SPECIAL CONFERENCE ISSUE

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
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.
N.E.W.S. GROUP OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:
WA2AAU, Dick Frey
7262 Skyline Dr,
Delanson, NY 12053, FN22vs
Home: 518-895-2798
rlfbauer @ gmail.com
ACTIVE ON: 6, 2, 222, 432, 903, 1296, 2304, 3456, 5760, 10 GHz, 24 GHz.

VICE PRES:
N1JFU, Steve Meuse
80 Walnut St.
West Bridgewater, MA 02379 FN42la
Home: 508-345-3742
smeuse @ gmail.com
ACTIVE ON: 6, 2, 222, 432, 10 GHz.

SECRETARY:
W1GHZ, Paul Wade
PO Box 35
Cabot VT 05647, FN34uj
Home: 802-563-2110
Cell: 802-498-4797
w1ghz @ arrl.net
ACTIVE ON: 6, 2, 222, 432, 10GHz, more to come.

TREASURER:
WA1MBA, Tom Williams
POB 28,
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ACTIVE ON: 6, 2, 432, 903, 1296, 2304, 3456, 5760, 10, 24, 47 GHz.

EDITOR:
W1WSO, Tom Filecco
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ACTIVE ON: 6, 2, .

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K1MAP, Mark Casey
303 Main Street,
Hampden, MA. 01036, FN3
Home: 413-566-2445
map @ mapinternet.com
ACTIVE ON:6, 2, 222, 432, 903, 1296, 2304, 3456, 5760, 10 GHz

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
K1WHS Dave Olean (1 yr)
177 Dixon Rd
Lebanon ME 04027, FN43mj
Home: 207-658-7758
k1whs @ metrocast.net
ACTIVE ON: 6, 2, 222, 432, 903, 1296, 2304, 3456, 5760, 10 GHz, 24 GHz.

N1DPM: Fred Stefanik (1 yr)
50 Witheridge St,
Feeding Hills, MA. 01030, FN32qb
Home: 413-786-7943
n1dpm @ verizon.net
ACTIVE ON: 6, 2, 222, 432, 903, 1296, 2304, 3456, 5760, 10 GHz.

W1COT: Bob Leiper (1 yr)
47 Diane Dr,
Vernon, CT 06066, FN31st
Home: 860-649-6690
releiper @ ix.netcom.com
ACTIVE ON: 6, 2

W1ZC: Dick Wilborg (2 yr)
791 Brookline Rd,
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Home: 603-878-3680
w1zc @ myfairpoint.net
ACTIVE ON: 6, 2, 432, 1296
2013 NEWS CALENDAR:

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
Secretary's Report

NEWS Meeting 9 March 2013, Storrs Library, Longmeadow, MA
Preceded by a Board of Directors meeting at Lulu's Restaurant
President WA2AAU called meeting to order at 1308

TREASURERS REPORT by WA1MBA

- 99 paid members to date + 14 permanent members
- Balance $4648
  - Report Approved unanimously

OLD BUSINESS

-Eastern VHF/UHF Conference April 26-28
  * Registration help needed.
  * Additional speakers needed. Volunteers:
    = W1TR - Whole House Backup Generator Installation
    = KI2L - Schematic to PCB using Eagle CAD

NEW BUSINESS

- NEWS Group won the first place gavel for the 2012 June VHF contest
- 10 GHz contest: W1JHR is applying for a club permit for Mt. Wachusett
MOTION by W1AIM to reimburse up to $100 for permits, and to make the 10 GHz contest an official club activity. UNANIMOUS.
  - K1BXC suggested club 6 meter net. No volunteers to coordinate.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- K1MAP - new Beacon W4FWS FN14ux 10368.130
- WA1MBA - 78 GHz amps almost complete
  - WZ1V described new W1RJA 2 meter beacon and showed hardware; will be 144.275

PRESENTATION

KI2L - Makerspaces

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- Shop skills not taught in schools
- Community of folks who want to build things
- Incubator for innovation - start business
- Inspire people
- Learning environment
- Tool library
- 3D printers
- Welding is popular
- Public Libraries - 3D printer - tinkerspace
Makerspace.org
What do you need?
- Space
- Interested people
- Website
- Equipment
- A little funding
- Sharing resources
- Safety and education
- Lawyer to set up 503c corporation
Not expensive
- Old equipment
- Subscription or co-op
- Sponsor and grants
Meeting adjourned at approximately 1545

http://www.w1ghz.org/
39th EASTERN VHF/UHF CONFERENCE

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

For our friends Everywhere.......... We'd love to have you enjoy our Conference! Come for the Interesting Talks, Swap-Buy-Sell, Food & Good Company!

Only 3 weeks away! For Registration Just Go To: http://www.newsvhf.com/vhfconf.html

Call NOW, The Disouted Room Rate has been extended to April 15! $69dbl, $99suite Baymont Inn: 860-643-5645. Tell them "VHF Conference" to get the discounted rate. There is still a limited amount of rooms available—many have been sold already

Bradley International Airport (Hartford, CT), is close by the site (less than 1/2 hr) The New York and Boston airports are only a 2-3 hour drive.

Check out this link to see who is coming! - http://www.newsvhf.com/whoscoming.html

FRIDAY
6pm to ?--SUPER HOSPITALITY ROOM & INDOOR SWAP
(You will want to re-think going out to eat on Fri. Nite!)

SATURDAY
7am--FREE Continental BREAKFAST for those staying at the Baymont Hotel
7:30am-- Registration Opens
8am to 5pm--Welcome & Talks/Presentations & Indoor Vendors
10:30am-- AUCTION Break
12noon--Lunch (many nearby eateries)
1pm--Talks & Presentations resume, Indoor Vendors & TEST LAB by Greg Bonaguide of ROHDE & SCHWARZ
3pm--AUCTION & Afternoon HOSPITALITY BREAK
5pm--NEWS Group Meeting, all are welcome
5pm--Pre-Banquet HOSPITALITY ROOM
7pm-- BANQUET BUFFET,
Tom Kirby Award Presentation
Banquet Speaker – Someone Goode
VHF-Microwave Trivia Quiz, Paul Wade W1GHZ
DOOR PRIZE EXTRAVAGANZA

Here's a Preliminary List of Saturday's Presentations:

- Terry Glagowski, W1TR Whole House Backup Generator Installation
- Sigurd Kimpel, KJ1K Homebrew Yaesu Rotor Controller
- Rick Rosen, K1DS Rover Redux
- Steve Hicks, N5AC Flex SDR Performance
- Wayne Getchell, VE3CZO Power Amplifier for 23 cm - Concept to Prototype
- Paul Wade, W1GHZ Locked VCXO for Microwave Local Oscillators
- John D'Ausilio W1RT 3D printing for Microwave Horns
- John Seney WD1V Modern Oscilloscopes
- Bob Bownes KI2L Schematic to PCB using Eagle CAD
- Dick Frey, WA2AAU Elevated Antenna Range

There will also be over a dozen additional papers on the Proceedings CD
**SUNDAY**

7am--FREE Continental BREAKFAST for those staying at the Baymont Hotel.

8am--(NO Earlier Please!) SWAP/TAILGATE in Parking Lot

On-Line or Mail-in Registration ONLY $25 if registered by April 10, $30 after April 10 and at the door

"Newcomers" Special Registration--for those who've NOT been to any VHF+Conference before and not ever been a member of NEWS or Packrats or any Weak Signal Group...Must Register by Email/Mail Only (Prepay by Mail Only) - $10 if registered by April 10, $15 after April 10 and at door

Mail to: Steve Simons, W1SMS, PO Box 8066, New Fairfield, CT, 06812

Saturday Night Dinner Banquet. $28 -- must register for banquet before April 17.

Special Discounted Rates!!! ......Double $69.00, Suites $99.00 You CAN reserve your room NOW! Rates in effect until April 15th. To Reserve for Friday or Saturday night, Call the Baymont Inn at 860-643-5645 and tell them you are with the "VHF Conference"

The suites are really SUPER and sure to sell out soon, (your YL will approve!) Hotel has FREE continental breakfast & FREE WiFi. Check out TripAdvisor great reviews!!

**SwapN'Sell (Flea Market or Tailgate) Info:**

Indoor Table Swap for Registered Guests only--no extra charge

Friday 7pm to 10pm & Sat 8am to 5pm --limited table space
Sunday 8am--Outdoor Tailgate--no charge for Registered Guests &
Non-registered Buyers--Non-Registered Sellers, $10 space at gate

For SwapN'Sell Reservations, contact Mark Casey, K1MAP:

map1@mapinternet.com 413-566-8118 or 413-222-9292

Extra Proceedings CD's available ($5) with online Registration

Sponsored by: North East Weak Signal Group (NEWS)

Questions? Contact K1MAP, WZ1V, W1GHZ, or N1JFU
or Email Mark, K1MAP: map1@mapinternet.com

Check: www.newsvhf.com for updates--MORE TO COME!

If you interested in presenting a talk or preparing a paper for inclusion in the Conference Proceedings please contact Paul Wade, W1GHZ Conference Co-Chairman.

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**DIRECTIONS**

From Hartford: I-84 East to Exit 63, Stay Left on ramp, then Left on to Rt. 30 & 83 North, 2 blocks to Taylor St.on the Right.

From Boston & Worcester: I-90 West to I-84 West at Sturbridge. I-84 West to Exit 63, Keep Right on ramp, then Right on Rt 30 & 83 North 1/2 mile to Taylor St. on the Right.

From Springfield, Mass., Upstate New York & Vermont: I-91 South to Windsor, Ct, exit 35A to I-291 West to End at I-84. Then take I-84 East to Exit 63, Stay Left on ramp, then Left of to Rt. 30 & 83 North, 2 blocks to Taylor St. on the Right.

Nearby Eateries:

Shea's American Grille--Rt.30 (1/8 mile or walk to from hotel-NE)

Misaki Buffet & Sushi--Rt.30 (1/8 mile S or walk to)

Rein's NY Style Deli--Rt. 30 (2 miles NE)

Mitchell's Restaurant--1239 Rt.30, Vernon (4 miles NE)

Angelino's--Kelly Rd, off Rt 83 near TriCity Plaza(1.5 miles NE)

99--Rt. 30(2 miles NE)

Elmo's Dockside----Rt.30 (1/2 mile NE)

McDonalds----Rt. 30 (1/2 mile SW)

Subway--Rt. 30 (1/2 mile SW)

Applebees--Rt. 30 (1/2 mile SW)

Chipotle Mex Grille--Rt. 30 (1/2 mile SW)

Panera Bread--Rt. 30 (1/2 mile SW)

......and MANY, MANY MORE!!

Nearby Attractions:

New England Air Museum at Bradley Int'l Airport, Windsor Locks, CT

Radio TV Museum, Windsor, CT

ARRL Headquarters, Newington, CT

Trolley Museum, East Windsor, CT

Basketball Hall of Fame, Springfield, MA

Springfield Quadrangle Museums, Springfield, MA

Yankee Candle, South Deerfield, MA

Old Sturbridge Village, Strubridge, MA

Old Deerfield, Deerfield, MA

Eastern States Exposition (The Big E), West Springfield, MA
Foxwoods Casino, Mashantucket, CT
Mohegan Sun Casino, Montville, CT
Mystic Seaport, Mystic, CT
Mystic Aquarium, Mystic, CT
Buckland Mall, Manchester, CT
Nearby Colleges:
Amherst, Yale, UMass, UConn, Smith, Trinity, U of Hartford, Springfield, AIC, Western New England Univ, and many more.
Boston and New York are each, 100 miles. Southern Vermont and New Hampshire are about 80 miles. The Connecticut coast is only about 50-60 miles south.

**VHF/UHF CONFERENCE SUPPORTERS**

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Rogers Corporation
SSB Electronic USA
Teledyne
Tentec
The RF Connection
Times Microwave
Warren Stone
West Mountain Radio
W1GHZ

**Classifieds**

Please send all classified ads to w1wso@comcast.net.

**For Sale:**

All radios are in perfect operating condition, except where noted, and come with original manuals and some with boxes. Pick up in Lebanon CT or will deliver to April 27 VHF Conference in Manchester CT. Emil Pocock, W1WEP@ARRL.net - 860 642-7271

**TS-790A** 144/432/1296 CW/SSB/FM, with 1296 (UT-10) module. Transmit on one band, listen on the other. Designed for satellite work, but ideal for general VHF operating and contesting. $1100

**FT-817ND** with Collins CW filter and some accessories. $500

**IC-706** $350

**Tempo 2002** 2m KW amplifier (2x 8874) $500

**TR-9130** 2m 25W CW/SSB/FM mobile. Nice for transverter IF or beacon. $100

**Elecraft XV144 and XV432** transverters, professionally built. $300 each

**DEM 23LNA** 1296 premap, never used. $75

**Maha MH-A103** 2m amp, 5W in, 50W out, never used. $100

Ask about 144, 432, 1296 Yagis and 4-way power dividers.
WA1ZMS Update
The WA1ZMS Trans-Atlantic transmitter on 144.285MHz did suffer some ice damage to the antenna system, but all has been repaired and any reports are welcome.

An application for a 2013 Trans-Atlantic beacon on 4m has been submitted to the FCC, but I do not know if they will grant yet again this year. The goal is NOT to establish a 4m ham band in the US. Transmissions are only one-way, and no QSOs are allowed.

I am VERY fortunate to have a site where there is very little TV Ch4 operations and I can be accommodated by the Society of Broadcast Engineers.

So I am grateful to them for their allowing me to try Eskip to Europe again this year if the FCC gives the OK.

-Brian, WA1ZMS/4

From The Mailbox:
From: "Ken Kent - KA2LIM" <ka2lim@stny.rr.com>
Subject: grid locator to 10 digit
Type in your 4 or 6 digit grid, click the (show) button, zoom in the map to your exact location, put the cursor on the spot and left click it and your 10 digit grid will show plus your exact Lat. and Long. The K2LIM contest station is FN12mg02jr.
http://no.nonsense.ee/qthmap/
Ken

From: "Ron WZ1V" <wz1v@arrl.net>
Subject: 6 digit grid lookup by Callsign
Handy tool to help figure where to point. When you hear a callsign, enter it here and you'll get the station's 6 digit grid and exact location on a map:
http://www.levinecentral.com/ham/grid_square.php
-73, Ron WZ1V

Editorial
By Tom Filecco, W1WSO
w1wso@comcast.net

At the end of the month our club will be having our annual VHF/UHF Conference. It's a time for us radio amateurs in the Northeast Weak Signal community to enjoy the camaraderie of fellow hams, share our hobby accomplishments from the past year, and engage in a little hamfest horse-trading. I've found our club's conferences to be one of the more enjoyable amateur radio events I've attended, and I know that those of you who have also attended them have had a similarly positive experience.

Our last month's distribution for the NEWS Letter was 93 email addresses, plus a few members who continue to receive a hardcopy via USPS. In comparison, the number of amateur radio licenses in the New England ARRL region is roughly 34,000. The Atlantic ARRL Region, also in our clubs coverage area, has around 54,000 hams in it.

With figures like that, I'm certain that you have some friends in the amateur radio fraternity who are not club members. Perhaps they may be interested in VHF/UHF and microwave weak signal operation? All of the weak signal bands are available to even an entry-level license, and it is easy enough for any ham to start working weak signal on 50, 144, and 432 MHz.

This year we have a special reduced rate for hams who have never been to our conference. It opens up a golden opportunity to introduce fellow amateurs to one of best communities of our hobby.

If you are attending the conference this year, bring a friend. They can either be a ham who has not been introduced to weak-signal operating, or even a non-ham who has an interest in the hobby.

If you are attending the conference this year, consider bringing a small folding table and a box or two of weak-signal ham gear or parts that are excess to needs. There will be mini-swap/sell Friday night, and a hamfest on Sunday. Your old “junque” might get another new weak-signal operator on the air.

We have one of the best communities in the amateur radio fraternity, and introducing more of our fellow hams to weak-signal work will only make it better.

See you at the conference!

73,
Tom, W1WSO
2013 VHF/UHF Conference Supporters

Paul Wade, Dick Frey

If we missed any Supporters
Contact Mark K1MAP

Above Company Trademarks
2013 VHF/UHF Conference Supporters

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Call sign: _____________________   Grid: ______________

Street: ___________________________________________________________________

City: ___________________________ State: _________ Zip: _____________

Phone (home) ________________________ Optional (work) ________________________

Email ___________________________________________________________________

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.flexradio.com/
SSB Electronic USA manufactures and distributes HF, VHF, UHF and SHF equipment covering 10 MHz to 47 GHz
124 Cherrywood Drive, Mountaintop, PA 18707 USA
Phone 570-868-5643  FAX 570-868-6917
http://www.ssbusa.com/ham.html

West Mountain Radio
1020 Spring City Drive
Waukesha, WI 53186
Phone: 1-262-522-6503
Fax: 262-522-6504
Email: info@westmountainradio.com
http://www.westmountainradio.com/index.php

Lunar-Link International
VHF & UHF amplifiers for demanding modes
50 - 144 - 222 - 432 MHz
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www.lunarlink.com
W1QJ - W1SMS  info@lunarlink.com
33 Ball Pond Road Danbury, CT 06811

W2PED Specializing in 24 GHz and above.
http://www.w2ped.com

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Steve Kostro, N2CEI  19519 78th Ter. Live Oak, FL 32060 Tel. 386-364-5529
http://www.downeastmicrowave.com