30	Bruce Anderson, W1LUS	Chelmsford MA	978-851-2886
02/14/02 19:00	Judy Nelson, KC1RI	Providence RI	401-231-9156
02/16/02 09:00	Dave Melochick, W1COP	Bangor ME	207-942-4586
02/16/02 13:00	Theodore Ferreira, WA1NXC	East Hartford CT	860-528-1053
02/16/02 09:00	William R Wade, K1IJ	Marlborough MA	617-699-3670
02/16/02 10:00	* Scott Kingsley, WB1F	Melrose MA	781-665-7654
02/16/02 11:00	Henry Fales, KZ1V	Orleans MA	508-255-2818
02/19/02 19:00	Paul Lux, K1PL	Middletown CT	860-635-1742
02/20/02 19:30	Nick Altenbernd, KA1MQX	Cambridge MA	617-253-3776
02/20/02 19:00	* Paul Upham, KD1YH	Lunenburg MA	978-597-6535
02/22/02 18:00	David Cote, WA1DC	Holyoke MA	413-592-4978
02/23/02 12:00	Neil Henden, AA1OA	Danvers MA	978-739-2389
02/23/02 09:00	Mitch Stern, W1SJ	Milton VT	802-879-6589

NOTES: \* = PREREGISTRATION MANDATORY

T = Technician Exams only Please remember to take the following with you:

- a) Original and copy FCC-issued license (if already licensed)
- b) Original and copies of all CSCE's you are claiming
- c) One photo ID, or two non-photo ID's (one showing address)
- d) The 2002 test session fee (\$10.00)

For latest update check <http://www.n1fd.org/ky1n.html>

*Tour the World with Amateur Radio  
Next meeting February 8th at Nashua Public  
Library, 7PM*

Address Service Requested

**Nashua Area Radio Club  
P. O. Box 248  
Nashua, NH 03061-0248**

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