

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



MAIL

FIRST CLASS



THE COMMUNICATOR
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FCARC March 2022 Newsletter

Calendar

March 12th, Breakfast at Dennys in Greenfield 8:00 am

March 14th, **General** meeting 7pm.

March Meeting Information

Monday the 14th we will have Section Emergency Coordinator Bob Meneguzzo K1YO, talk about some new training options for digital modes in Western MA.

Topic: General Meeting

Time: Mar 14, 2022 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/98265899808?pwd=U2dEVTRQVUYzQ2JqWmtFRzFhYzUxQT09>

Meeting ID: 982 6589 9808

Passcode: 835409

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

Franklin County Amateur Radio Club (FCARC) – Minutes

Feb, 2022

No board meeting as there were no scheduled agenda items.

Snail Net (Slow Speed CW) Now on 80m

Our slow speed CW net, the Snail Net, was conducted on 160m during the months of long darkness, but with later sunsets and higher sunspot numbers we are back on 80m. Look for us at 3.556 MHz at 8 p.m. local time on Sunday and Wednesday. The net control station will make an announcement on the Leyden repeater between 7:55 and 8:00 p.m. to inform of any change of frequency. The net will start at a CW speed of 10 words per minute, we will slow down further if anyone needs that.

Contact AI, N1AW, for more information.

Section Manager's Report March 2022

Hello! I don't know about you, but this has been one crazy month. I think they took the two days and stuffed those activities into the rest of the month. I am looking forward to seeing you at the Mt. Tom Hamfest this Saturday, Bob, K1YO, Smitty, KC1IKA Larry, W1AST and myself will have tables there. Should be a fun time there.

This month, the Montachusett, Mohawk and CMARA clubs headed by myself (or instigated lol) in a joint effort have started a Zoom Tech License class which is currently attended by 10 students. The goal for this is not only to get people licensed, but also actively mentored to get them on the air and active in the hobby. My hope is this group will evolve and expand. We are learning ourselves and am working to streamline the courses and offer an effective way to present it. If anyone is interested in joining, send me an email.

It has been observed by club presidents as well as myself there has been a distinct lack of participation among the membership in activities, testing sessions and classes, etc. That is one of the reasons I started the classes. I fully understand the lingering effects of Covid and the impact it has on what we do. We as hams are taught "if it don't work, fix it!" That also means adapting to a situation. This should also include club activity. Clubs are dying because people are sitting back assuming someone else will do the job or plan the next activity. One phrase club Presidents would love to hear is "What can I do to help?" I know I would! Zoom has in my opinion opened up a lot of opportunities to give clubs not just meetings, but a plethora of content for presentations, trainings, etc. Don't use it as a crutch. Online or offline, help out your club or you may just click on Zoom one day and it will be gone.

The League has been active lately in getting key people onboard to bring more communication and resources to the members. One such resource is available grant money. The ARDC has provided the League with a sizable chunk of money and is making it available to clubs. Clubs that have certain projects going and need funding can benefit for up to 30,000 dollars. Stay tuned for more details as they are still working out the details. This is not part of the ARRL Foundation grant program. Stay tuned for more information as it comes.

As we all look forward to the warmer weather, take some time to try something new, TEACH someone something new. Get together with others and work stations, do a demonstration, etc OUTSIDE. Like my Mama used to say, "the fresh air will do you good!" Take care everyone.

Ray AA1SE

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