

N.E.W.S. LETTER

The Official Publication of the North East Weak Signal Group – <http://www.newsvhf.com/>

March, 2014

Volume 23

Issue 2

☺40th Eastern VHF/UHF/Microwave Conference☺

↑↑↑April 11th – 13th, 2014↑↑↑

→Next Meeting: March 8th←

**BOARD MEETING - 11:15 AM at Lulu's, 151 Hazard Ave. Enfield, CT
phone: (860) 763-2377**

I-91 exit 47 Rt.190E. 1 mile on left.

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

GENERAL MEETING - STORRS LIBRARY - from 1 PM to approximately 3:45 PM.

693 Longmeadow St, Longmeadow, MA 01106

<http://longmeadowlibrary.wordpress.com/>

DON'T FORGET

The North East Weak Signal Group

2 Meter VHF and Above Net

Every Thursday at 8:30 PM local 144.250 MHz.

W1COT, WZ1V or K1PXE Net Control

MEMBERSHIP in the N.E.W.S Group is \$15 per year. Apply to Tom Williams, WA1MBA. Email tomw(at)wa1mba.org You may download an application from our web page:

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

The N.E.W.S. LETTER is the publication of the North East Weak Signal Group. Articles may be reprinted with proper credit given to the author and the N.E.W.S. LETTER. Send articles to Tom Filecco W1WSO, via email to w1wso.fn31@gmail.com.

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2014 NEWS CALENDAR:

January 2 - Quadrantids meteor shower
January 4, 1PM - 4PM - [N.E.W.S. Group Meeting](#)
January 18-20, 1900Z-0359Z - [ARRL January VHF SweepStakes](#)
March 8, 1PM - 4PM - [N.E.W.S. Group Meeting](#)
April 7, 1900-2300 Local - [144 MHz Spring Sprint](#)
April 11-13 - [Eastern VHF-UHF Conference](#)
April 15, 1900-2300 Local - [222 MHz Spring Sprint](#)
April 20 - Lyrids meteor shower
April 23, 1900-2300 Local - [432 MHz Spring Sprint](#)
April 25-26 - [Southeastern VHF Society Conference](#)
May 2-3 - [New England Amateur Radio Festival - Deerfield, NH](#)
May 3, 0600-1300 Local - [Microwave Spring Sprint](#)
May 10-11, 2300-0300Z - [50 MHz Spring Sprint](#)
May 16-18 - [Dayton Hamfest](#)
June 14-16, 1800Z-0300Z - [ARRL June VHF QSO Party](#)
June 28 - [Rochester NY RARA Hamfest](#)
July 12, 11AM - 4PM - [N.E.W.S. Group Picnic](#)
July 19-20, 1800Z - 2100Z - [CQ Worldwide VHF Contest](#)
August 2-3, 1800Z - 1800Z - [ARRL UHF Contest](#)
August 9, 2000-0000 UTC - [50 MHz Fall Sprint](#)
August 11-12 - Perseids meteor shower
August 16-17, 6AM - 11:59:59PM - [ARRL 10-GHz & up Cumulative Contest](#)
September 6, 1PM - 4PM - [N.E.W.S. Group Meeting](#)
September 13-15, 1800Z-0300Z - [ARRL September VHF QSO Party](#)
September 20-21, 6AM - 11:59:59PM - [ARRL 10-GHz & up Cumulative Contest](#)
September 22, 1900-2300 Local - [144 MHz Fall Sprint](#)
September 26-28 - [Mid-Atlantic VHF Conference](#)
October 1, 1900-2300 Local - [222 MHz Fall Sprint](#)
October 9, 1900-2300 Local - [432 MHz Fall Sprint](#)
October 10-11 - [New England Amateur Radio Festival - Deerfield, NH](#)
October 11, 0700-1300 Local - [Microwave Fall Sprint](#)
October 12, 8AM-2PM - [Nutmeg Hamfest & ARRL CT State Convention](#)
October 17-18 - [Microwave Update - Rochester, NY](#)
November 16 - Leonids meteor shower
November 22, 1PM - 4PM - [N.E.W.S. Group Meeting](#)
December 11 - Geminids meteor shower

Presidents Report January 2014 NEWSletter

R. L. Frey – WA2AAU

March Meeting Topics: Getting Ready for the Eastern VHF-UHF- MW Conference In April Presentation Topic – Not Confirmed Yet Please Watch The NEWSVHF E-Mail List For An Announcement

With all the snow we've been getting during this "old fashioned winter" the middle of April seems like a long ways off, but it will be here before we know it! Not soon enough for us who would like to get outside to work on some antenna projects, but we live in the northeast and the weather will be what it will be. I hope the several really HEAVY snow storms of 2014 didn't bring down your antennas or collapse any of your roofs! The conference committee has been hard at work getting ready for the April conference. We should recognize and thank the committee members: K1MAP, N1JFU, W1GHZ and WZ1V for their hard work on the conference. If you can help out, you can contact Mark Casey, one of the 2013 VHF Conference Co-Chairs at 413-566-8118 or 413-566-2445. I'm sure he can suggest something for you to do to help out.

Like the last 2 years, in early February, I attended the Orlando "Hamcation" hamfest in Florida. This is usually a nice break from the cold winter weather in the northeast. This year I had to leave early to avoid a serious ice storm in southern Pennsylvania but the rest of the trip was uneventful. Unfortunately the beautiful sunny weather we all think of as normal in Florida in February was NOT in evidence this year as it rained both Friday and Saturday... not really hard, but pretty much all day. I did bump into Mark, K1MAP again, and a number of the VHF ops from the Florida Weak Signal Society including Steve and Sandra from DownEast. They say: Hi! The FLWSS appears to be quite active and growing with goals similar to those of NEWS. You can check out their web site at <http://flwss.net/>. I did manage to pick up some very nice "fleas" in the flea market including some beautiful high-end Huber+Suhner and M/ACom coax

adapters, and some very inexpensive 6-way SMA coax switches that turn out to perform very well up through 6 GHz.

Of course our primary topic during the March meeting will be discussing our conference coming up in April. In addition, I have requested several speakers to make a presentation at our March meeting, but so far the only speaker who has confirmed, would update a previous topic. I am hoping that one of three other speakers we haven't yet heard will be able to join us for the March meeting to give a talk we haven't heard yet. I expect to get this all nailed down by March 1 and will post the topic of the presentation on the NEWSVHF E-mail list so that everyone knows what to expect.

Remember, please E-mail me about specific topics or speakers you would like to hear give a presentation at some upcoming NEWS meeting... Even better, if you have a topic YOU would like to speak about, please let me know. More ideas are always better than not enough. Please keep them coming. My E-mail is: r1fbauer@gmail.com Thanks in advance for your help.

Secretary's Report

NEWS Meeting 4 January 2014, Storrs Library, Longmeadow, MA

Preceded by a Board of Directors meeting at Lulu's Restaurant

President WA2AAU called meeting to order at 1314

TREASURERS REPORT by WA1MBA

- 93 paid members to date + 13 permanent members
- Balance \$5454
- New expenses are insurance and website
- Projected expenses now exceed projected income
- Report Approved unanimously

OLD BUSINESS

- Conference volunteers and presentations needed

NEW BUSINESS

- 10 GHz beacon on Cape Hatteras moving to Fire Sta-

tion

MOTION by K1MAP to donate \$100 to Buxton NC Resque Squad UNANIMOUS.

- FLWSS request to ARRL for changes to 10 GHz & Up rules - see online QST.
Consensus to consider at March vmeeting

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- K1FO call received from FCC
- Letter received from Lori Powlishen

A Duct Tape Auction resulted in \$85 donated to club

Meeting adjourned 1354.

FOLLOWED by SHOW & TELL SESSION

W1FKF: DC-DC boost converter 100Watts \$17
Amazon

W1GHZ: MMIC preamps

N1DPM: AD6IW broadband preamp 903-3456

- tower mounted with bypass switch,
- 4 bands on one coax
- for transmit:
903 MRFE6VP8600H
1296 INFINEON PTF141501E

K1MAP: K4FWS 10 GHz beacon Cedar Island NC,
moving to Cape Hatteras

N1JEZ:

- VE2FTR 10GHz beacon FN35gs
- Garmin GPS62STC geotagged pictures
- ANAN-100 HSDR for Android thru WIFI
- Predistortion to reduce TX intermod
- 6 meter tower project FN44ar
- RefloLeo update
- NEC 432 amp 275 watts out 50% low gain
- 78 GHz LU1DX shepherds crook feed
- Mt Washington beacon 10 GHz
- 122 GHz record 132km Austria
- 3D circuit board printing Australia

W1AIM: 1 inch oscilloscope

Treasurer's Report

Our treasury remains healthy as do our membership numbers. Not much else to say, except see you at the meeting.

Tom WA1MBA

Club Beacons Update

Both our 144.275 FN31QG and 1296.285 FN31TH beacons are now sending our club memorial callsign K1FO. Also, I was recently contacted by Mike K1MJM, who is interested in constructing new beacons on 1.296 and 10 GHz in the Bridgeport CT area from a really nice location there. He is looking for any expertise and suggestions we have to help make this a reality.

-73, Ron WZ1V

40th Eastern VHF/UHF Conference

April 11, 12 & 13, 2014

Baymont Inn - Manchester, CT

Our website has been updated with a preliminary list of presenters. We still have room for a few more speakers, please contact W1GHZ if interested. Registration is live via either PayPal or USPS mail-in via Dan K1BXC Please note you do not have to have a Paypal account to register live, it also accepts all major credit cards via a secure website. Mickie W1MKY and Tom W1WSO have already accumulated a wealth of doorprizes for this years event. Dave K1WHS is hosting the Saturday night Trivia Quiz. We'll have a great buffet style banquet at the hotel. Greg WA1VUG OF Rohde & Schwarz will be conducting the measurement lab, a great opportunity to test your preamps and filters through 50 GHz. Mark K1MAP will be conducting the Sunday Flea Market. As usual there will be a bountiful Hospitality room on Friday night. This year we are an official ARRL-sanctioned Conference, so come one, come all, meet your over the air friends live in person, and support your club and weak signal VHF/UHF/SHF:

<http://www.newsvhf.com/vhfconf.html>

- 73 Ron, WZ1V



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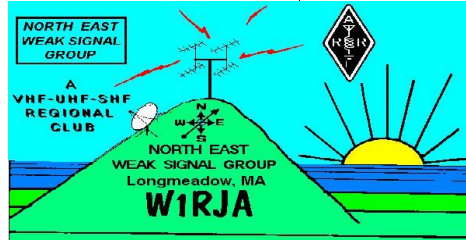
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Operational Bands (circle) 50 MHz 144 MHz 222 MHz 432 MHz 903 MHz
1.2 GHz 2.3 GHz 3.4 GHz 5.6 GHz 10 GHz 24 GHz 47 GHz
76 GHz Light Other (list)

The North East Weak Signal [N.E.W.S.]Group is being established to form a camaraderie among fellow VHF-UHF-SHF enthusiasts, and support a convenient means to exchange technical information. We currently have 6 meetings per year, held at a centrally located facility, and provide a "NEWSLETTER" that is distributed 2 weeks prior to each meeting. Any contributions to this publication are appreciated and can be sent to: Tom Filecco, W1WSO via email – w1wso@comcast.net. Dues are \$15/year. Remember, this group is formed by VHF'ers for VHF'ers.

Mail to:

North East Weak Signal Group
c/o WA1MBA Tom Williams PO Box 28
Shutesbury, MA 01072

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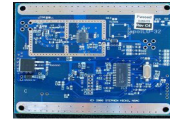
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c/o WA1MBA Tom Williams, PO Box 28, Shutesbury, MA 01072

Check your membership
expiration date on your mailing label!