

F.C.A.R.C. Inc.
P.O. Box 773
Greenfield, MA 01302



MAIL

FIRST CLASS



THE COMMUNICATOR
THE COMMUNICATOR

FCARC June 2021 Newsletter

Calendar

June 12th, Breakfast 8am Dennys Pantry Greenfield MA

June 14th, June Meeting

June 27th, Submissions are due for the June issue of the Communicator.

August 9th, August Meeting.

June Meeting Information

Topic: Eboard Meeting with the Full meeting after.

Time: Jun 14, 2021 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/96475430492?pwd=RVNEU01ESi9hSWw1TXRsRis2WINpdz09>

Meeting ID: 964 7543 0492

Passcode: 437285

Our guest speaker for the June Meeting is Vance Martin N3VEM one of the developers for POTA, and he also coordinates the annual plaque event (details here if you're curious: <https://stats.parksontheair.com/plaque/plaquesummary.php>)

At our last meeting we had Ed Fong talk about making J-Pole antennas. He has some antennas for sale. You can see the descriptions here: <https://edsantennas.weebly.com/> and he is giving us special club pricing as follows. If you know anyone who wants one (or more) who is not a club member, please pass this information on to them as well.

DBJ-1 \$32

DBJ-2 \$32

TBJ-1 \$65

6ft extension for DBJ-2 \$5
BNC male to PL259 adapter \$2.50
GP5/ SSB radio \$65

Please email me directly, and we will make a single club order. That is how we can get this special pricing. These are good antennas for ARES and field operations.

I will be closing the orders on the 28th, right after field day.

Franklin County Amateur Radio Club (FRARC) – Minutes

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May 10, 2021

Board Members -

Aaron Addison KF1G – President
Dick Merriott KC1JQJ – Vice President
Howard Field N1LUP – Treasurer
Erika LaForme KC1IJJ – Secretary/Clerk
Brad Councilman W1BCC – Director
Belle Dyer KB1NOG - Director

Board Meeting Notes : There was no official board meeting due to limited agenda. There was a brief all-member meeting, after the presentation, to discuss field day. There seems to be enough interest for the club to work together this year. Planning will begin/continue for field day, to be held June 27-28, 2021.

General Meeting Notes :

Present : Aaron KF1G, Al N1AW, Anne N1YL, Brad W1BCC, Ed WB6IQN, Erika KC1IJJ, Gene K1WMA, Joshua Bell, Lad WA3EEC, Mark NX1K, Mike N1TA, Richard KB1NOX, Ron K8HSF

Ed Fong WB6IQN, instructor at the Univ. of California Santa Cruz, gave a talk about the VHF/UHF Dual Band J-Pole, in particular, the one he developed.

Field Day

Just some news, it looks like we are all set to use Poet Seat's for Field Day - weekend of June 26th.

People who are interested in taking shifts, bringing gear, or helping set up please contact me via email so we can start getting lists of needed items together.

Our next meeting on the 14th, will have an open to members Board meeting - we will be talking about Field Day, and the upcoming elections. If you would like to serve on the nominating committee please let any board member know.

13 Colonies

Larry Krainson is looking for a few operators to run 13 colonies this year. The special event runs for 7 days from July 1 through July 7 and covers all modes.

We are Team K2H and are looking for operators living and operating in Massachusetts who are willing to sit and operate and make at least 500 Contacts in the 7 day period. You would be operating as call K2H.

It's very exciting and fun. If you think you can commit the time, please contact him no later than the start of May.

Larry, W1AST

Team K2H – 13 Colonies Massachusetts State Manager

The Franklin Land Trust's Deerfield Dirt Road Randonee (D2R2)

The FLT's mission statement is, "We celebrate the landscaper, the history, and the rural culture of western Massachusetts, and work to ensure, through a program of land protection, that the historic pattern of field, woodland and village will endure for the benefit of generations to come."

A major FLT fundraising event is the Deerfield Dirt Road Randonee (D2R2). The D2R2 consists of bicycle tours of up 180 km, routed on back roads in the countryside the FLT works to preserve. Not surprisingly, phone service is sparse in these areas. Since 2013 the FCARC has supported this event by providing communication between event headquarters in Deerfield and sites in towns like Colrain MA and Guilford VT where water, lunch, and other support is provided for riders.

Last year, the D2R2 did not happen, as was the case with many other events that the FCARC has supported in the past, such as the Bridge of Flowers Road Race and the Greenfield Triathlon. However this year plans for a modified D2R2 have been announced. There will be only three routes, 100k, 160k, and 180k. The number of riders will be limited. There will be no catered sit-down lunches, but there will be six or more support locations with water and take-with food packages. There will not be a sit-down post-ride dinner, but there will be pre-packaged take-out dinners and the usual free beer and souvenir mug.

Plans are not complete as of June, and in fact the FLT is not 100% sure it can be pulled off. They have informed potential riders that if they have to cancel before July 1st there will be a complete refund of the registration fee.

The FLT has again asked FCARC to help with communication between the event headquarters and several of the remote support sites where amateur radio is the best communications option.

Full information is available at the FLT website:
<http://www.franklinlandtrust.org/d2r2>

Here is a report from the September 2013 FCARC Communicator about the FCARC's first year of supporting this event:

DEERFIELD DIRT ROAD RANDONNEE

A relatively small number of FCARC volunteers provided communication for the Franklin Land Trust's bicycle tour event on August 24th. More than 1200 cyclists followed routes of up to 120 miles over routes that stretched from Deerfield to Brattleboro and Marlboro VT, and as far west as Rowe and Charlemont. Our assignment was limited, but quite essential: we linked sites along the Green River in Colrain and Guilford VT with the event headquarters in Deerfield. There was no land line or cell phone service available at these remote sites, so we were not just a backup, we were the major communications link. As the ARRL slogan goes, "When all else fails... Amateur Radio." By all accounts the event sponsors were very glad for our help. We relayed many messages between Deerfield and the remote sites. It was a long day, we were on the air at our net control

station from 7 a.m. to almost 5 p.m. Five FCARC operators participated: Bruce, KB1TLX, Bob WA1QKT, Cathy KB1SNA, Bob W1SRB, and Al N1AW.

Al N1AW

Looking for something to do in the slow summer weeks between Field Day and IARU HF weekends? Want to get away for a day, see some nice green scenery that you don't have to cut? Need a fix running some DX that you don't have to QSL to?? Don't want to bother with long trips? Want to try out SO2R operating or just some different band or mode with good antennas and amps?? Well, the event you are looking for starts in less than 4 weeks!

This July 4th is the 250th anniversary of Peru Ma. being incorporated (originally known as Partridgefield). To commemorate that event I will be running a special event station using the callsign K1P from June 28th through July 9th. There will be a special QSL card featuring the new town seal. There will also be pewter medallions of the new town seal for those who work us on the most bands/modes during that event and for the most productive guest operators from the station.

I will have at least 7 stations set up for 24/7 operating so there should be plenty of seat time and contacts to be made on many different bands and modes. Now that the big spring contests are all over I am looking for operators to fill those seats! This is your chance to sit down at the SuperStation and just have fun. Don't want to drive back at night, bring a sleeping bag or blanket, there are several spare beds and a big couch to curl up on. There will be some food and drink available, but donations and help cooking would be appreciated.

Bands: 160m, 80m, 40m, 30m, 20m, 17m, 15m, 12m, 10m, 6m, 2m, 70cm.

Modes: SSB, CW, RTTY, FT-8/4, maybe FM on VHF/UHF (no repeaters)

QSL: LOTW or SASE(to K1TTT) (no bureau unless I get a volunteer to handle them, or should I use one of the outgoing bulk services??)

Check out my web page at: <http://wiki.k1ttt.net/Peru250thAnniversary.ashx> for all the most recent information before and during the event. (too much to type? go to k1ttt.net, link is on left side of page)

Please email me at: k1ttt@arrl.net if you are interested in operating during the event.

Submitted by AI N1AW

Fred Kemmerer AB1OC recently of the Nashua Radio Club. has announced his intention to run for ARRL Director, We have had Fred speak at our club before, and he has asked to return sometime this fall.

Ballots will be distributed by the ARRL in October, I encourage all ARRL Members to vote for the candidate of their choosing.

Currently two weekly nets are held on the KB1BSS 146.985 Mhz repeater as soon as the net control information is available, it will be put on the website.

ARES 2-Meter Net - Tuesday at 8.00 pm on the KB1BSS repeater, 146.985 MHz, – offset, PL 136.5

FCARC Informational 2-Meter Net - Thursday at 8.00 pm on the KB1BSS repeater 146.985 MHz, – offset, PL 136.5

ARES Western Mass Emergency Net

8:30 am: 3.944 MHz LSB

ARES Hampshire/Hampden/Franklin Net

8:45 am: Mt Tom W1TOM VHF repeater, 146.940 MHz, – offset, PL 127.3

9:15 am: Mt Tom W1TOM UHF repeater, 443.200 MHz, + offset, PL 127.3

ARES Berkshire Net

9:00 am: Mt Greylock K1FFK repeater, 146.910 MHz, – offset, PL 162.2

THE COMMUNICATOR *is an informational publication for members of the Franklin County Amateur Radio Club. Officers: President: Aaron Addison (kf1g@arrl.net), Vice President: Richard Merriott, KC1JQJ, Treasurer: Howard Field, N1LUP, Secretary: Erika LaForme, KC1IJJ, Director: Belle Dyer, KB1NOG, Director: Brad Councilman*

This is your newsletter! Amateur radio information of general interest, club member project descriptions and doings, radio applications to other activities, corrections, or suggestions are all welcome. Individual submissions make for variety! We need more writers! Send submissions to: Aaron KF1G (rangerfriday@gmail.com).