

N.E.W.S. LETTER

The Publication of the North East Weak Signal Group

March, 2013

Volume 22

Issue 2

NEXT MEETING: 3/9/2013

BOARD MEETING - 11:00 AM at Lulu's, 151 Hazard Ave. Enfield, CT **phone:** (860) 763-2377

*****NOTE NEW LOCATION*****

GENERAL MEETING - STORRS LIBRARY - from 1 PM to approximately 3:45 PM.

*****2013 Eastern VHF-UHF-MW Conference*****

April 26-27-28, 2013

Baymont Inn-- 20 Taylor St., Manchester, CT Hotel Tel# 860-643-5645

2013 Meeting Dates

March 9, April 27 (VHF Conf!!!), July 13 (Picnic!!!), Sept 28, Nov. 23

DON'T FORGET

**The North East Weak Signal Group
2 Meter VHF and Above Net
Every Thursday at 8:30 PM local 144.250 MHz.
W1COT, WZ1V or K1PXE Net Control**

MEMBERSHIP in the N.E.W.S. Group is \$15 per year. Apply to Tom Williams, WA1MBA. Email tomw(at)wa1mba.org You may download an application from our web page:

<http://www.newsvhf.com/>

The N.E.W.S. LETTER is the publication of the North East Weak Signal Group. Articles may be reprinted with proper credit given to the author and the N.E.W.S. LETTER. Send articles to Tom Filecco W1WSO, via email to w1wso@comcast.net.

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come.

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ACTIVE ON: 6, 2, 432, 1296

2013 NEWS CALENDAR:

March 9, 1PM - 4PM - [N.E.W.S. Group Meeting](#)

April 1, 1900-2300 Local - [144 MHz Spring Sprint](#)

April 16, 1900-2300 Local - [222 MHz Spring Sprint](#)

April 21 - Lyrids meteor shower

April 19-20 - [Southeastern VHF Society Conference](#)

April 24, 1900-2300 Local - [432 MHz Spring Sprint](#)

*** April 26-28 - [Eastern VHF-UHF Conference](#) ***

May 3-4 - [New England Amateur Radio Festival - Deerfield, NH](#)

May 4, 0600-1300 Local - [Microwave Spring Sprint](#)

May 11-12, 2300-0300Z - [50 MHz Spring Sprint](#)

May 17-19 - [Dayton Hamfest](#)

June 8-10, 1800Z-0300Z - [ARRL June VHF QSO Party](#)

June 29 - [Rochester NY RARA Hamfest](#)

*** July 13, 11AM - 4PM - [N.E.W.S. Group Picnic](#) ***

July 20-21, 1800Z - 2100Z - [CQ Worldwide VHF Contest](#)

August 3-4, 1800Z - 1800Z - [ARRL UHF Contest](#)

August 10, 2300-0300 UTC - [50 MHz Fall Sprint](#)

August 12 - Perseids meteor shower

August 17-18, 6AM - 11:59:59PM - [ARRL 10-GHz & up Cumulative Contest](#)

September 7-9, 1800Z-0300Z - [ARRL September VHF QSO Party](#)

September 14-15, 6AM - 11:59:59PM - [ARRL 10-GHz & up Cumulative Contest](#)

September 16, 1900-2300 Local - [144 MHz Fall Sprint](#)

September 24, 1900-2300 Local - [222 MHz Fall Sprint](#)

September 28, 1PM - 4PM - [N.E.W.S. Group Meeting](#)

September 29 ? - [Mt. Airy \(PackRats\) Hamarama](#)

October 2, 1900-2300 Local - [432 MHz Fall Sprint](#)

October 11-12 - [New England Amateur Radio Festival - Deerfield, NH](#)

October 12, 0600-1200 Local - [Microwave Fall Sprint](#)

October 18-19 - [Microwave Update - Morehead, KY](#)

November 23, 1PM - 4PM - [N.E.W.S. Group Meeting](#)

November 17 - Leonids meteor shower

December 12 - Geminids meteor shower

Presidents Report

R. L. Frey – WA2AAU

March Meeting Topics:

Getting Ready for the Eastern VHF-UHF-MW Conference In April

Presentation By Bob Bownes – KI2L: The “Maker-Space” Movement

The end of April seems like a long ways off, but it will be here before we know it! Not soon enough for us who would like to get outside to work on some antenna projects, but we live in the northeast and the weather will be what it will be. I hope the Great New England Blizzard of 2013 didn't bring down your antennas! The conference committee has been hard at work getting ready for the April conference. We should recognize and thank the committee members: K1MAP, N1JFU, W1GHZ and WZ1V for their hard work on the conference. If you can help out, you can contact Mark Casey, one of the 2013 VHF Conference Co-Chairs at 413-566-8118 or 413-566-2445. I'm sure he can suggest something for you to do to help out.

On February 8-10, I had the pleasure to attend the Orlando “Hamcation” hamfest in Florida, only to find Mark – K1MAP there also enjoying the very fine 75 degree weather! I also found Stan – KA1ZE running around the place. At least there were a few of us there representing the northeast. The event is fairly large and might be something to consider especially if you plan to visit Florida during next winter anyway. It was really nice to meet a bunch of guys interested in VHF and above at the Florida Weak Signal Society meeting held at the hamfest. The group appears to be quite active and growing with goals similar to those of NEWS. You can check out their web site at <http://flwss.net/>.

And now a few words about our presentation at the March meeting: Recently, Bob – KI2L has been telling me about his work on creating “Maker Spaces” in the Capital District of New York State. A Maker Space is sort of a community workshop and/or lab, which can be used by anyone in the local area to “make stuff”. Typically a number of technically oriented individuals get together and find someone or some company to donate some physical space and then they set up the space as a shop to fill the needs as expressed by those who are members of the group. Here in the Capital District, one Maker Space has already been created in downtown Troy, NY and commitments have been made to create one in both Albany and Schenectady. Consider the opportunity to use equipment we could only dream of having at home. Let's say you only have a small shop and would like to use a milling machine to “hog-out” a block for a 10 GHz preamp. Go to your local Maker Space, and you may very well find the milling machine you want as well as a crusty old retired machinist to show you how to use it!

Also consider the opportunity of how we hams can help others learn about electronics and radio and maybe even become hams and join the hobby. The “Maker Space” can also be used to make more hams. There are plans to include a ham radio station at the Troy Maker Space. Would you like a place to donate some shop equipment that you don't really have the space to keep any longer? Why not donate it to a local Maker Space? You can still go there and use it, and it won't be using up valuable space in your basement anymore. In summary a “Maker Space” can become anything that the local group would like to make it. Go get involved in one near you or start the process in your town, and you may be surprised how many people the effort will attract. Come listen to what Bob has to say about what has been happening in our area. I found it fascinating. I think you will too!

Secretary's Report

NEWS Meeting 5 January 2013, Storrs Library, Longmeadow, MA

Preceded by a Board of Directors meeting at Lulu's Restaurant

President WA2AAU called meeting to order at 1305

TREASURERS REPORT by WA1MBA

- 94 paid members to date + 14 permanent members

- 18 not renewed yet

- Balance \$5027

- Report Approved unanimously

- Possible uses for excess funds:

. DXpedition

. Webcast or record meetings

Committee KI2L KJ1K K1AE

. Beacons

(KJ1K noted that NOBARC repeater lease is for 8 radios @\$200 each

Includes 10 GHz beacon on Greylock)

.MUD

.205 streaming

- A Committee was formed: KI2L KJ1K K1AE to study Proposals and publish in NEWSletter

MOTION by K1MAP to donate \$100 to library. UNANIMOUS

MOTION by K1MAP to donate \$100 to MUD. UNANIMOUS

MOTION by K1MAP to donate \$100 to 205streaming. AMENDMENT by N1DPM to change amount to \$120. Amendment and Motion approved UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION by N1DPM to donate \$100 to NOBARC to support beacon. UNANIMOUS

OLD BUSINESS - none

-Eastern VHF/UHF Conference April 26-28

A prize volunteer is needed. W1FKF volunteered

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- KI2L building 2m beacon E. Killingly, CT

- WA1ZMS beacon back on air

- K0BXM 10G beacon Cape Hatteras almost ready

- K1IIG 432.320 beacon moved near Waterbury, CT

- N1JEZ 5760 beacon approved for Gore Mt, 10 GHz for Mt. Washington

NEW BUSINESS

- VHF contest has new FM only category

MOTION by K1MAP that NEWS endorse 146.58 as suggested contest frequency. UNANIMOUS.

K1MAP to write letter.

SHORT PRESENTATIONS

KA1ZE - 205 streaming from PA, adding CT

Www.shoutcast.com 205morninggroup

~20 second delay

N1JEZ - 222 ACSB surplus repeater conversion

- 222 ss KW

- Hardrock-50 HF amp

- GLSDR - Android app

KJ1K - Arduino rotor controller

W1GHZ - EME at W1AIM

- VCXO

W1TDS - 75 ohm coax transformer

WA2AAU small 3456 amp MCL PHA-1,

PIN diode IF switch

N1JFU - K3 IF switching board

Meeting adjourned at approximately 1545

-Paul, W1GHZ

Treasurer's Report

At our last meeting we voted to send funds to Storrs Library, Microwave Update 2013, NOBARC, and the 205 Group. All those checks were mailed with a thank-you letter soon after the meeting. We continue to have strong level membership numbers and a healthy treasury. See you in March - this year our meeting is a few days before my Florida vacation, so I won't be enjoying the Red Sox in Spring Training instead of the meeting!

2013 Conference Door Prizes

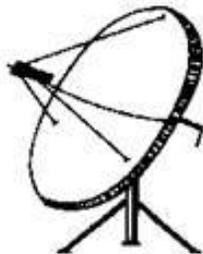
Door Prize Coordinators: Mickie Clement W1MKY and Don Twombly W1FKF

If any one would like to donate a Door Prize or Auction Item for the Up coming VHF/UHF Conference in April, please E-mail Mickie Clement W1MKY - dpcclement@tds.net

Ship Door prizes to:

Don Twombly, 23 Maura Dr, Woburn, Ma 01801

[Email - donw1fkf-news@yahoo.com](mailto:donw1fkf-news@yahoo.com)



39th EASTERN VHF/UHF CONFERENCE

APRIL 26-28, 2013
BAYMONT INN (860)-643-5645
20 TAYLOR ST. (OFF I-84)
MANCHESTER, CT 06042

The aim of the Conference is to share with our fellow VHFer's and above technical achievements in the field of communication and experimentation. You are all invited to participate by presenting a technical paper or submitting one for publication in the Conference Proceedings CD. Just your attendance is also welcome and we have a full program scheduled once again this year. If you are interested in presenting a paper at the conference or submitting one for the Proceedings please contact: Paul Wade, W1GHZ at W1GHZ@arrl.net.

For the technical presentations, PowerPoint presentations are preferred, but not required. The conference will provide an LCD projector, screen and wireless microphone for use by its participants. If your presentation requires a different format such as a slide projector, please contact me prior to the conference and I will arrange for it. A Conference Proceedings will be published on CD. You do not need to be a speaker to have your material included in the proceedings, just interested in sharing with your fellow radio enthusiasts, so please send it along by MARCH 25, 2013. In addition to our technical presentations and world famous Bandsessions we'll have a new LAB Session with Noise Figure, Gain and Power Measurements and a Manufacturers Demo area which will be open Saturday afternoon. We encourage you to bring equipment to test. We'll also have Greg Bonaguide, WA1VUG of Rohde & Schwarz America to manage the preamp noise figure and

gain measurement Lab Session (0MHz-50GHz), and Mark Casey, K1MAP to head up the Sunday morning flea market. Don Twombly W1FKF and Michele Clement W1MKY will head the Prize Donations. This years' VHF-SHF Trivia Quiz will be hosted by Paul Wade, W1GHZ. The Proceedings CD with the event schedule and many interesting articles is included with your conference registration fee and will be presented to you when you arrive. Hope to see you soon!

73,

Conference Chairman and Proceedings Editor:

Paul Wade, W1GHZ
PO Box 35
Cabot, VT 05647

802-563-2110 Home

[Email W1GHZ](mailto:W1GHZ)

Door Prize Coordinators:

Don Twombly W1FKF and Michele Clement W1MKY

Ship Door prizes to:

Don Twombly, 23 Maura Dr, Woburn, Ma 01801.

[Email W1FKF](mailto:W1FKF) [Email W1MKY](mailto:W1MKY)

VUCC, WAS & DXCC Card Checking (By Appointment):

Someone Goode - W1

SWAP n SELL INFO:

MARK CASEY, K1MAP

303 Main Street

Hampden, Mass 01036

(413) 566-8118 (work) or 413-222-9292

[Email K1MAP](mailto:K1MAP)

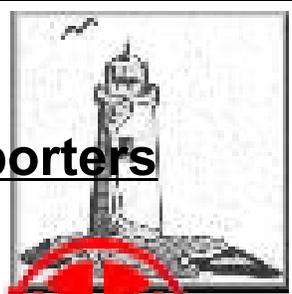
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* and the North East Weak Signal Group

* ARRL-Affiliated

Official Webpage: <http://www.newsvhf.com> - for Eastern VHF/UHF Conference latest news updates and Registration forms

2013 VHF/UHF Conference Supporters



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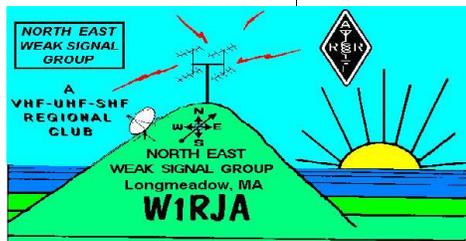
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If we missed any Supporters
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ARRL member? Y N Electronic Newsletter Delivery? Y N

Operational Bands (circle) 50 MHz 144 MHz 222 MHz 432 MHz 903 MHz
1.2 GHz 2.3 GHz 3.4 GHz 5.6 GHz 10 GHz 24 GHz 47 GHz
76 GHz Light Other (list)

The North East Weak Signal [N.E.W.S.]Group is being established to form a camaraderie among fellow VHF-UHF-SHF enthusiasts, and support a convenient means to exchange technical information. We currently have 6 meetings per year, held at a centrally located facility, and provide a "NEWSLETTER" that is distributed 2 weeks prior to each meeting. Any contributions to this publication are appreciated and can be sent to: Tom Filecco, W1WSO via email – w1wso@comcast.net. Dues are \$15/year. Remember, this group is formed by VHF'ers for VHF'ers.

Mail to:

North East Weak Signal Group
c/o WA1MBA Tom Williams PO Box 28
Shutesbury, MA 01072



<http://www.flex-radio.com/>

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<http://www.downeastmicrowave.com>

North East Weak Signal Group

c/o WA1MBA Tom Williams, PO Box 28, Shutesbury, MA 01072

Check your membership
expiration date on your mailing label!

