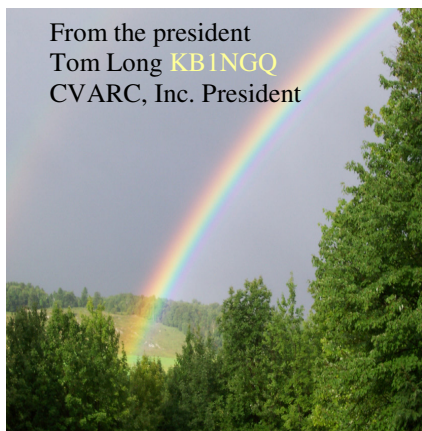


The QFQ Report

The Official Newsletter of the Central Vermont Amateur Radio Club, Inc.



August 2010



From the president
Tom Long **KBINGQ**
CVARC, Inc. President

From the President

As I am writing this on June 20th, Field Day is fast approaching. You may not see this until after Field Day. Hopefully, many will have made their way to our site at the Barre Town Recreation Picnic Pavilion site. At the May meeting, Chris Craig [K1MHZ] volunteered to Chair the Field Day Committee, in coordination with our Call Sign Trustee, Steve Board [KA1LHZ]. Jen Adams [KB1TDG] volunteered to head up the Food Committee, coordinating with our Treasurer, Josette Metayer [KB1EPT]. For many, Field Day is the highlight of our year's activity. I'm sure we will have plenty of pictures and stories for the next QFQ. Further, note that, per ARRL Field Day Regulations, CVARC has obtained a new Special Events/Field Day "GOTA" station license and call sign. Our new GOTA station call sign is WB1UJG. We will use this call for the duration of Field Day for the GOTA station and may use it for any "Special Events" we may hold in the future. Thanks to Wayne Dorsett [WA1YNE] for carefully reading the rules, alerting us to the specifics, and obtaining the call sign for CVARC, Inc.

Also of major note from the June 2nd meeting is that Jenn Adams [KB1TDG] was voted in as our new Secretary. Gary Sheridan [N1RNJ] had volunteered to be the new Vice President and Program Coordinator, and was voted in, as such, even though he could not make the meeting. Not making a meeting can be dangerous! Avi Freund [K1AKF] has expanded his role as Public Information Officer to include Volunteer Coordinator for CVARC HAM communications support of local fundraising events. I give great thanks to Jen, Gary, and Avi for filling in crucial positions to keep the club moving forward. One further note is that Wayne Whitelock [W1WRW] accepted the responsibility of temporary Repeater Committee Chair to take on a long list of issues to be addressed, at the request of the club during the April Annual Meeting. At the June meeting, Wayne presented the current status of all issues addressed at the Repeater Committee meeting that followed the May 16th painting and brush clearing/clean-up party at the Mt. Pleasant, W1BD repeater site.

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August 4, 2010 MEETING

The Steak House
1239 U.S. Route 302
Barre, VT 05641-2353
(802) 479-9181

Meet, Greet, and Eat: 5:30-6:30
p.m.
Meeting: Approx. 6:30-7:00+
Presentation: TBA

FIELD DAY

ATTENDANCE

Jenn Adams	KB1TDG
Jim Albright Sr.*	WY0N
Jay Behrman	KB1SYX
Steve Board	KA1LHZ
Chris Craig	K1MHZ
Wayne Dorsett	WA1YNE
Avi Freund	K1AKF
Alton Gardner	KB1ORP
Brandon Graham**	KB3IGC
Chris Knox	K1CCP
Tom Long	KB1NGQ
Betty Machell	KC1YW
Ray Machell	KC1BT
Joe McKeon	N1PTR
Fred Messer	WA1LIE
Ture Nelson	KB1NBJ
Dustin Pecor	Future Ham?
Michael Perkins	KB1PQS
Ronald Pitkin	KB1NDU
Neal Rentz	N1ZRA
Cathy Silk	KA1LDK
John Silk	KB1SRV
Miles Silk Sr.	KA1LDL
Carla Straight-Messer	KB1MFQ
Joe Truss	KB1FDA
Allen Wilde	N1IOE

*New member — Welcome!

** Visiting from PA, working on Geology studies in Craftsbury

There were seven or eight CERT trainees who didn't sign in at the CVARC Table; they trained at the CERT/CVARC "GOTA" station at the CERT Trailer. There may be a few folks who didn't get shepherded to the sign-in sheet. Total participation – approximately 25 hams and company plus CERT trainees = 32+ attendees

NOTE: Conspicuously absent were stalwart Field Day attendees and hard workers, Wayne and Alexandra Whitelock (W1WRW and W1AEW) due to Wayne's pinched nerve in his neck. We all wish Wayne a speedy recovery.

de KB1NGQ

**Field Day
GOTA Station
with CVARC
Special
Events Call
Sign
KB1UJG**

**"On Air"
in the
CERT Trailer**

— Photo by
Wayne Dorsett
WA1YNE





CVARC supports the Junior Diabetes Research Fund, July 17

Names of all supporting CVARC hams are not available, but Chris Craig [K1MHZ] ran Net Control, Tom Long rode Medical, and John Silk [KB1SRV] assisted as alternate net control, along with Mitch Stern [W1SJ].

--This picture (left) was sent by Ann Mary [AB1CH] who was stationed at Vergennes Green. Her picture really says what it was all about (i.e. looking for a cure for type I Junior Diabetes, riding 100 miles to raise funds for research).

SILENT KEY

Silent Key

Wayne Dorsett informs us of the death of **Rev. Neil Bradley**, the founder of the church where Wayne was pastor, the East Peacham Baptist Church. Reverend Bradley passed away at age 89 on February 11, 2010, and was laid to rest in the Peacham Cemetery near that church on June 1.

He spent much of his life on the family farm in Peacham except for his time in the US Navy and in the mission field. This home was, as Wayne reports, a beautiful two-story house just up the hill from the church, and he had to drive a jeep to get up the road during the winter. Wayne attempted to visit him one winter, but his front wheel drive only made it half way up the hill. He had to go back down to the church to call and say he could not make it. Reverend Bradley promptly got into his jeep and drove down to the church to pick him up. In the last few years, however, he had become a snowbird and spent the winter at his children's homes in Virginia.

An amateur radio operator, **W1PHI**, phonetically he identified himself as the "Wonderful One Pretty Happy Indian". He had an illustrious career as a test pilot in the Navy, and electronics designer for the space program. He was the only Vermont resident to earn his flying wings as an enlisted man during World War II. He designed some Marine radio equipment which he sold to a company called Raytel; it was used for several years until solid state equipment replaced it. After his retirement, Neil became a pastor in the Baptist ministry. He was a member of the Masonic Order and Scottish Rite Body, and the Order of the Eastern Star. He was a former member of the Silver Eagles Association, Fleet Reserve Association, and the Retired Officer's Association. Neil also belonged to the Veterans of Foreign Wars in St. Johnsbury, the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association and was a 50 + year member of the Grange.

Wayne tells us he will miss his good friend, so we offer our condolences to Wayne and to all of Neil's other friends, family and associates.

TREASURER'S REPORTS

May 2010		June 2010	
Beginning balance	2511.14	Balance forward	2567.42
Dues	+180.00	Dues	+40.00
Subtotal	2691.14	Subtotal	2607.42
KBINGQ reimbursed keys copy	-28.33	Fastenal	-24.93
WA1LIE reimbursed paint	-95.39	Total	2,582.49
SCARC dues for KA1SVF	-10.00		
Ending balance	2557.42		

PRESIDENT'S LETTER, CONTINUED: The July edition of the QFQ has been combined with the August edition, as it has often been in the past. July and August are always very busy with post Field Day, vacations, yard work, and all things that come and go too fast in our brief Vermont summers.

PLEASE NOTE: Our next meeting will be held on August 4th, as usual, at the "Steak House" on the Barre-Montpelier Road. Some come early (before 5:30) to take advantage of the "Early Bird Specials". Those who get there early, or before the 6:30 meeting starts, are likely to be ordering something to eat.

de Tom KB1NGQ

BRUSHING UP ON THEORY

If you are like me, and managed to learn enough electronics theory to get through the Technician Class and/or General Class license, you probably by now have a pretty good foundation for operating procedures, but still wonder at times how all that electronics stuff works. I managed to find a really interesting on-line text book that covers circuit basics with respect to dc, ac, and semiconductor circuits. The on line text-book is interesting and appears to be pretty thorough as well. If you have the time, curiosity and inclination, I would invite you to visit <http://www.allaboutcircuits.com/> The text book will take you through the basics of dc and ac circuits before continuing on to semiconductor and digital circuits.

BACKSCATTER

- Antenna Grease

Antenna grease came out in the '60s. It was developed by the Department of Defense for the armed services. It was mainly used in the field on hand held units, tripling their range. It is a secret closely guarded by technicians and HAMs. When the FCC found out some amateur radio supply outlets had purchased a sizable quantity of the RF grease through US Army and Navy surplus auctions, the FCC outlawed the sale of it in the US. What the RF grease does is make your signal slide out your antenna faster and with less friction. Because of this you get less RF friction. The results are: lower SWR and increased power handling, the faster moving RF signal builds up a tremendous RF inertia, resulting a higher DB gain on your signal and 4x the power handling capacity. Modulation and SSB benefit a whopping 6 db gain. A couple of grams over an untreated isotropic dipole antenna lasts for about 6 months, then just wipe off and replace. Triple the RF output of a 200 watt amp to 600 ERP. Limited quantities available!

Submitted on 06/20/10 by Call sign W4LTD

DATES TO REMEMBER

Saturday, September 4, in the morning, *Northfield Savings Bank 5 K Run* Volunteers needed.

Saturday, November 6, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. *7th annual Vermont RACES Operations & Training Conference* at the Vermont Police Academy in Pittsford, VT. Some of the many sessions planned are presentations from the NOAA Space Weather Center on HF propagation and solar activity and from the Vermont 911 Center. Additionally, there will be training with the new VEM RACES Communications Unit trailer.

Editor's note: Thanks to all who sent in pictures, stories and ideas. Many more are needed. Send by August 20 to Jessica Noyes www.vtwordsworth.com. KB1NBO