



Greater Norwalk Amateur Radio Club

Newsletter

"The Voice of GNARC"

October 2007

President's Blog

The President's Corner:

The month of August has been full of successful club activities starting with our annual club picnic and tailgate at Dan's/N1ZZ residence in West Norwalk. It was sweltering heat on that day, but Dan took time off from his busy schedule at West Mountain Radio to go home and mow the lawn for the occasion and believe it or not, the temperature at Dan's qth was a few degrees cooler than elsewhere in Norwalk, and a gentle breeze blew constantly. What a memorable afternoon. Members and invitees enjoyed the culinary skills of Chef Mark/KB1JGL, who again excelled with his over the grill expertise. Not too much tailgating this time around.

Next, was the 'Dxpedition' across the harbor to Sheffield Island, led by John/N1OLO on the weekend of August 18th and 19th. A very successful one at that. This was in celebration of International Lighthouse Weekend, an annual celebration of lighthouses world wide. The 'Dxers' had the benefit of deluxe transportation to and from the island provided by Gus/W1GUS with his sleek sailboat. Yours truly made it across the harbor via kayak with Ned/KA1CVV on the 19th. A blistered finger and a frozen shoulder told the tale of my adventure. Ha! But I lived to tell the tale.

Of course, we had the other annual 'dxpedition' to upstate Rochester NY to peddle valuable radio stuff etc, led by Tim/W1GIG, and fellow assistants, Don/KA1TZR and Jim/KC1FB. It was a long haul, but they had the benefit of a/c for the entire trip, and guess what? Tim was glowing with pride; he proudly reported that they sold all the stuff they took with them. A \$ benefit for the club.

More activities planned for October, come and hear about them.

Toy/K1WYQ

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on October 10, 2007 at the Shop Rite on Connecticut Avenue. Beginning at 8:00 pm.

Join us for pizza at John's Best on New Canaan Avenue at 6:00 pm.

The program for this month's meeting will be a presentation of "Peter Island I 3Y0K, 2006 Antarctica" a DVD of the

"DXpediion of the Decade". Experience the struggle of the team against Nature to set up and operate at the bottom of the world.

Secretary's Minutes

GNARC Monthly Meeting, 12 Sept. 07

Attendance: 17 members, 1 guest (George/N1LQT)

Business: Allan/NN1H announced that a Simulated Emergency Test will be held on October 13. He also indicated that the back-up 2 meter repeater is now operating at Norwalk Hospital and that both of the club's 2 meter repeaters are now officially coordinated. Pending coordination, the club's 70cm repeater will also be located on the tower. Toy/K1WYQ asked for volunteers to represent the club at the Emergency Fair to be held at Norwalk Community College on October 14.

Program: Jay/NE2Q made a presentation on Antenna Modeling. He noted that Jim Lawson was a pioneer in this work. Easy NEC and Yagi Optimizer were the two modeling software techniques discussed by Jay, as he illustrated how variations in F/B ratios, take-off angles and gain could be achieved through the use of different antenna elevations and element spacings.

The meeting adjourned at 10 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Tom/KK2C, Secretary.

Sheffield island DXpedition

DXpedition Report

Total Contact 234

Lighthouses contacted 20

The vessel was covered with an assortment of packs, boxes, coolers, tents, a generator, backup batteries and a can of gas. It looked like the crew raided the cottages that dot the islands off Norwalk harbor. The men on deck were dirty and tired. They looked and smelled questionable. Were these modern day pirates? No, these were the operators returning from the 2007 DXpedition to Sheffield Island.

The boat looked pretty much the same when we left the dock at Rex Marine. The operators were considerably fresher. The

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truckload of equipment took 5 trips to cart down to the gas dock. We got questioning looks from folks when we told them we were only going out overnight.

Hugo AA1XV, Tom WA2HTJ, Toy W1WYQ, John N1OLO, Ned KA1CVV, Douglas WA1SH, Steve NA1SV, Capt. Gus W1GUS, and Richard KG1W kept N1EV on the air for over 24 hours on International Lighthouse Weekend.

The team was hampered in the early hours of the event. Two other groups were having events on the island, limiting the antennas and supports we could use. Around 7pm the lighthouse keeper offered to let us have access to the lighthouse. We were able to put up a dipole from the top rail of the lighthouse out to a tree on the west end of the island. We now had a “real” antenna! Our fortunes changed with that antenna, especially over night on 40m and 80m.

Most of the 234 contacts made were made during the last 12 hours of our operation and the majority of the contacts were made via phone. We attempted to get on PSK31 however the smoke was let out of some of the components during hookup. The lighthouses we did contact were very excited to work another lighthouse! They were experiencing the same problems

Our “q” rate was not as good as it had been in the past. The important thing was we had a chance play radio, eat unhealthy food and drink beer.



The N1EV Tent City



Sunrise on Sheffield Island



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ef



A weary NA1SV

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Section Managers Net to Resume

I am restarting the Section Manager's Net last Sunday of the month at 8:00 p.m. on the KB1AEV linked repeater system. Frequencies are as follows.

The KB1AEV Linked Repeater System

Vernon

147.345 MHz	+600 KHz	77.0 Hz
224.360 MHz	-1.6 MHz	77.0 Hz
442.600 MHz	+5 MHz	77.0 Hz

Torrington

145.370 MHz	-600 KHz	77.0 Hz
447.225 MHz	-5 MHz	77.0 Hz

Barkhamsted

147.270 MHz	+600 KHz	77.0 Hz
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Bristol

444.650 MHz	+5 MHz	77.0 Hz
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Naugatuck

444.550 MHz	+5 MHz	77.0 Hz (currently off-air)
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South Killingly

444.100 MHz	+5 MHz	77.0 Hz
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Affiliated Repeater (Full time Linked)

Sharon (SBARC) W1BAA/R

147.285 MHz	+600 KHz	77.0 Hz
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Affiliated Repeaters (Occasionally Linked)

Meriden (Southington ARA)

145.490 MHz	-600 KHz	77.0 Hz
224.800 MHz	-1.6 MHz	77.0 Hz
444.250 MHz	+5 MHz	77.0 Hz

NA1RA Repeaters

New Milford

146.730 MHz	-600 KHz	77.0 Hz
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Washington

441.850 MHz	+5 MHz	77.0 Hz
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Warren

224.320 MHz	-1.6 MHz	77.0 Hz
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Harwinton

441.550 MHz	+5 MHz	77.0 Hz
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Watertown

441.650 MHz	+5 MHz	77.0 Hz
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RASON Repeaters

Norwich

449.725 MHz	-5 MHz	77.0 Hz
146.730 MHz	-600 KHz	77.0 Hz

SPARC Repeaters

West Haven

147.505 MHz	-1 MHz	77.0 Hz
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224.500 MHz	-1.6 MHz	77.0 Hz
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Woodbridge

444.500 MHz	+5 MHz	DPL 073 or 77.0 Hz
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See you then.

73,

Betsey Doane, K1EIC SM CT

Hamfests

2007 Nutmeg Hamfest and ARRL Connecticut State Convention

SUNDAY - October 7, 2007

At the Beautiful Mountain Ridge Resort
300 High Hill Road, Wallingford, Conn.

Hours: Vendor Setup 6am-8am

VIP entrance at 8am

General Public at 8:30am

For more info see the website

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

NEAR-Fest

(formerly Hosstraders)

2007 Fall Festival October 12th & 13th
at The Deerfield New Hampshire Fairgrounds

The gates open at 9am on Friday and Admission is \$10 per person. After 6am on Saturday the price drops to \$5!

For more info....

<http://www.near-fest.com/>

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WA7BNM Contest Calendar
July 2007

Contest Name	Time/Date/(Band)
ARS Spartan Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Oct 2
YLRL Anniversary Party, CW	1400Z, Oct 2 to 0200Z, Oct 4
German Telegraphy Contest	0700Z-0959Z, Oct 3
432 MHz Fall Sprint	1900 local - 2300 local, Oct 3
SARL 80m QSO Party	1700Z-2000Z, Oct 4
NCCC Sprint, CW	0230Z-0300Z, Oct 5
TARA PSK Rumble Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Oct 6
Logbook of the World Contest, Phone	0000Z-2359Z, Oct 6
NCCC Sprint, CW	0230Z-0300Z, Oct 6
Oceania DX Contest, Phone	0800Z, Oct 6 to 0800Z, Oct 7
International HELL-Contest	1400Z-1600Z, Oct 6 (80m) and 0900Z-1100Z, Oct 7 (40m)
California QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 6 to 2159Z, Oct 7
EU Autumn Sprint, SSB	1600Z-1959Z, Oct 6
PRO CW Contest	1600Z-1800Z, Oct 6 and 0600Z-0800Z, Oct 7
UBA ON Contest, 6m	0600Z-1000Z, Oct 7
RSGB 21/28 MHz Contest	0700Z-1900Z, Oct 7
YLRL Anniversary Party, SSB	1400Z, Oct 9 to 0200Z, Oct 11
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Oct 10
10-10 Int. 10-10 Day Sprint	0001Z-2359Z, Oct 10
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Oct 10
NCCC Sprint, CW	0230Z-0300Z, Oct 12
Makrothen RTTY Contest	0000Z-0759Z, Oct 13 and 1600Z-2359Z, Oct 13 and 0800Z-1559Z, Oct 14
Microwave Fall Sprint	0600 local - 1200 local, Oct 13
Oceania DX Contest, CW	0800Z, Oct 13 to 0800Z, Oct 14
Pennsylvania QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 13 to 0500Z, Oct 14 and 1300Z-2200Z, Oct 14
EU Autumn Sprint, CW	1600Z-1959Z, Oct 13
FISTS Fall Sprint	1700Z-2100Z, Oct 13
North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z-0400Z, Oct 14
UBA ON Contest, SSB	0600Z-1000Z, Oct 14
ARRL School Club Roundup	1300Z, Oct 15 to 2400Z, Oct 19
NCCC Sprint, CW	0230Z-0300Z, Oct 19
JARTS WW RTTY Contest	0000Z, Oct 20 to 2400Z, Oct 21
ARCI Fall QSO Party	1200Z, Oct 20 to 2400Z, Oct 21
Worked All Germany Contest	1500Z, Oct 20 to 1459Z, Oct 21
Feld Hell Sprint	1500Z-1700Z, Oct 20
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	1500Z, Oct 20 to 1500Z, Oct 21
W/VE Islands QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 20 to 2359Z, Oct 21
070 Club 160m Great Pumpkin Sprint	2000 local, Oct 20 to 0200 local, Oct 21
50 MHz Fall Sprint	2300Z, Oct 20 to 0300Z, Oct 21
Asia-Pacific Fall Sprint, CW	0000Z-0200Z, Oct 21
UBA ON Contest, 2m	0600Z-1000Z, Oct 21
Illinois QSO Party	1700Z, Oct 21 to 0100Z, Oct 22
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Oct 22
NCCC Sprint, CW	0230Z-0300Z, Oct 26
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Oct 27 to 2400Z, Oct 28
ARRL EME Contest	0000Z, Oct 27 to 2359Z, Oct 28
10-10 Int. Fall Contest	0001Z, Oct 27 to 2359Z, Oct 28
SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	0000Z-2400Z, Oct 28