

GNARC on Line Bulletin

Greater Norwalk Amateur Radio Club

February 2005

Founded 1934

Number Two

Newsletter in [PDF Format](#). Get the [Acrobat Reader](#) Free.

Official GNARC club web site located at: www.gnarc.org/

Club Repeaters: K1OF 147.390/ + 600 KHz (no PL) & K1UHF 448.075/ + 5 MHz (PL-114.8) [EchoLink®](#)

Regular Club Meetings start at 8:00 PM and are held in the Community Room at the [Shop Rite](#) on Connecticut Ave. (Rte-1) in Norwalk Connecticut. Talk in: 147.390. **Note**, the 147.390 repeater will be soon switching over to a PL tone.

President: "Ned" Bassick, KA1CVV / **Vice President:** Allan Valeo, NN1H (203) 762-9302

Secretary: John Sabini, WB1GRB (203) 348-3983 / **Treasurer:** "Zig" Fekete, N1ICL.

February 2005 GNARC on Line Bulletin: John Sabini WB1GRB. Questions (203) 353-8422.

Area Public Service	Classified Ads	Calendar of Events
Membership / Dues	N1ZZ's Contest Lookout	Digital Ham Radio, By Ed Eshway, K3IEN
Updates / Corrections	GNARC Repeater	Comments & Feedback Form

Slate of 2005 officers at the February meeting up for nominations.

President: Toy Alladin, KA1WYQ. **Vice President:** Allan Valeo, NN1H.

Secretary: John Sabini, WB1GRB. **Treasurer:** "Zig" Fekete, N1ICL.

We would like to thank Ned for his excellent service as president for the year 2004.

Recommendations of the Advisory Committee

Consisting of Ned Bassick, Jay Kolinsky, Allan Valeo, and Tim Walker.

Known Issues

- 1) There are disagreements of both technical and personal natures between members of the Repeater Committee.
- 2) The Licensee of the Repeater is responsible alone to the F.C.C. for the proper operation of the Repeater.
- 3) The Repeater has been in continuous service for a long time with very few problems.
- 4) There are contracts and agreements in effect with the Town of Norwalk and the owners of the current Repeater Site that would be difficult to change on short notice.
- 5) There is a concern among some Members about control of the Repeater in case of the Licensee's absence.
- 6) There is a concern among some Members that Echo-Link may cause problems during Public Service and ARES events.
- 7) The GNARC [By-Laws](#) are specific regarding the appointment of the Repeater Trustee and the Club Committees. These appointments are the domain of the President of the Club and are at the discretion of the Board of Directors of the Club.
- 8) There are many Members that have strong opinions about what should or should not be done.

Recommendations

The Advisory Committee is making these recommendations with no prejudice to Curt Rich or Zig and we recognize that the efforts of all the committee members have resulted in positive changes for the repeater.

- 1) Keep the current Licensee and have him act as chairman of the Repeater Committee. He will appoint the members of the Repeater Committee as chairman of that committee.
- 2) Get an agreement from each of the members of the current Repeater Committee to either put the differences aside and work together or leave the Committee.
- 3) Have appointments made for at least two Control Operators who will be able to act in case of the absence of the Repeater's Trustee/Licensee.
- 4) Provide the Echo-Link control codes to the Control Operators, the Public Service Committee Chairman and the ARES Emergency Coordinators.
- 5) Invite the GNARC Members to comment in writing to the Club's Board of Directors. The cut-off date for these communications will be March 1st 2005.
- 6) The Board of Directors and the President of the Club will not take any binding action until there has been sufficient time for the Members of the Club to express their opinions and their concerns.



In order to get a Radio map of the Norwalk Area, I'll be running a Chaos Contest. Code sheet assignments will be used by the participants to verify message receipts for two-way communications between sites in the Shelter Plan for Norwalk. Scores for each contact will depend on the distance between the remote sites divided by the power level for the contact. Participants will need to move between sites to complete their assigned contacts.

There will be some adversity synthesized to add some random fun and since the event will be in the summer the heat and humidity will play a part in the mix. Anyone interested in acting as a control station for this exercise should contact me directly.

This spring will also see a third Fox Hunt. The Fox won't be available on the repeater this year so be prepared to use your wits to find him. Also, the Fox is a prankster so you might want to be prepared for a surprise or two this year.

Bragging rights and recognition will go to the winners of both events.

Oh yeah, one more reminder. Get your registration forms to me. If need be e-mail it to me. I'll note that it was sent electronically and send it along all the same.

Thanks, Gary, for an excellent January Net and thank you to all those who participated.

Best regards, Allan Valeo Co-EC, Norwalk ARES group.

Next ARES Nets are:

Monday February 7th at 8:00 pm on 147.390R, NCS will be W1GIG

Monday February 14th at 8:00 pm on 147.300R, PL 100 (Danbury)

Monday March 7th at 8:00 PM ON 147.390R, NCS will be N1II

Check the [Norwalk ARES web site](#) for latest updates and bulletins on ARES activities for the area.

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The Personal Computer In 2005

As with any new device, it is a bit difficult to state when the device was born. If you accept the birth of the popular,

mass market PC as being born somewhere between the first production Apple in 1979 and the first IBM PC in 1981, certainly the PC could be called about 25 years old. It appears to be a mature, service-providing device, pervasive in our lives, relatively stable in configuration and incrementally changing and growing in capability almost daily.

Mature? Perhaps not. I would contend that it is an infant, based on a comparison with the automobile.

The first transcontinental auto race was held in 1895. The entrants were not all gasoline-powered, and indeed many of the entrants would not even be recognized as automobiles today. However, this event brought an awareness and understanding of cars to the public for the first time. The first automobile production facility was set up in 1900, and the Ford Model-T factory was opened in 1903. The automobile driver in those days had to know how to change their own tires, diagnose frequent problems and perform emergency on-the-road repairs. These early cars did not suffer from virus attacks, but other than that does this needed operator capability sound familiar?

Model T production was ended in 1922. At that point, to use the same words that applied to the PC above, the auto was pervasive in people's lives, relatively stable in configuration and incrementally changing.

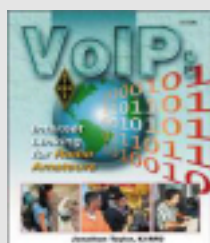
If the date of the transcontinental race is taken as the start of the popular, production automobile this means that the first 27 years of automotive history could be called the "Model-T" era. Since personal computers, as we know them, are only 25 years old, you could state what we are just near the end of the "Model-T" era of PCs.

The question remaining is of course, "What next?"

(This material was composed as part of a classroom lecture on PC technology)

de Paul, N1ii

1-22-05



[Order](#) VoIP Internet Linking for Radio Amateurs. By Jonathan Taylor, K1RFD

Connecticut's Largest Online Scanner Site ! ScanCT.com

Phil Berkowitz WX1CT. *Connecticut Skywarn* D.E.C. Check the Fairfield County Skywarn [web page](#).

Ned, KA1CVV started the February meeting at 8:00 pm. Ned welcomed everyone at the meeting then he introduced himself. Then the officers present introduced themselves.

Officers present, **President:** "Ned" Bassick, KA1CVV / **Vice President:** Allan Valeo, NN1H / **Secretary:** John Sabini, WB1GRB / **Treasurer:** "Zig" Fekete, N1ICL.

Ned turned the meeting over to Allan Valeo, NN1H for some ARES announcements.

ARES, the governor has issued an executive order. On April 4 through April 10 we are having what the state calls a "**TOP OFF**". Top officers in Emergency Preparedness in the State of Connecticut will be joining the state of New Jersey which will be joined by the Federal Government and the government of the UK

ARES application form in [Word](#) format and in Adobe [PDF](#) format. If you are interested in operating with in ARES you need to get this form to us. Why? The state of Connecticut requires registration of anybody operating in "**TOP OFF**". If you are not registered you can not participate in "**TOP OFF**" and we won't get the showing we want. This form must be filled out each year to participate. January is when we would like to have this form sent to us.

[HLS: Homeland Security News](#). DPS/UConn Homeland Security Partnership Pays Off with **TOP OFF**.

Fox Hunt I am planning a third Fox Hunt probably in mid June. More details when I have them.

I am going to have a contest which I am calling "Chaos Contest" scheduled later in the summer. I am going to send people out in the field in Norwalk to the emergency sites and have them operate simplex back to other emergency sites within the town of Norwalk. This will help us to get a Radio Map of Norwalk on 2 Meter simplex. Scores are figured based on the distance of a confirmed communication divided by the power of the remote station.

Check the [Norwalk ARES web site](#) for latest updates and bulletins on ARES activities for the area.

"Ned" then reminded everyone of the ARES Net which will be on the first Monday of each month. Next ARES Net will be on Monday February 7th at 8:00 PM on 147.390R. NCS will be W1GIG. You do not need to be a member to check into the ARES Net. On the second Monday of each month at 8:00 pm is the ARES Net on the 147.300R which is the Danbury repeater.

"Zig" N1iCL then talked about a meeting he attended at the ARRL, some of the topics that were covered.

The league is encouraging everyone that is not an ARRL to become a member. The membership is declining which has them very concerned. The more members they have gives the league more power in Washington and to make positive changes in our hobby.

Ed, N1RFI gave a 45 minute Power Point presentation on BPL. Ed showed us how BPL noise sounded. He gave a detailed presentation on BPL.

Ned then reminded everyone that the Membership [Dues](#) should be paid.

"Ned" we have just put together the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee has not been able to come up with a slate of officers. We will have a slate of officers at the February meeting that will be up for vote. We will publish the slate of officers up for vote in February's Newsletter. After some discussion of the [GNARC by Laws](#) a motion was voted on to have the election of officers at the February meeting.

The Nominating Committee is Tom Kirmayer, KK2C. Don Hudson, KA1TZR and Bill Librandi, KB1IFY.

The slate of officers will be published in this newsletter as soon as I receive them.

Paul N1II then offered the following motion to the members.

When the club wished to thank someone for his or her contributions to be the club, it will do so with either a nominal gift or a certificate, and the contributions will be made in the name of and honor of the selected individual to a local non-sectarian organization that supplies life's necessities of those needing such support.

Ned, all those in favor of having the club give a donation to a 503-C origination which will be decided by the board. The motion was then voted on and passed by the members.

Zig, N1ICL then made this announcement. We have a misunderstanding between a few members. The board has the responsibility to report to you about this misunderstanding and the outcome at the next meeting.

Allan N1HH, we have not been able to talk to all of the principles in detail and we would like to bring to the membership a proper understanding rather than bringing you part of a story. We have not had a chance to talk to everyone involved. Please be patient, I am sure by next month we will be able to sit down with the membership and tell you exactly what we have learned and what we think. Hopefully we will be able to resolve everything.

8:25 we had a coffee break and Toy KA1WYQ gave away some prizes.

8:45 our speaker for this month, Joel Hallas W1ZR, Joel talked about his job at the ARRL.

9:45 the meeting ended.

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Join us before the meeting at John's Best Pizza on New Canaan Ave. at 6 pm.

[John's Best Pizza](#)

85 New Canaan Avenue, Norwalk, Connecticut. 06850

I will add more photos in next months *GNARC* Bulletin. This months [PHOTOS](#).

Send your photos to: [Mail To John, WB1GRB](#) Photos on film bring them to the next meeting!

December 2004 [Newsletter](#).

[Photos](#) of January Meeting.

GNARC POSTAL ADDRESS



The UPS Store ~ 304 Main Av. Perry Plaza ~ Norwalk, CT. 06851. [Show Map](#)

Courtesy of. C/o. The UPS Store. Greg Bryson, K1NGF. Phone (203) 847-6166.

Club Member Birthdays

January

February

W1FXQ	Al	N1XKS	Gabriel
W1NU	Victor		
W1GIG	Tim	KA1CVV	Ned
K3OS	Gary	KB1HVC	Jeffrey
N1RRA	Peter		



J/S WB1GRB Monday, January 31, 2005