

GNARC on Line Bulletin

Greater Norwalk Amateur Radio Club

March 2005

Founded 1934

Number Three

Newsletter in [PDF Format](#). Get the [Acrobat Reader](#) Free.  [Photos of February Meeting](#) 

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](#)[®]

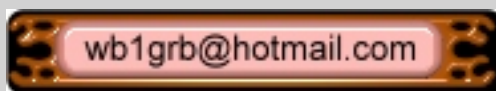
Regular Club Meetings start at 8:00 PM and are held in the Community Room at the [Shop Rite](#) on Connecticut Ave. (Rte-1) in Norwalk Connecticut. Talk in: 147.390. **Note**, the 147.390 repeater is now using a PL of 110.9 Hz.

President: Toy Alladin, KA1WYQ / **Vice President:** Allan Valeo, NN1H (203) 762-9302

Secretary: John Sabini, WB1GRB (203) 348-3983 / **Treasurer:** Gary Schwartz, K3OS.

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

If you have any articles, photos or questions. Subject: Newsletter.



Stormy Pattern Likely Into March [Read this article](#)

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 ARTICLES

Feedline Analysis Program, [SWR PLOT](#)

By Fred Cunningham, K1FC. This program was written to serve both as a tool for those that want to optimize their antenna/feedline system and those who just want better to understand what effect the feedline can have.

(Feb 28, 2005) -- The ARRL Foundation Board of Directors has selected Paul Danzer, N1II, as the 2004 recipient of the Bill Orr, W6SAI, Technical Writing Award. [ARTICLE](#).

The President's Corner

Many thanks for your unanimous vote of confidence in re-electing me into the organization's stewardship after a sojourn of 10 years. There it was, I thought that I was "mothballed" for good.

Not forgetting kudos for our outgoing President, Ned/KA1CVV, and Treasurer, Ziggy/N1ICL. Well done guys. As one of the representatives of the 2005 elected slate of officers I will continue to climb upwards in the footsteps of those in the past.

Sounding like typical rhetoric! Not really, just take a moment to reflect on our steady progress for the past 12 years. We have really come a long way and will continue to remain a very vibrant organization in the community for an indefinite period of time.

We boast of a membership comprising of a wide variety of disciplines and who with their great amount of ideas individually or collectively, contribute towards the vibrancy of the club and I have great confidence that we will continue to follow this trend.

Please bear in mind, that we will listen to everything that you say or suggest, but not everything that you say or suggest will be accommodated as the rule of thumb for the club. We will at all times engage in the democratic process and try to attend our meetings in your impressive numbers as you have been doing, this is the way you can voice your opinion.

This is a transitional period for us, and as all of us are aware, an ad hoc advisory committee has made a series of suggestions for future implementation by us. We are awaiting comments by you to any member of the committee via e-mail. Cut off date is Feb 28th. Please do so before any binding decision is made by the board.

Toy/KA1WYQ

Gentlemen -

Just to let you know that I now have control of club funds and have received all the records, statements, bills, etc., from Zig. My initial observation is that all the data is present, but I have yet to analyze the expenditures from last year. I hope to have some preliminary results early next week.

I don't believe I have current office and home phone numbers for all of you. Please forward them to me indicating whether I can call you at work or not.

Thanks.
Gary
home 762-8972
home office 834-2742
cell 247-9774. Also Check, [Membership / Dues](#)

Our Ranks are Growing!!

There are now more hams per capita in the USA than ever before.

Hams as a percentage of the total USA population. Here are some figures: **1940** - 0.04% **1950** - 0.05% **1960** - 0.13% **1970** - 0.14% **1980** - 0.17% **1990** - 0.19% **2000** - 0.25%.

Do you 'parrot' the comments of others when they claim the ham population is declining? These numbers tell the true facts about the amount of hams as a percentage of US population.

While our numbers are growing, it appears the technical knowledge of the typical ham today has certainly diminished.

In addition, as the license gets easier and easier to obtain, the respect for it declines. This is probably the main reason that the No Code Tech class has the lowest rate of renewals.

The average new ham today buys a 2M Hand-held and does all his communicating via his local repeater. Some never buy a radio. They simply use their newly acquired call sign to register for Echolink and speak worldwide via their PC.

ARRL membership and hamfest attendance has declined over the years. Probably because the average ham does not understand very much of what appears in QST or what is being exhibited at hamfests. If they are happy talking via a repeater with an HT why would they need QST or belong to ARRL.

The Directors of the ARRL are following a course of continually promoting the reduction of license requirements. In their 'wisdom' they hope this will result in more new licensees. I'm afraid this path they have followed over the past 20 - 25 years will only result in even less respect for the license and a continued loss of interest in the technical aspects of radio communications.

de NE2Q in NY

Connecticut Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)

ARRL Connecticut Section (CT)



GNARC ARES NEWS

Next ARES Nets are:

The net announcements this month are;

- Monday March 7th at 8:00 pm on 147.390R, NCS will be N1II
- Monday March 14th at 8:00 pm on 147.300R, PL 100 (Danbury)
- Monday April 4th at 8:00 PM ON 147.390R, NCS will be N1RRD

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

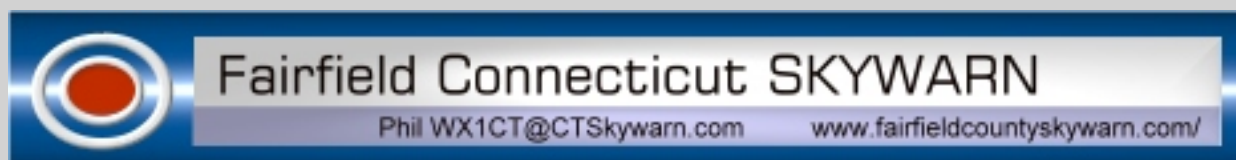


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Fairfield County Skywarn

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

Skywarn Training to be scheduled and finalized, check [Calendar of Events](#) for update.



Minutes of the Meeting 2/9/05



Ned, KA1CVV started the meeting at 8:05 pm. Club officers introduced themselves. President: "Ned" Bassick, KA1CVV. **Secretary:** John Sabini, WB1GRB. **Vice President:** Allan Valeo, NN1H. **Treasurer:** "Zig" Fekete, N1ICL.

ARES. Allan NN1H reported we have been doing very well with the ARES registration. We are going to have a sold roster this year. We are now over 20 well above last years registration. It is not to late to get these forms to me. ARES application form in [Word](#) format and in Adobe [PDF](#) format.

On the Monday night net we had a little surprise. They decided to pass a 90 word message from Ridgefield on the 147.390 repeater. The exercise was to see if any one could go digital in this case using RTTY. We had five people that help in copying the message then delivered it to Emergency Preparedness in Norwalk.

Nominating Committee. On the Nominating Committee are Tom Kirmayer, KK2C. Bill Librandi, KB1IFY and Don Hudson, KA1TZR.

Don Hudson, KA1TZR. The slate is for president Toy Alladin, KA1WYQ. "Ned" decided not to run for reelection as president. For **Vice President:** Allan Valeo, NN1H. For **Secretary:** John Sabini, WB1GRB. For **Treasurer:** "Zig" Fekete, N1ICL. We had a nomination from the floor. For **Treasurer:** Gary Schwartz, K3OS. Gary then accepted the nomination for club Treasurer. Both Gary and Zig left the room momentarily. Both Don and Ned very carefully counted the votes. We had a very close vote with Gary Schwartz voted **club treasurer** for 2005.

Officers for 2005.  **President:** Toy Alladin, KA1WYQ. **Vice President:** Allan Valeo, NN1H.
Secretary: John Sabini, WB1GRB.  **Treasurer:** Gary Schwartz, K3OS.

Allen, NN1H then thanked Ned, KA1CVV for his origination that has helped us make a successful Field Day, Club Picnic and Holiday party. Every one at the meeting then gave a loud applause.

New Business. Ned then told every one at the January meeting we had no answers on handling the repeater which was probably the wrong thing to say. Basically we have formed a committee. The committee has meet twice. We came up with a resolution to handle the repeater. We then made a complete review of the GNARC [by Laws](#). When Jay, NE2Q was president we had a Repeater Technical Committee. That Committee remained under Jay's authority and when I became president this Committee legally did not exist. In this case we are going to terminate the Repeater Technical Committee and let Rich K1OF, handle the repeater. If any one has any comments to the board please e mail: Jay, NE2Q, Ned, KA1CVV, Allan Valeo, NN1H. This is your club so please let use know what you want.

Rich, K1OF. The control operator Rich Ball, WA2ZPX which lives in Middletown N.Y. Orange Co. Rich has been complaining about our 147.390 repeater interfering with his repeater in Middletown N.Y. This has been going on for

about 4 or 5 years. I have a large folder of his e mails. He claims we are interfering with his operations. I have responded to our coordination agencies CSMA (<http://www.ctspectrum.com/>) to their president. In a letter explaining that their must be some bases for this complaint. So far their has been no measurements or technical information given. Before we do anything we need these measurements and technical information.

I hope to have more up to date information from Rich, K1OF in future newsletters. Rich is the Repeater Trustee and is legally reasonable for the operation of the repeater. All information pertaining to this matter will be from Rich or cleared by Rich before anything is published in this newsletter.

"Ned" talked briefly on our new GNARC [Mailing List](#). We now have a SPAM free e mail exchange of information for GNARC members. All posts must be in Plain Text, no HTML. No attachments are allowed. You can subscribe to the list, or change your existing subscription. (*The subscribers list is only available to the GNARC members.*) (See banner add at bottom of page)

8:40 we had a coffee break. Toy KA1WYQ, then gave away some prizes at the club raffle. The money helps pay for refreshments.

9:05 Ned KA1CVV, then gave a very informative talk on everything you've always wanted to know about [Powerpoles](#).[®] A RIGrunner is the most convenient and safest way to connect all your 12 VDC equipment to a power source. It is a 13.8 VDC power panel that uses the excellent Anderson Powerpole connectors. Standardize all of your 12 VDC connections using the amateur radio ARES & RACES, RSGB, ARRL Powerpole[®] system.

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](#).

January 2005 [Newsletter](#). February 2005 [Newsletter](#). [Photos](#) of February Meeting.

GNARC POSTAL ADDRESS



The UPS Store, 304 Main Av. Store ~ 304 Main Av. Perry Plaza ~ Norwalk, CT. 0685.
C/o. The UPS Store. Greg Bryson, K1NGF. Phone (203) 847-6166. [Show Map](#)

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J/S WB1GRB Monday, February 28, 2005