

WAWA News Letter

Waterville Area Wireless Association
January 1998

Box 1646
Waterville Me, 04903

Tune in to WAWA Wednesday Night Net at 7:30 on 146.76.

The next meeting of the Waterville Area Wireless Association is scheduled for Saturday January 3, 1998 at 9:00 am at the Winslow Recreation Room in back of the Winslow Public Safety Building.

December 1997 Club Meeting Notes

The December meeting of the Waterville Area Wireless Association was called to order on December 6th, 1997 at 9:12 am at the Winslow Community Center.

NOVEMBER MEETING

Ron (N1NPJ) wanted to let folks know that the November meeting was not an official club meeting as only one club officer was present. An informal meeting was held instead with WX1V discussing several topics.

NEW MEMBERSHIP

The club wishes to welcome Robert (N1WPY) to the group.

QSL CARDS

Mike (N1NAF) used the new club QSL cards designed by Mike (KB1AWS) to reply to several hams who sent cards during field day and the VHF contest.

CLUB OFFICES

Club offices open for nominations for the following year are:

Vice President (previously held by Tim N1ENB)

Secretary (previously held by Mike N1NAF)

Net Director (previously held by Mike KB1AWS)

(continued on page 2) Club Meeting Notes

Membership renewals

Membership renewals are due in January. The form to fill out is inside the back cover of the newsletter. To remain a member in good standing and to continue to receive the newsletter every month please fill out the membership form and send it in with your dues today.

Table of Contents

January 1998 Club Meeting Notes	1
Field Day 1998 Update	2
Selected Maine Section Bulletins	3
1998 Maine Ham Test/Events	4
Upcoming Hamfest Calendar	5
Selected ARRL Bulletins	6

Field Day 1998 Update

Field Day 1998 is on June 27 & 28. In the cold of February that hot summer weekend seems a long way off; however that weekend will be here before we know it. So I decided to start running a monthly column to generate interest and keep everybody informed.

Dennis WX1V has been spear heading an effort to build some band pass filters in order to reduce interference between radios operating on different bands. We have found this to be a problem in the past during peak operating periods. Interested people need to pick a time to get together to build some of these filters. Dennis has the design info and the MFJ Antenna Analyzer to make constructing and tuning these filters an easy process.

In the past there has been a good group to set up the masts, antennas, and operating positions. However there has been a weakness in operators for the evening hours, through the night until tear down Sunday. A group of dedicated operators need to be recruited for field day this year to man the radios through the night.

The locations that have been used for field day in the past are not currently available. A new location needs to be found. The ideal location would have the following features: It would be a public place (more points for the contest). There would be a building to set the radios up in preferably with heat and air conditioning (depending on the year field day can be quite hot during the day and quite cold at night, with a possibility of a thunder storm thrown in for good measure). There would be an open area to set up mast mounded antennas and there would be an area bordered with some trees to set up wire antennas. There would be bathroom facilities available. There would be a place to get food and drink near by.

Field Day 1998 Update (Continued on page 7)

Selected Maine Section Bulletins

MEB072 (Maine Bulletin #072)

December 26, 1997

W1JTH ARRL Bulletin Manager, Maine Section

THE ARRL MAINE STATE CONVENTION AND 19TH ANNUAL
ANDY HAMFEST AND COMPUTER FAIR

MARCH 6 AND 7, 1998

Open Friday 7:00P.M. and Saturday 8:00 A.M.

RAMADA CONFERENCE CENTER
490 Pleasant St., Lewiston ME, Exit 13 Maine Turnpike

The ARRL Maine State Convention, Andy Hamfest and Computer Fair is back larger than ever with more points of interest for all Hams. Scheduled for Friday evening will be Forums. Saturday, Exhiitors and Vendors will display their goods. There will be new and used radio and electronic gear including computers available.

Special room rates are being offered by the Ramada Inn. Call 207-784-2331 for reservations and mention the Hamfest and Computer Fair.

There will be Forums on Friday evening. On Saturday, Exam registration starts at 10:00 AM. Exams start at 12:00 Noon Table rates: One table plus one admission, \$10.00 Additional tables, \$6:00 each. Saturday's general admission is \$5.00

For reservations and additional information contact: Ivan Lazure, N1OXA - Tel; # (207)784-0350 - e-mail: ilazure@gwi.net or Rick James, N1WFO - Tel. # (207)784-1266 - e-mail rjames@dlois.com

Other inquiries may write to:
AARC, Inc, P.O. Box 1
Auburn ME 04212-0001

MAIN DOOR PRIZE: TWO METER MOBILE TRANSCEIVER
PLUS MANY OTHER DOOR PRIZES

1998 Maine Ham Test/Events

The following shows ham exams, hamfests (LOCATIONS IN CAPS) and other events of interest to the ham community for 1998.

NOTE: Times are for exams; No Time - No Known Exam. Most hamfests open at 8:00 a.m. Most, but not all hamfests offer exams.

Date	Time	Place
Saturday February 7, 1998		WINTERFEST 1998 CRYSTAL FALLS (NO EXAMS) ROUTE 17, JCT. OF 226, EAST OF AUGUSTA. OPENS AT 8:00 AM
Saturday February 14, 1998	10:00a	Bath Salvation Army Bldg, N1NFK/ARRL Robin J Walls 725-5135, Call for time and location.
Saturday February 14, 1998	9:00a	Bangor Community Center, Davis Rd K1AG/ARRL Bill Sullivan 947-4051
Tuesday February 24, 1998	6:30p	Presque Isle, NMTC Augusta Christie Bldg. Rm 113 WA1YNZ/ARRL Wilburn Scott 455-8333
Friday March 6, 1998		Lewiston, MAINE STATE CONVENTION, Ramada Inn, Talks, ARRL, Seminars, etc. Opens at 6:00 pm
Saturday March 7, 1998	10:00a	Lewiston, MAINE STATE CONVENTION, Ramada Inn, Vendors, flea market, clubs, etc. Opens at 8:00am N1GZB/W5YI Brad Saunders 966-3653
Wednesday March 18, 1998	6:00p	Togus V.A. Center, Bldg 210 (Code 6:00, written 7:00) AE1Q/ARRL Don Smith 293-2935
Friday March 27, 1998	6:30p	Alfred, Fire Station AA1CZ/ARRL Al Noble 324-1718
Saturday March 28, 1998	9:00a	Trenton, American Legion Post #207 N1NGM/W5YI Norman Veillette 565-3634

1998 Maine Ham Test/Events (continued)

June 27 & 28, 1998 Field Day

Please note that these are tentative dates only

Contact the listed VE team leader before traveling to verify location, time, current fee and exams being offered. Listen to Amateur Radio nest for bulletins and updates. Walk-Ins are usually welcome. Examinees must have 2 forms of positive identification. Licensed amateurs trying to upgrade must have in their possession the original license and any original certificates of completion and a clear photo copy of each. Contact the VE team leader in advance if special exam. facilities are required or proposed.

Upcoming Hamfest Calendar

Saturday February 7, 1998	Winterfest 1998 Crystal Falls Hall, Chelsea Maine at junction of Routes 17 and 226 east of Augusta
Friday & Saturday March 6 & 7, 1998	Lewiston Hamfest and State Convention, Lewiston Ramada Inn and Conference Center, Pleasant Street. Seminars and talks Friday evening, Vendors, Flea Market, Exams, etc. on Saturday. Special motel rates
Saturday & Sunday May 8 & 9, 1998	HOSSTRADERS, Rochester, NH
Saturday June 6, 1998	Bangor Hamfest at Hermon, Hermon High School on Route 2, East of I-95
Saturday August 8, 1998	Saint Albans Hamfest, Snow Devil's Field Saint Albans Maine, Route 152, 4 miles north of town.
Saturday September 12, 1998	Windsor Hamfest, Windsor Fairgrounds, South Windsor on Route 32 one half mile north of junction of route 17.
Saturday September 26, 1998	Lincoln Hamfest, Ella Burr School, Lincoln Maine, north of town, follow signs
Saturday & Sunday October 2 & 3, 1998	HOSSTRADERS, Rochester, NH

Editors note: These are preliminary dates. Watch for more details in future newsletters. I will try to publish the bulletins for each Hamfest prior to their occurrence.

Selected ARRL Bulletins

SB QST @ ARL \$ARLB010 ARLB010 Ice storm relief effort continues

ZCZC AG10
QST de W1AW
ARRL Bulletin 10 ARLB010
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT January 23, 1998
To all radio amateurs

Some ham radio emergency communication operations across the Northeast wound down this week as the ice storm disaster moved from the response to the recovery phase. Telephone service and electricity are being slowly restored, but in many areas ham radio remains a primary--and in some cases the only--means of communication. And barely more than two weeks after the initial disaster, New Yorkers were bracing for the possibility of additional evere ice storms. The story to date is one of a great ham radio response peppered with small acts of heroism and dedication. Hams--in many cases working as ARES and RACES volunteers--continue

Selected ARRL Bulletins (Continued on page 7)

(continued from page 1) Club Meeting Notes

will indicate the year that they are renewed through so that so that the one receiving it will know if he/she has renewed or not. Notification will be sent out to folks not renewed, targeting past members and others in the area.

Phil N1IFP from Sidney is our new Wednesday night net director.

Written by: Correne N1XIQ

PERSONNELS

If you have articles or personnel's you would like printed in the newsletter, please send them to William N1RCV by email @ hathaway@kassociates.com or by regular mail to:

WAWA NEWSLETTER
PO BOX 1646
WATERVILLE, ME 04903-1646

(Continued from page 6) Selected ARRL Bulletins

to operate from emergency operation centers, shelters, meals centers, and government offices throughout the region. In New York alone, more than 1000 people are still living in shelters. ARES and RACES groups were cooperating with the American Red Cross, the Salvation Army, and government agencies, including the National Guard.

Repairs to the utility infrastructure are expected to take months. Ice loading from the storm brought down utility poles (one estimate said 180,000 poles in New York will have to be replaced), countless trees, and even steel transmission-line towers. Several deaths are attributed to the ice storm, and damage estimates range in the billions of dollars. Ham volunteers too numerous to mention mustered to help and many have been on the job for more than a week straight. Simplex and HF became the rule in some areas as repeaters were brought down by a lack of power or storm damage. Some repeaters were brought back up on emergency power.

The initial response to the ice storm disaster would not have been possible without ham radio, according to Jim Edmonds, WA1KPG, who lives near Syracuse, New York. "Everything was knocked out," he said. "I've never seen a situation where everything was so dependent on ham radio." A Civil Air Patrol group commander, Edmonds was called in January 8 by CAP and soon found himself at the Syracuse Red Cross office, training disaster relief volunteers and coordinating ham radio efforts on behalf of the Red Cross. "The first request by the Red Cross and the New York State Emergency Management office was, 'please send us all your hams'," he said. His wife, Sue, N2GNN, also helped out.

Across the Empire State, other hams worked with Red Cross damage assessment teams. Steve Auyer, N2TKX, said many hams in unaffected parts of the state took time away from work to help out in the disaster areas, staying in the shelters for days at a time. Offers of help came from New

Selected ARRL Bulletins (Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 2) Field Day 1998 Update

As in the past an equipment list needs to be developed to keep track of things such as antennas, coax, radios, generators, and all the other equipment that a successful field day effort requires. Also we as individuals need to pull together our personal field day equipment boxes.

On a final note after having been through the Ice Storm of '98 and see how unprepared some of us were perhaps field day participation will seem a little more important .

(Continued from page 7) Selected ARRL Bulletins

York City ARES/RACES and from as far away as Minnesota, where residents had to deal with floods and ice last year.

ARRL PIC Viv Douglas, WA2PUU, in Syracuse reports that a number of hams from Western New York traveled from shelter to shelter in hard-hit Jefferson County moving out health-and-welfare traffic. Ham radio was even able to get word to a Naval officer at sea, concerned for the safety of his elderly mother who lived alone, that she was safe and had been moved to a shelter. Edmonds told of how hams used multiple relays to dispatch an ambulance to an injured elderly man in Potsdam, New York, who had managed to get word to his daughter via his almost-dead cell phone. The whole process took ten minutes.

Douglas said ham radio became a focal point in the shelters, too. "When updated condition reports were being given over the ham radio, people would run to cluster around. It became apparent that ham radio was the lifeline to the outside world for communication," she reports. "Many watching asked how they could get into ham radio so it would be available to them during times like this. It became a teaching experience."

As Jim Edmonds put it: "The guy on the street corner with the hand-held saved the day."

In some areas of New England, new snowfall hampered recovery efforts. That was the case in Vermont, where six northern counties were declared disaster areas and more than a foot of additional snow fell in the ice storm's wake.

All 16 Maine counties were declared disaster areas. State RACES Director Rod Scribner, KA1RFD, said about half of the state's repeaters were not working after the storm, but the wide-coverage KQ1L machine on 146.85 MHz in Dixmont stayed up. It was that repeater that Vice President Al Gore spoke over from RACES Headquarters when he visited the state capital to survey the damage earlier this month. Scribner said parts of Maine are still without electrical power, and he praised the efforts of hams there in dealing with the emergency--which he characterized as the most serious he'd ever seen in terms of the number of people affected. "I think ham radio really did a yeoman's job in the areas affected," he said. Among other activities, hams in Maine conducted door-to-door health and welfare checks in rural areas and helped to coordinate a Red Cross meals program in the Winthrop area.

Selected ARRL Bulletins (Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8) Selected ARRL Bulletins

North of the Border, Quebec was especially hard hit with ice damage and power and telephone blackouts. Hams in affected areas set up round-the-clock emergency nets and assisted in the relief effort. Without Amateur Radio, "there is absolutely no way that many emergency and support activities could have taken place," said The Canadian Amateur Editor Rob Ludlow, VE3YE.

SB SPACE @ ARL \$ARLS002
ARLS002 Mir gets reprieve with next crew to be all hams

ZCZC AS02
QST de W1AW
Space Bulletin 002 ARLS002
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington, CT January 9, 1998
To all radio amateurs

The 12-year-old Russian Mir space station may stay in orbit until the first components of the International Space Station are in place in 1999. That's a few months longer than Mir was supposed to stay up. The first ISS units are set to be launched later this year. Hams are scheduled to be among the first crew members to populate the ISS, but the US presence aboard Mir comes to an end this June.

US astronaut David Wolf, KC5VPF, now aboard Mir, is scheduled to be replaced later this month by Australian-born US astronaut Andy Thomas, KD5CHF. Two new Russian crew members, both hams, are due to arrive at month's end. The Russian cosmonauts are Talgat Musabayev, RO3FT, and Nikolai Budarin, RV3FB. Wolf has been on Mir since late September. Thomas will work aboard Mir until June.

Wolf's research schedule has allowed him little spare time to use the ham radio equipment aboard Mir. The packet system aboard the space station has been experiencing problems because the crew has not had time to set up the correct parameters for the new TNC aboard Mir. This week, Wolf, 41, monitored and filmed operations from inside Mir's main module as his two cosmonaut crewmates conducted a space walk to check a leaky hatch and to retrieve some equipment. On January 14, Wolf and cosmonaut Anatoly Solovyov will do a spacewalk to recover some experiments.

The SAFEX repeater has been active on an intermittent basis. The crew has turned off the CTCSS tone feature of the repeater, making it easier for

Selected ARRL Bulletins (Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9) Selected ARRL Bulletins

weak stations to access the repeater. However, this also means the repeater may transmit noise and occasionally time out.

SB QST @ ARL \$ARLB008
ARLB008 ARRL Board meets 1/2

ZCZC AG08
QST de W1AW
ARRL Bulletin 8 ARLB008
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT January 20, 1998
To all radio amateurs
Board re-elects League's leadership team

Expressing confidence in the League's leadership team, the ARRL Board of Directors has re-elected all current officers. Among those tapped for new two-year terms was President Rod Stafford, ex-KB6ZV, who now sports the call sign W6ROD. Also re-elected were First Vice President Steve Mendelsohn, W2ML, Vice Presidents Joel Harrison, W5ZN, and Hugh Turnbull, W3ABC, International Affairs Vice President Larry Price, W4RA, Treasurer James McCobb, WILLU, Executive Vice President and Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ, Chief Financial Officer Barry Shelley, N1VXY, and all current Executive Committee members. The action came as the Board met for its first regular session of the new year January 16 and 17 in Rocky Hill, Connecticut. For several hours on January 16, the Board gathered under emergency lighting because of a power outage caused by an ice storm.

The League ended 1997 in the black and in overall sound financial shape, the Board was told. That was a dramatic improvement from 1996, when the League finished the year in red ink. The Board also approved a financial plan for 1998 that will continue 1997's successful fiscal management policies.

The Board also okayed the appointment of up to 15 members of The resident's Roundtable, a group of influential Amateur Radio leaders and strong League supporters to guide development and endowment activities. The League plans to launch a "vigorous program of education on planned and deferred giving."

In response to repeated member complaints of malicious interference and the use of foul language on the amateur bands, the Board established an

Selected ARRL Bulletins (Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10) Selected ARRL Bulletins

Enforcement Task Force to push for better rules enforcement from the FCC. Vice President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, will chair the 10-member panel. Other members include President Stafford, Directors Joe Falcone, N8TI, Frank Fallon, N2FF, Kay Craigie, WT3P, Fried Heyn, WA6WZO, and Marshall Quiat, AG0X, Vice President Hugh Turnbull W3ABC, General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, and Field Services Manager Rick Palm, K1CE. The Task Force will oversee and work closely with the Amateur Auxiliary and make recommendations to the Board on enforcement issues.

The ARRL also will ask the FCC for a declaratory ruling to put teeth into the voluntary band plan concept. The League wants the FCC to affirm that any operation that conflicts with established, voluntary band plans and causes interference or adversely affects those operating in accordance with applicable band plans "is not good amateur practice" and would be considered a rules violation.

The Board also applauded actions by the FCC and the New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission to crack down on illegal use of the 10-meter band by taxi drivers in the city and urges confiscation of equipment and fines to drivers who fail to comply and eventual removal of illegal transmitters from New York City cabs.

Approved by the Board were rules changes for the DXCC program that had been recommended by the DXCC 2000 Committee. Under the new criteria, no countries currently on the DXCC list will be removed. In the future, countries will be referred to as entities. A political entity will be added to the DXCC list if it meets any one of three criteria: it is a UN member state, it has an ITU prefix block assigned, or it has a separate IARU member society. The new criteria also replace all DXCC measurements, including physical separation distances, with metric system figures roughly equivalent to the former distances. While the 57 entities on the deleted list will remain, no new countries will be added to the deleted list in the future. Deleted entities simply will be removed. In addition, the new rules specify a minimum "island" size of 100 meters measured in a straight line. The DXCC field checking program will remain in place. The effective date of the changes will be announced later this year. The DXCC 2000 Committee was discharged with the Board's thanks.

SB QST @ ARL \$ARLB007
ARLB007 ARRL Board meets 2/2

Selected ARRL Bulletins (Continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 11) Selected ARRL Bulletins

ZCZC AG07
QST de W1AW
ARRL Bulletin 7 ARLB007
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT January 20, 1998
To all radio amateurs

On a 11-4 vote, the Board voted to not draft a petition to the FCC to simplify the Amateur Radio license structure and to increase HF privileges for Novice and Technician Plus licensees. In general, the plan would have asked the FCC to halt issuance of new Novice licenses while continuing to renew existing licenses, to rearrange current HF CW allocations for Novice and Tech Plus licensees to provide expanded HF phone frequencies, and to add 75- and 15-meter phone privileges for Tech Plus holders. No changes in Morse code testing were proposed. Rejection of the plan completes the Board's consideration of a committee proposal that it first received at its January 1997 meeting, and that had been the subject of membership study and comment during the year.

The Board agreed to have the League petition the FCC to permit additional call sign formats in its special event call sign rules. These new formats would include 1x1 call signs with the letter X as a suffix; 1xx1 and 1xx3 call signs (eg, W25Z or K75AAA), and call signs starting with the letter N and having two digits and two suffix letters (eg, N25MM).

In other actions, the Board:

- * resumed the important strategic planning process by creating a Strategic Planning Steering Committee that will develop detailed procedures to review and revise the ARRL Strategic Plan and work with the Executive Vice President to pick a facilitator. The Board developed a strategic plan in 1994 that requires updating in view of the developments in telecommunications since that time.

- * renamed the Technical Excellence Award as the Doug DeMaw Technical Excellence Award, as requested by several members who have earned the award.

- * authorized appointment of a volunteer ARRL Amateur Radio Direction Finding Coordinator. Working with IARU organizations in the Americas and other parts of the world, the ARDF Coordinator would promote radio direction finding in the US.

Selected ARRL Bulletins (Continued on page 13)

(Continued from page 12) Selected ARRL Bulletins

* approved in principle the establishment of the ARRL Alternative Dispute Resolution Service as a low-cost alternative for hams finding themselves in disagreements with other hams, such as in frequency utilization disputes, and who wish to avoid legal action.

* directed the Volunteer Resources Committee to study the "E-Mail Elmers" project in the Great Lakes Division and the "Get on the Air" project in the New England Division and recommend ways to establish a national program that incorporates the benefits of these programs and other features to encourage new licensees to become active.

* created an International Membership, open to anyone who holds a current ham license but who is not eligible for full membership by virtue of residence.

* agreed to permit the advertising of performance claims (ie, antenna gain figures) derived from antenna modeling programs in QST, subject to certain conditions.

* endorsed the APRS/Manned Space "APRS QSY Activity" compromise as a way to share frequencies in the two-meter band to minimize interference between APRS activities and communication between Earth and manned spacecraft. The League also pledged a donation of up to 500 dollars to support the APRS QSY initiatives.

* retired the Public Service Advisory Committee "with deepest thanks and appreciation." Specialized ad hoc committees will now handle issues formerly addressed to the PSAC.

* recognized Directors Ed Metzger, W9PRN, and Frank Butler, W4RH, for their 40 years of service as elected ARRL officials.

**SB QST @ ARL \$ARLB009
ARLB009 Correction to W1AW Bulletin ARLB007 ARRL Board
meets 2/2**

ZCZC AG09
QST de W1AW
ARRL Bulletin 9 ARLB009
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT January 21, 1998

Selected ARRL Bulletins (Continued on page 14)

(Continued from page 13)Selected ARRL Bulletins

To all radio amateurs

Bulletin ARLB007 incorrectly reported an action of the ARRL Board of Directors. The bulletin should have stated that the Board defeated a motion on a 10-5 vote to refer to the Executive Committee for study a proposal to ask the FCC to reduce the number of license classes to three.

A corrected version of ARLB007 has been issued.

Waterville Area Wireless Association
P.O. Box 1646, Waterville ME 04903
E-mail: RONMAN@MINT.NET

Application for Membership

1. Call Sign: _____
Class: _____
2. Name: _____
3. Address: _____

4. Please Circle Bands and Modes Which You Operate

1.2G	440	220	144	50	28	24
21	18	14	10	7	3.5	1.8
SSB	CW	AM	FM	RTTY	PACKET	TV

5. Mail this application and annual dues of \$10 per individual or \$15 per family to:

Waterville Area Wireless Association
P.O. Box 1646, Waterville, ME 04903

If you have any questions please call Ron on the 146.76 MHz Waterville Repeater or by phone at 873-2071. Meetings are held the first Saturday of each month at the Winslow Recreation Hall behind the Fire Station on Benton Ave. in Winslow. If the first Saturday is a holiday weekend, the meeting may be postponed a week. Check before traveling in poor weather.

WAWA also holds an on-the-air meeting at 7:30 every Wednesday night on the 146.76 MHz repeater. Hope to hear you in there.

73s WAWA

WAWA Newsletter
PO Box 1646
Waterville ME 04936

Call Sign
First Name Last Name
Address Line 1
Address Line 2
City State ZIP Code