

The SOVARC Report

Volume 1, Issue 18



March 2008

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Scribblings ... of the Scribe by Randy Horn, N1SP



SOVARC Meeting Minutes 2/27/2008

The February meeting was called to order at 7:05 by Skip with 12 members present.

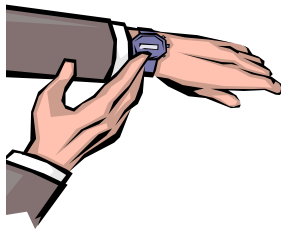
Skip reported progress on re-establishing SOVARC's special service club status with the ARRL. He has obtained data from Nelson (VE club coordinator) with the numbers of tests given in recent past, number of participants, and success rate.

Steve presented the club treasury report and pointed out that while we "hold our own" for typical club expenses, we may have a tough time covering unforeseen emergency expenses with the current income of club dues.

Expenditures voted upon by the membership

(Continued on page 3)

Important Calendar Dates



March 26 Regular Club Meeting

Note: If you have any important dates, please submit them for listing.

2007 SOVARC DIRECTORY Club Officers

President: Skip Crego – N1RRW
447-3254 crowsnest@dishmail.net

Vice President: Greg Howe - N1OI
g.howe6@verizon.net

Treasurer: Steve Loftus – KA1ROI
sjloftus@comcast.net

Secretary: Randy Horn – N1SP
N1SP@verizon.net

SOVARC Repeater K1SV 146.835 Mhz

West Mountain - Shaftsbury, VT
Repeater Manager: Chuck Watson –
WA1NBU

447-7768 chuckw@vtcomputerservice.com

Mike Lachant – N1HSJ

447-1425 1wizz@comcast.net

SOVARC on the Web

www.sovarc.org

Webmaster: Alan Shephard - N1LSZ
ncognito66@comcast.net

Volunteer Exam Sessions Contact:

Nelson Brownell – WB1HBA
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SOVARC Membership is \$20 Annually

Payable in January at meeting or send to:
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Randy Horn – N1SP N1SP@verizon.net

Roy Mattison – N1TBB mattison71@yahoo.com

Roger Thomas – N1FV n1pfl@hotmail.com

Sue Ritchie – N1NOP olepato@comcast.net

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Skip Crego – N1RRW crowsnest@dishmail.net

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Steve Loftus – KA1ROI sjloftus@comcast.net

Stewart King – KB1IQN sbk1967@hotmail.com

Todd Brown – AB2MS wyzguy@gmail.com

Wayne Hillard – KA1CXD woodycxd@adelphia.net

Send additions/corrections to editor – WA2VYZ

(Continued from page 1)

were a donation of \$125 each to the Library for use of the meeting room and to the church where the SOVARC holiday party was held.

The membership spent some time honoring the memories of our recent silent keys, Ron, Chris and most recently Bob- KA1PXF. Their friendship and service to the club will stay with us forever.

After a brief break, Art- K2IIR presented a discussion and demonstration of the "Reactance Meter" that was described in a recent issue of QST. The circuit is simple and requires only a signal generator, analog voltmeter and the L/C circuit under test. Much like the grid dip meter (except you look for peaks rather than dips), this is a great experimenters tool.

Until next month, 73 and good DX- Randy N1SP

Fun Websites and Clubs for the Active Amateur

Compiled by Randy, N1SP

The following is an abbreviated list of Randy's presentation at the February, 2007 meeting. I have added a few sites to Randy's list.

It might be fun to make this a permanent list on the SOVARC website. If you have additional sites that you think may be of interest, email them to the editor.

QRZ	www.qrz.com
W4RNL	www.cebik.com
AC6V	www.ac6v.com
eQSL	www.eqsl.cc
AMSAT	www.amsat.org
ARRL	www.arrl.org
Young Ladies	www.ylrl.org
Ten-Ten Intl	www.ten-ten.org
ARC Intl	www.qrparci.org
Lighthouses	www.arlhs.com
Weak Signals	www.newsvhf.com
East Coast ARS	www.ecars7255.com
Hoss Traders	www.qsl.net/K1rqq
DX Spotters	www.oh2aq.kolumbus.com/dxs
Buck Masters	www.buck.com/cgi-bin/do_hamcall
Vermont Net	7:30 pm Daily on 3.857 MHZ
Vt. Emerg. Ph.Net	9:00 am Sunday on 3.976 MHZ
Geratol Net	7:00 pm Daily on 3.668 MHZ

Vermont Section News

Your Vermont section manager is:

SM, Paul N. Gayet, AA1SU

The information noted below has been extracted from the ARRL website for your use. Paul has provided a link to check previous [Section News Summaries](#).

73 for now, and take care.

Paul N. Gayet
AA1SU
ARRL Vermont Section Manager

EMAIL ADDRESS UPDATES PLEASE TAKE NOTE

If your email address changes, please take the time to let the club officers know. When the SOVARC Newsletter is emailed, we sometimes get “failed email addresses”. This is frustrating for the editor, yours truly. It also deprives you of timely delivery.

Obviously, if your email has changed you are probably not reading this notice !! DUH !!

Thanks
Bob, WA2VYZ

ARRL Membership Renewals

Please note that you may renew your ARRL membership through the SOVARC club. The benefit of doing this is that the club receives a portion of the fee back from ARRL.

Art Haytko can fill you in on the details.

VEM RACES INFORMATION

FYI – On April 3 Steve Hogan , N1OLC of NWS, will be retiring. Steve has been a central part of the continual collaborative efforts of NWS and VEM to provide for the public’s safety. Steve has additionally been the reason for much of the success of amateur radio and the National Weather Service in Vermont

. Thank you Steve, Rob.

CQ SOVARC ... CQ SOVARC

You might know !!! Just when I thought that spring was trying to push its way in I'm sitting here watching the ground turn white AGAIN *@#! .. Oh well, might as well save my 'fussing' for something I have some control over. ..

If you have had the chance perhaps you have noticed that HF propagation has been interesting lately. Just yesterday I was listening to CT3FT on Madeira Island just off the coast of Africa. On 14.250 Mhz he sounded like he was sitting in a chair next to me. So did the people he was responding to in Ireland, California and Texas. Unfortunately he didn't seem to hear little old me! ... KA1DLK seems to have had good luck getting through to the Clipperton Island DXpedition off the west coast of Central America. Perhaps he'll tell us more about it at the meeting. ... Any of you folks that have had better luck than I have (no challenge there!) please share it with us as well. ... Speaking of the meeting we are going to have a hands on demo/clinic on the installation of Anderson Powerpole connectors. Mike, KA1DLK will be bringing the supplies and will demonstrate the finer points of installing the connectors on your gear. These are rapidly becoming a "standard" type of connector that allows you to easily switch your gear from place to place or allow others with this connector to set up at your station be it fixed or mobile. People who operate in the Emergency Communications arena (that's us) are encouraged to put these connectors on their gear to allow for quick and easy interchangeability. I'm sure that those of you who remember working on things like the Tour deCure can remember times when rig-to-rig universal connectors would have saved a lot of hassle. .. Here's your chance. They are not expensive \$1.50 +/- a set and you're in business !!

Look forward to seeing you at the meeting ... bring a friend and introduce them to the hobby !

73 Skip, N1RRW

NOTES from the Editor

Yes, another SOVARC newsletter so soon. BUT, at least I'm back on schedule.

It was rather stressful for Skip and Randy, but they made the deadline for their monthly columns. Thank you. Otherwise, there would be nothing new in the newsletter.

We do have a large "For Sale" listing that you should check out on page 8. I'm sure Randy Gates would be interested in all inquiries. He stated that he will be bringing some of the equipment to our March meeting for anyone to check out.

Our next regular club meeting is March 26 at the Library.

73's Bob, WA2VYZ

ARES NET SCHEDULE



The Bennington County ARES Net, District 5, is held every Monday evening at 7 pm on the SOVARC 146.835 Mhz repeater. All ARES group members should be taking a turn at "Net Controller". It is good practice and spreads out the "opportunities".

Bennington County ARES NET

Controller Schedule

March 2008

24 K2IIR
31 KB1ODM

April 2008

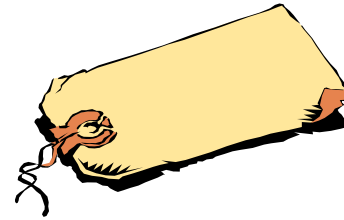
7 N1OI
14 N1RZ
21 KA1DLK
28 N1SP

May 2008

5 N1FV
12 KB1IQN
19 KB1NFQ
26 N1RRW

As usual, if you anticipate a problem with this let me know and/or feel free to swap with any of the other scheduled controllers. ... If you would like to be added to this list (and you are all invited/encouraged)

For Sale



Please see page 8 for a complete listing of For Sale items.

just let me know and I'll get you a copy of the format and 'work you into' the schedule ASAP.

Please remember:

- If any date poses a problem you are free to swap with any other regular operator. If you can't find a swap let me know.

- If it appears that the Net Controller has been "distracted" (which can happen to any of us) please step up and call the net.

- If I happen to miss the net please send me a E-mail reporting the number participating (remember to include yourself), .. the number of messages sent/received, ... and the duration of the net (I report this information on up the line each month)

FOR SALE

- 1) **Icom 730** HF 10-80 mtr. 100 watt Real Nice! - \$325
Has CW narrow filter, Preamp, hand mic, Pwr cord, manual.
 - 2) **Icom 735** (#1) HF 10-160 mtr. 100 watt Good shape - \$250
FL-30a SSB filter, Hand mic, pwr cord....missing little plastic door on front (re-painted cabinet)....everything works good.
 - 3) **Icom 735** (#2) HF 10-160 mtr 100 watt BEAUTIFUL!! - \$375
Has both FL-30a SSB and FL-32a CW narrow filters!
With hand mic, Manual, pwr cord, (does have plastic door!)
(I have a SM-5 Icom desk mic available for this at additional \$\$)
 - 4) **Icom HT** (#1) **IC-32at** Dual band 144/440 5wt Great shape! - \$175
with battery, drop-in charger, Antenna, HM-54 Spkr-Mic, Manual.
 - 5) **Icom HT** (#2) **IC-32at** Dual band 144/440 5wt Also Great Shape! - \$150
with battery, wall charger, antenna, CMP-115 spkr mic (after-mrkt),
Manual on CD only.
 - 6) **Kenwood HT TH-77a** Dual Band 144/440 5wt REALLY NICE! - \$200
With NiMh battery, drop in charger, deluxe spkr mic., Antenna.
Original box and manual!
- *Note:** All of the above radios have the Mars/CAP out-of-band mods done!
Can only guarantee operation within spec'd ham bands!
- 7) **Antenna** Solorcon (Antron) **A99** 10 mtr vert. 17 ft lg in 3 sections - \$50
works great for local or DX..... (I use one for my 10 meters.)
 - 8) **Alinco DR-140** Mobile 2 meter 45 watt Hi/ 5 watt low Nice shape - \$125
with Hand mic, pwr cord, and manual on CD.

Also various odds-n-ends of antenna's, mic's, radio's, cables, Etc...etc...
Let me know what You might need!

And..... A soon to be ready Yaesu FT-101b in great shape!

If You Need more info.... Email me at rgbanjo2@yahoo.com or call and leave
A msg at **802-823-5049**. I can email pic's or You can come to my
QTH and see them and/or try them!

Thanks.....**Randy N1GWL**

The SOVARC Report

Southern Vermont Amateur Radio Club
Bob Hain - WA2VYZ Editor
907 Holy Smoke Road
Shaftsbury, VT 05262

The
Mailing
Address
Goes
Here

Next **SOVARC** Sponsored VE Exam Sessions (TBD, 2008)

Bennington Library
Bennington, VT 05201

Please bring the following items:

Photo ID and copy of current license (if li-
censed)

All original CSCE's
Check for exam cost

For additional information Contact:

Art Haytko K2IIR 802-442-1563

Next **SOVARC** Meeting

March 26, 2008 7 PM
(Regular Meeting)

**Come Out
Support Your Officers**

Regular **SOVARC** Club Meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7 PM at the Bennington Free Public Library on 101 Silver St. in Bennington, VT. Meetings are open to anyone with an interest in Amateur Radio

For more information Contact:

Skip Crego—Club President – N1RRW
802-447-3254 crowsnst@sover.net