



# Greater Norwalk Amateur Radio Club

## Newsletter

### *"The Voice of GNARC"*

### November 2008

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#### THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER:

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If you have not heard the good news as yet; here it is: The field day results are currently online and we have surpassed all previous records. We have placed first in New England and CT and 4<sup>th</sup> nationwide. There was a field of over 300 3A stations participating in this year's field day exercise. Hearty congratulations to all on this milestone and we hope that we have continued success in the future with other field day exercises.

In another round up, our Section 1 DEC, Allan Valeo/NN1H reports that the recently held simplex exercise was a resounding success and he has sent congratulations all around to all the participants. The efforts from all the operators was noted and he has nothing but praise for a well run exercise.

In other news, the club was given permission from the CT Spectrum Management Assoc. (CSMA) to host the 146.475 repeater, currently located in New Canaan on our repeater site on the AT&T tower in Norwalk. This will be a trial run for six months and if successful, it will remain on the site with our W1NLK ID. Our current repeater frequency 146.775 will remain as the backup on the Norwalk Hospital site. Why this suggestion? As you know, there is continuous interference, supposedly from the commercial radio station which is situated in the same vicinity as our repeater, and the thinking is, that the New Canaan repeater with a 1 mg split might eliminate the interference. The deliberate interference will have to be dealt with in other suggested ways. Action on this suggestion is on hold pending the club's approval at our next meeting.

Our annual holiday is carded for December 10<sup>th</sup> at the Laurel Athletic Club in Norwalk. As usual we will have music entertainment provided by Diamond Entertainment and there will be a sumptuous menu. Do not forget the grand raffle.

This meeting's program will be presented by our own Steve Verbil/NA1SV

Toy/K1WYQ

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#### Next Meeting

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In lieu of our regular meeting, the annual holiday party will be held at the Laurel AC. See the club website for details.

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#### Secretary's Minutes

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Minutes for the October 8, 2008 GNARC Meeting

The meeting was opened at 8:05 PM by Toy-K1WYQ. There were 15 members in attendance including first time attendee Rita Seaton-KA1NVH.

The presentation was given by Michelle DeLuca, Deputy Director of the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) who gave us an update on the OEM planning for Norwalk. They are developing an internal disaster plan, a living document, that involves all city departments, not just Police and Fire. They are also reaching out to external organizations including businesses, faith communities, day care providers, shelters and civic groups to offer training in emergency preparedness. The talk gave a good insight into the present plans for the Norwalk OEM. There was also some discussion regarding the delay in setting up a radio room in the Norwalk EOC.

Business Meeting:

Treasurer's Report: Very solvent. Tim-W1GIG, Don-KA1TZR and Jim-KC1FB generated almost \$1500 for the treasury from their annual excursion to the AWA Convention.

ARES: We scored 700 points in the Simulated Emergency Test on October 4th. On October 25th there will be a Simplex Test in the region.

Repeaters: The 440 repeater is back up after repairing damage from the lightning strike. The 2 meter repeater still has interference, but is working well. We still need everyone to listen to the input during periods of interference to locate the source. It was suggested that the November meeting be used to show how to build fox hunting, directional antennas for this purpose.

Balloon Experiment: Postponed until March.

Holiday Party: Will be held on December 10th at the Laurel Athletic Club, ticket prices to be announced.

Field Day 2008: Ed-K3EIN sent out 15 QSL cards to stations that QSL'd us for F.D.

Minutes: Were accepted for the September meeting

New Business:

West Mountain Radio announced two new Products: The

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RIGblaster duo to control two rigs and the RIGrunner 4004U with USB power connectors.

The next meeting will again be held at the Westport Fire Station.

The meeting ended at 9:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Jim Francoeur, KC1FB,  
Secretary.

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## **Hamfests**

11 Jan 2009  
New York/Long Island Section Convention (Ham Radio University)  
Radio Central ARC  
<http://www.hamradiouniversity.org/>

Location:  
Bethpage, NY  
Briarcliffe College  
1055 Stewart Avenue

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## **ARRL News**

SB QST ARL ARLB015  
ARLB015 FCC Responds to ARRL Petition Against  
Experimental License  
using 40 Meter Band

On Monday, October 20, the ARRL filed a "Petition for Modification or Cancellation of Experimental Authorization" (Petition) with the FCC with respect to WE2XRH. According to the FCC, this experimental license -- issued to Digital Aurora Radio Technologies (DART) -- proposes to "test digital transmissions in 4.50-5.10 MHz, 7.10-7.60 MHz and 9.25-9.95 MHz for a terrestrial digital radio service to the citizens of Alaska." The League's protest was prompted by the certainty that high-power operation in the frequency range 7.10 to 7.30 MHz would cause unacceptable and harmful interference to the Amateur Radio Service in this part of the 40-meter band, which is an exclusive amateur allocation in ITU Region 2 (North and South America).

On October 24, the FCC responded by issuing an amended license that redefined one of the station's frequency ranges to eliminate conflict with the Amateur Radio Service. The amended license narrows the range to 7.30 to 7.60 MHz and gives as the reason for the change, "operation in the

band 7.1-7.3 MHz will cause harmful interference to Amateur Radio Service licensees."

"We are delighted that the FCC acted so promptly to correct this error and are pleased that the matter has been resolved," said ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ.

WE2XRH will be using a 20 kHz bandwidth digital emission at a transmitter output power of 100 kW and an ERP of 660 kW within a radius of 1500 kilometers of Delta Junction, Alaska. According to the amended license, the transmissions will take place in the frequency ranges 4.4 to 5.1 MHz, 7.3 to 7.6 MHz and 9.25 to 9.95 MHz.

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## **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Greater Norwalk Amateur Radio Club will take place on Wednesday November 12, 2000 hrs at Westport Fire Department Headquarters, Westport, CT.

Join the gang for pizza at John's Best on New Canaan Avenue in Norwalk beginning at 1800 hrs.

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WA7BNM Contest Calendar  
October 2008

<b>Contest Name</b>	<b>Time/Date/(Band)</b>
WAE DX Contest, RTTY	0000Z, Nov 8 to 2359Z, Nov 9
JIDX Phone Contest	0700Z, Nov 8 to 1300Z, Nov 9
OK/OM DX Contest, CW	1200Z, Nov 8 to 1200Z, Nov 9
Kentucky QSO Party	1400Z, Nov 8 to 0200Z, Nov 9
CQ-WE Contest	1900Z-2300Z, Nov 8 (CW/Digital) and 0100Z-0500Z, Nov 9 (Phone) and 1900Z-2300Z, Nov 9 (Phone) and 0100Z-0500Z, Nov 10 (CW/Digital)
SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	0000Z-2400Z, Nov 9
RSGB 80m Club Sprint, SSB	1900Z-2030Z, Nov 13
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Nov 14
ARRL EME Contest	0000Z, Nov 15 to 2359Z, Nov 16
JT Hamradio-50 Anniversary DX Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Nov 15
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Nov 15
SARL Field Day Contest	1000Z, Nov 15 to 1000Z, Nov 16
All Austrian 160-Meter Contest	1600Z, Nov 15 to 0700Z, Nov 16
Feld Hell Sprint	1800Z-2100Z, Nov 15
RSGB 2nd 1.8 MHz Contest, CW	2100Z, Nov 15 to 0100Z, Nov 16
ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB	2100Z, Nov 15 to 0300Z, Nov 17
NA Collegiate ARC Championship, SSB	2100Z, Nov 15 to 0300Z, Nov 17
EU PSK63 QSO Party	0000Z-2400Z, Nov 16
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0200Z-0400Z, Nov 17
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0130Z-0330Z, Nov 20
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Nov 21
YO International PSK31 Contest	1600Z-2200Z, Nov 21
LZ DX Contest	1200Z, Nov 22 to 1200Z, Nov 23
SKCC Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Nov 26
RSGB 80m Club Sprint, CW	1900Z-2030Z, Nov 26
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Nov 28
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Nov 29 to 2400Z, Nov 30