

Hamfest 2007 in Perspective

Some may call it a success, some a failure. I call it a success and I'll explain why I do.

The primary purpose of the Hamfest, like the Auction before it, is to raise money for the club. There are many secondary purposes, but fund raising is its primary goal. So I would say the Hamfest was a success because it raised money for the club. It may surprise some given how few tables we sold, but we did. We made enough money from drawing ticket sales to cover the cost of the main prize with margin. The refreshment sales also operated in the black.

The Hamfest also hosted a Volunteer Examiner exam session. The exam session was also a big success. Eleven exams were administered to nine people. As a result of our exam session eight people will receive a new or upgraded license. Five unlicensed people arrived to take a test, and only one left without a CSCE. While this did not raise any direct funds for the club, it did generate new Amateur Radio Operators who will contribute to our community.

Many hams attended our event, the last number I heard was about sixty-two attendance tickets were sold. While we did not offer the attendees the breadth of equipment for sale that we had hoped, I heard no complaints. Many were happy to come and support the club. There was a lot of socializing among friends who see each other infrequently.

I would like to thank everyone who helped. I want to offer special thanks to the chairman, Dave-WA1IKN, for working hard to make this happen. He also did a great job of providing and managing the refreshments. Dave worried and worked hard to make this happen and was dismayed when table sales were low. I also want to thank Darryl-WA1DD for running the VE session for us. Also there is Lou-KB1DED who came with a couple of cash boxes and operated the cash box at the door for admittance and drawing ticket sales. I would also like to thank *Tim Hortons* for the donated donuts and coffee, their donation helped us generate revenue to operate our repeater throughout the year, a very important mission of the club. There are so many others who also came to help, from those who came early to setup tables, to those who stayed late to clean up, to those who helped administer exams. I apologize if I didn't specifically mention you by name and you contributed. There were a lot of you.

The Executive Committee will be getting together to critique our performance this year. The goal will be to improve our performance in every measurable sense at next years event. We already have a few ideas, and are always open to hearing your thoughts. Please be sure to send your comments to your President so that he can take them into consideration.

Thanks, Chip-N1MIE, President

Monthly Connecticut Section News Summary

It sure was great to see many of you from all across the Section at the Western CT Hamfest. Congrats to chairs Joe AB1DO and Jim KD1YV on a fine job. I understand that there were very few leftovers in the food department--congrats to food chair Judy, N1TGK.

Some may not know this but TS Bruce and TS Dana KB1AEV worked very hard to re-establish the 147.18 repeater now located in Prospect for use over the long Labor Day holiday weekend. A lot of hard work and significant investment goes into repeater systems so be sure and thank Bruce and Dana: n1xg@arrl.net, kb1aev@arrl.net.

STM Larry, K1HEJ announces that The Nutmeg VHF Traffic Net will temporar-

Contacts:



President:
Chip Griffin—N1MIE

n1mie@arrl.net
(860) 376-0888



Vice President:
Chuck Wehner—W1FJW

w1fjw@arrl.net
(860) 448-1458



Recording Secretary:
Dave Carberry-WA1IKN

ddcarb@sbcglobal.net



Treasurer:
Lou Herman—KB1DED

kb1ded@arrl.net



Tech Committee Chairman:
Mike Martell-N1HFX

(860) 546-9498



Newsletter Editor:
Chip Griffin—N1MIE

n1mie@arrl.net
(860) 376-0888



Norwich Civil Prep. Liaison:
WebMaster:
Scott Moore—W1SSN

w1ssn@arrl.net



Public Info. Officer (PIO):
Wayne Rosenfield-KB1NKK

kb1nkk@arrl.net

ily meet on the 147.09 repeater sponsored by the Middlesex Amateur Radio Society. Many thanks to MARS and to their president Mark, K1PU for giving the net permission to operate there.

IMPORTANT! SEC Brian K1BRF and Committee Chair DEC Wayne N1CLV Announce The 2007 Simulated Emergency Test. The 2007 Simulated Emergency Test (SET) for the Connecticut Section is coming! Are you ready?

According to the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) website "The ARRL Simulated Emergency Test is a nationwide exercise in emergency communications, administered by ARRL Field Organization Leaders including Emergency Coordinators, District Emergency Coordinators, Section Emergency Coordinators and Net Managers..." General guidelines for the SET are given at the following ARRL weblink: <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/setguide.html>

Please note that because of various scheduling conflicts, the date for the Connecticut Section SET will be Saturday, 13 October 2007 -- repeat -- Saturday, 13 October 2007.

Participants should expect that the primary portion of the exercise will take place from approximately 0830-1200 EDT on that Saturday. We are purposely trying to conduct the test using a compressed timeline so that we can maximize participation by all radio amateurs in Connecticut and contiguous states.

In addition to the SET purposes outlined on the ARRL website, the CT Section SET Planning Committee has established the following Exercise Objectives: (1) Establish emergency communications (both voice and digital/data) between and within the five CT ARES/DEMHS Regions - to include fixed, mobile, and field-deployed Stations; (2) Encourage the use of emergency power (battery, generator, and/or mobile) by all stations during the exercise; (3) Maximize the number of amateur radio participants - DEC's will establish Regional Resource Nets and coordinate within their respective areas; (4) Utilize National Traffic System (NTS) format for all record message traffic. We are looking for maximum participation from ALL radio amateurs, not just CT ARES members! Anyone with questions about the SET should contact one of the members of the SET Planning Committee using their callsign@arrl.net for email:

Repeaters

RASON

146.730	PL=156.7	Norwich, CT
449.725	PL=156.7	Norwich, CT

SCRAMS

146.670	PL=156.7	Groton, CT
448.975	PL=156.7	Groton, CT
146.970	PL=156.7	Waterford, CT

Others

145.390	PL=156.7	Ledyard, CT
146.060	PL=156.7	Salem, CT
146.865	PL=156.7	Subbase, CT
147.240	PL=100.0	Westerly, RI

Packet

RASON

N1NW	145.030	PBBS/Node
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Glastonbury

W1EDF	145.030	FlexNet Node
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Local Nets

ARES

S.E.C.T	146.970	Mon	2000
N.E.C.T	147.225	Wed	2000
K1ARC	3.915	1st Wed	2000
ARES HF	3.965	Thu	1900

Weather

NL Co WN	147.060	Wed	2000
	146.970	1st Wed	2000
Skywarn	146.970	<i>on demand</i>	

Fun

TIPS Net	146.730	Tue	1930
VHF/UHF	146.730	Sun	2000
10m Phone	28.443±	Thu	2000
Picnic Table	3.988±	Fri	2030
alt	1.935±	Fri	2100
Ragchew	53.29- p82.5	Sun	1900

- Allan [NN1H](#), DEC Region 1,
- Wayne [N1CLV](#), DEC Region 4, SET Committee Chairperson,
- David [K1DAV](#), DEC Region 5,
- Steve [K1SJW](#), DEC Skywarn,
- Larry [K1HEJ](#), CT STM,
- Brian [K1BRF](#), CT SEC.

Thanks and 73--Wayne, N1CLV
DEC Region 4 and SET Chair.

The CQ Radio Club celebrated sixty years as a club on Saturday, October 6 with a whole day of events culminating in a dinner complete with video of club historical events. The Meriden Amateur Radio Club is also celebrating sixty years and will have their special meeting at the end of October! Your SM will be on tap to congratulate, thank and celebrate at both events!

This month we have a re-activated club: The Greater Bridgeport Amateur Radio Club which will offer entry-level license classes, VE sessions, and repeater operation. This is a general-interest club; contact John, KA1JXW russojg@snet.net.

The New England Amateur Radio Festival (NEARFEST) Deerfield Fair Grounds NH is coming up October 12-13. This is a Friday / Saturday event so those of you who want to go can still be back for SET on Saturday! There will be another NEARFEST in May. See <http://www.near-fest.com> for full details.

ARRL Connecticut Section

Section Manager: Elizabeth M. Doane, K1EIC
k1eic@arrl.org

Renewal Time

Now is the time for renewing your membership to RASON. Please visit our website to download a copy of the membership application. Print two copies. Check off one as a renewal with your information, attach a check, and mail to the Treasurer (or hand in at the next meeting). Give the second copy to a friend and encourage them to join the club. There is power in numbers. The larger the membership, the more we will be able to do.

SM Net to Return

Hello everyone,

First, I have the sad news to report that our friend

Upcoming Events

October

- 18 RASON Meeting
- 27 Tri-Cty Auction (Oswegatchie School)

November

- 1 SCRAMS Meeting
- 3-5 ARRL November Sweepstakes (CW)
- 13 Tri-City ARC Meeting
- 15 RASON Meeting
- 17-19 ARRL November Sweepstakes (Phone)
- 30-12/2 ARRL 160m Contest

December

- 8-9 ARRL 10m Contest
- 16 Christmas Gathering, 12:30
Port 'n Starboard Club

2008

January

- 1 Straight Key Night
- 3 SCRAMS Meeting
- 5-6 ARRL Roundup
- 8 Tri-City Meeting
- 17 RASON Meeting
- 19-20 ARRL VHF Sweepstakes
- 26-27 CQWW 160m Contest (CW)

February

- 7 SCRAMS Meeting
- 9-10 CQWW RTTY WPX Contest
- 12 Tri-City Meeting
- 16 Flea Market (Marlborough, MA)
- 16-17 ARRL Int'l DX Contest (CW)
- 21 RASON Meeting
- 23-24 CQWW 160m Contest (SSB)

March

- 1-2 ARRL Int'l DX Contest (Phone)
- 6 SCRAMS Meeting
- 11 Tri-City Meeting
- 20 RASON Meeting
- 29-30 CQWW WPX Contest (SSB)

Jack McLaughlin WK1S, formerly WB1ASH passed away suddenly Monday. Many of you will remember that Jack was president of ICRC about 10 years ago, ran the ICRC packet BBS, was an active net control on the Nutmeg VHF Traffic Net and the CT Phone Net and was just very active in amateur Radio in CT. Jack will be missed by many of us.

I am restarting the Section Manager's Net last Sunday of the month at 8:00 p.m. on the KB1AEV linked repeater system. We will start this Sunday.

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
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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
RASON Repeaters		
<u>Norwich</u>		
449.725 MHz	-5 MHz	77.0 Hz
146.730 MHz	-600 KHz	77.0 Hz
SPARC Repeaters		
<u>West Haven</u>		
147.505 MHz	-1 MHz	77.0 Hz
224.500 MHz	-1.6 MHz	77.0 Hz
<u>Woodbridge</u>		
444.500 MHz	+5 MHz	73 or 77.0 Hz

See you then.

73, Betsey Doane, K1EIC SM CT

REWARD OFFERED

A reward of 500 microfarads is offered for the information leading to the arrest of hop-a-long capacity. This unrectified criminal escaped from a western primary cell where he had been clamped in ions awaiting the gauss chamber.

He is charged with the induction of an 18 turn coil named millihenry who was found choked and robbed of valuable joules. He is armed with a carbon rod and is a potential killer. Capacity is also charged with driving DC motor over a wheatstone bridge and refusing to let the band-pass.

If encountered, he may offer series of resistance. The Electromotive Force spent the night searching for him in a magnetic field, where he had gone to earth. They had no success and believed he had returned ohm via a short circuit he was last seen riding a kilocycle with his friend Eddy Current who was playing a harmonic.

Original Author unknown.

ARRL/TAPR Celebrate 26th Annual Digital Communications Conference

The ARRL and TAPR held their 26th Annual Digital Communications Conference recently in Hartford, Connecticut. The DCC is an international forum for radio amateurs to meet, publish their work and present new ideas and techniques. Presenters and attendees had the opportunity to exchange ideas and learn about recent hardware and software advances, theories, experimental results and practical applications.

With more than 150 in attendance during the three-day event, ARRL Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B, said, "It was exciting to see and hear about the latest developments in Amateur Radio digital technology. The depth of knowledge, commitment and enthusiasm were very impressive and bode well for the future of Amateur Radio."

According to QST Editor Steve Ford, WB8IMY, many of Friday's seminars were devoted to the Automatic Position Reporting System (APRS). Bob Bruninga, WB4APR, gave the first session of the conference, "The APRS Local Voice Repeater Initiative." Bruninga is the developer of APRS.

Other seminars at the conference included "The Flex 5000 and Software Defined Radio Software," "HPSDR Update," "AMSAT's Phase IV," "A Method for Automatic Image Balancing in IQ Mixer Based Software Defined Receivers" and "Suit-Sat 2 Update." Ford also gave a standing-room-only seminar on an introduction to HF digital.

Ford said one of the highlights at the DCC was the NUE-PSK device. This gizmo makes it possible to do PSK31 without a PC. There is no word yet on when kits will be available for this item. "The latest Flexradio software-defined transceiver also drew a great deal of attention,"



Ford said. RPC Electronics debuted their all-in-one APRS tracker (2 meter transmitter, packet TNC and GPS receiver in one compact package). The company said it would be available for sale in December, just in time for holiday giving.

A popular feature of the DCC was the Demonstration Room. This was a place for participants to set up their projects for everyone to see, as well as a place for vendors to demonstrate their equipment.

ARRL New England Division Director Tom Frenaye, K1KI, spoke to conference participants Saturday morning, welcoming them to the DCC. TAPR held their annual meeting later that day.

The 2008 Digital Communications Conference will be in Chicago, but no date has been set. Check out the TAPR Web site <http://www.tapr.org> for more information.

You're invited to the annual

Christmas Party

hosted by **SCRAMS**

December 16, 2007

Sunday, 12:30 – 3:00 PM

PORT 'N' STARBOARD

Ocean Beach Park, New London

Buffet includes: Coffee and Soda, Tossed Salad, Macaroni and Potato Salad, Sliced Roast Beef, Turkey, Ham, Swiss, American, Provolone, Lettuce & Tomato, Fresh Rolls, Italian Rosemary Chicken, Penne Pasta with Meatballs, Baked Beans, Cookies, Cakes, Brownies, and more...

----- cut here -----

\$20 per ticket, BEFORE DECEMBER 6TH

PLEASE DETACH AND SEND PAYMENT TO:

David E Reed
10 Surrey Lane
Niantic, CT 06357
(Payable to SCRAMS.)

Your name _____ Guest name(s) _____

(call sign) _____

Meeting Minutes: 20 Sept 2007

The meeting was called to order at 1952 by President Chip Griffin-N1MIE. A quorum was present. Members introduced themselves and Mike-W1MCT President of SCRAMS was acknowledged. No new applications were received.

The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted.

Lou-KB1DED submitted his Treasurer's Report which covered 1 Jul thru 31 Aug. 2007.

The Secretary will file that report in the RASON Secretary's loose-leaf notebook along with the minutes of this meeting.

Committee Reports

Repeaters: Per Chip-N1MIE the Norwich Dept. Of Public Utilities (NDPU) has moved the repeater equipment building at their water tower site to its new spot. Also, the access road has had hard gravel spread which will facilitate our access to the building. Individual conduits for electrical power and RF/coax are being evaluated and once the NDPU work is done, RASON will have the access it needs. A floor will be installed, probably by RASON, and Preventive Maintenance (PM) on our antennas and feed lines can be accomplished. Mike- N1HFX is putting together a plan to move the repeaters that causes a minimum of 'down time'.

Upcoming Events: Mike-W1MCT said the 2007 Christmas hosted by SCRAMS will be at **12:30 on Sunday 16 December** (*corrected*) in the Port n' Starboard Restaurant at Ocean Beach, in New London. Menu specifics will follow when plans are firm.

Public Information: RASONS PIO Wayne-KB1NKK was absent and no report was available.

Old Business

Nominating Committee: Scott-W1SSN and Gary-WT1SND proposed the slate of RASON officers for the upcoming year to be the present officers, as follows: President = Chip-N1MIE, Vice-President = Chuck-W1FWJ, Treasurer = Lou-KB1DED, and Secretary = Dave-WA1IKN. The floor was then opened for additional nominations but none were heard. Motion to close nominations passed unanimously. The Secretary Dave-WA1IKN, as directed, cast one vote for each nominee completing the election process. Congrats again to each officer.

New Business

Hamfest: A sign-up sheet was passed around

for table and chair setups at the Hamfest which was to begin at 6 AM on Sat. After the meeting Chip-N1MIE will contact Wayne-KB1NKK and Chuck-KA1CQR to coordinate their assignments at the event. It was decided that tickets for the Grand Prize would be offered at \$2.00 per ticket and that attendance would be required by the winner at the noon drawing. A discussion on the number of sellers per vendor table occurred. The Vendor Table presently includes one (1) table and one (1) Vendor. Any sellers beyond the one-per-table amount will be charged the normal admission.

Health and Welfare: Chuck-W1FJW was unable to attend the meeting due to a sudden illness involving his father, who was being treated at the L&M Emergency Room in New London. The Club wished its best to both.

The next monthly RASON meeting will be at 1945 on Thurs. 18 October 2007 at Norwich Fire Headquarters. Wayne-N1CLV is planning a one hour presentation and demonstration of 'VHF Packet Client of Winlink Airmail'. Wayne will provide a one page handout to attendees and promises to keep it simple. The business portion of the next meeting will be kept as short as possible in order to accommodate the presentation. Please plan to attend.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2114.

Respectfully submitted,

David F. Carberry - WA1IKN

Recording Secretary

Post Meeting Notes:

If anyone has a copy of any the following RASON Minutes please furnish them to Dave-WA1IKN they are missing from the RASON Secretary's loose-leaf notebook. a) May 2006, b) Nov. 2006, c) Jun 2007, and d) Jul 2007.

A reminder that [Application for Membership](#) forms for 2007/2008 should be submitted during the month of September. The form is basically the same as last year's. The Annual Dues (Single = \$15 and Family = \$18) have also remained the same. Please see the Treasurer at the next meeting or mail your form and check (made out to 'RASON') to RASON, POB 329, Norwich, CT 06360.

RASON

Radio Amateur Society of Norwich
P.O. Box 329
Norwich, CT 06360

Application For Membership

NEW MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Callsign: _____ License Class: _____ ARRL Member: Y / N

ARES Member: Y / N

E-mail: _____

Please deliver my monthly RASON newsletter via: US Postal E-mail

Single Membership Annual Dues \$15

Family Membership Annual Dues \$18

<u>List Family Members</u>		Member	Member
Name	Callsign/Class	ARRL	ARES
_____	_____	Y/N	Y/N
_____	_____	Y/N	Y/N
_____	_____	Y/N	Y/N

For new membership, please describe any special interest or activities you have in amateur radio

and how did you hear about R.A.S.O.N.

FOR CLUB USE ONLY

DUES PAID \$ _____ Date: _____

New Membership: Accepted-Approved By: _____ Date: _____