

ARRL Division News

New England Division

One of the casualties of the IT attack the ARRL had in May is the capability to use mailing lists for volunteer updates and committee work. The IT staff has arranged for a method that Directors are able to use but many of the other groups are still not back online, including Section Managers. Until that part of the ARRL IT infrastructure is back online, I have offered to send out information from New England Section Managers at least once a month. I've included the first round of that effort in this update. Thanks for your patience as we work to get everything put back together.

Doug Sharafanowich/WA1SFH@arrl.org - Connecticut

Jon McCombie/N1ILZ@arrl.org - Eastern Massachusetts

Rol/K3RA is offering a **Free Extra course, live on Zoom**. I have over 400 folks signed up, but none from New England. I guess the word is not being spread there. Can you help me get the word out to EMass folks. I'm sure some would like to attend these classes. This is legit. No charge or obligation of any kind. If in doubt, you can check with Atlantic Division Vice Director Marty Pittinger. He has promoted our classes for years. Here is the info:

Subject: Please publicize Free Extra Class Course on Zoom starting Thursday, January 16, 2025

If you or anyone you know is interested in attending an Amateur Extra Class licensing course, please pass along the following information, and feel free to publicize it with your radio club or any group you feel would benefit.

A free, weekly, live, Amateur Radio Extra Class Licensing course on Zoom will begin on Thursday, January 16, 2025, and will run through Thursday, March 27. There will be 11 sessions. The three-hour sessions will start at 6:30 PM Eastern Time. Sessions will be recorded. Those attending should hold (or be studying for) the General Class Amateur Radio License. These are the classes that we have been holding for years sponsored by the National Electronics Museum. Please publicize this with anyone that you think would be interested. Those wishing to sign up should email roland.anders@comcast.net.

Thanks. 73, Rol Anders, K3RA

Phil Duggan/N1EP@arrl.org – Maine

Boat Anchor Hamfest

The first Maine Hamfest of the year is Saturday, February 15 from 8am until noon at the Club Calumet, 334 West River RD, Augusta, ME. Admission \$5. VE Session time to be determined. No table fees, so bring plenty of gear to sell or swap. Sponsored by the **Augusta Amateur Radio Association**. P.O.C George Szadis K1GDI email grszadis@aol.com. www.arrl.org/hamfests/boat-anchor-hamfest-1

Hams Needed For Can Am Sled Dog Race

Northern Maine is looking for volunteers! Fort Kent, Maine is hosting the annual Can Am Crown of Maine sled dog races. The event runs March 1st, 2nd and 3rd. If you are interested in volunteering to work communications at Net Control, one of the check points, or anywhere help may be needed, please reach out to the Can Am Comms Chief, James Jalbert, kc1ecv@gmail.com. This is a great opportunity to use your ham radio skills, make some new friends, expand your network, and see the great Northern Maine in the wintertime. Reach out to James for more info.

Peter Stohrer/W1FEA@arrl.org- New Hampshire

There are several flea markets coming up in NH. The spring **Nearfest** takes place on May 2nd and 3rd at the Hillsborough County Fairgrounds. NH ARRL will have a display with a table and chairs. near-fest.com Also, the **Lakes Region Repeater Association** will hold their spring hamfest on April 12 in Moultonborough, NH. www.arrl.org/hamfests/lakes-region-spring-hamfest-2025

Nancy Austin/KC1NEK@arrl.org- Rhode Island

Paul Gayet/AA1SU@arrl.org- Vermont

Join us on Saturday, January 25 from 9 AM to 11 AM for **an annual Ham Radio Breakfast**. It will be at JP's Deli on River Road in Essex Junction. It will be a good time to catch up with some old friends, and make some new ones. After we eat (our favorite part) attendees will be asked what they've been doing or plan to do in ham radio, even if it's nothing.

On the weekend of February 1-2, please plan to participate in the **Vermont QSO Party**. It actually starts for us on Friday, January 31 at 7 PM, which is 00:00Z on February 1, most contest software will support it. Complete rules and abbreviations can be found here: www.ranv.org/vtqso.html. This is the first State QSO Party of the year, so let's be sure to really put Vermont on the air!

February would not be complete without **HAM-CON, The Vermont Amateur Radio Convention** on Saturday, February 22nd. The location is the Hampton Inn, 42 Lower Mountain View Drive in Colchester. This is I-89 Exit 16. Doors open at 8 AM. General admission is \$12. Under 18 is FREE! Complete details can be found here: www.ham-con.org. I hope to see you there!

Ray Lajoie/AA1SE@arrl.org- Western Massachusetts

The **Mt. Tom Hamfest** at the Castle of Knights 1599 Memorial Drive in Chicopee is on Saturday, March 1 and starts at 0830am.

www.arrl.org/hamfests/amateur-radio-electronics-hamfest-4

The WMA Train and Test Team will be having a **General Class License course** starting Feb 18 on Zoom. Contact Ray AA1SE for more information.

Thanks for being an ARRL member!

Tom Frenaye, K1KI

ARRL New England Division Director

k1ki@arrl.org