



# RADIO AMATEUR NEWS & VIEWS

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## RANV September Meeting

### SOLAR POWER AND ELECTRIC CARS

Tired of paying high electric bills? Is \$5 a gallon gas got you down? There's an alternative! Generate your own electricity, and drive an electric car. Bob K1BIF will go over the pros and cons of solar panels, both in the off-grid and grid-tied modes, and electric cars. Yes, you can even run a transceiver and amplifier off your solar panels.

The details will be revealed at the September 8th RANV meeting, live at Holy Family Parish Hall and on Zoom at 7PM.

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## Visit Brian Riley N1BQ

John Grow [VE2EQL](#)

The weekend of June 26 & 27, I drove to visit Brian Riley N1BQ who is at the Vermont Veteran's Home in Bennington, VT. For new hams to RANV, he was a past president and a long time QRP'er. He was an early pioneer in APRS, Solar Power, Micro-controller and builder. It was a nice 5-hour drive from Montreal. After the Covid - 19 lock downs for Canadians and travel bans, it was good to finally get out. I arrived at the home in time to join Brian for lunch. I brought with me a chocolate cake from a

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Meetings: 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday • 7:00 PM  
Holy Family Parrish Hall  
30 Lincoln Street  
Essex Junction, Vt

Repeater: 145.150, PL 100; WB1GQR

New Hams, Mentoring:  
[RANVMentor@gmail.com](mailto:RANVMentor@gmail.com)

Montreal bakery. (Chocolate cake is one of Brian's favorite foods)

After lunch we set up a portable HF station, with a simple wire. We heard many stations, but did not make any contacts. After a few hours, I had left Brian for his late afternoon routine. We met with Sara, his XYL, W1SLR, who visits him on a daily basis. The next morning, we had a chance to spend more time before saying our good bye and returning to Montreal. It was hard to say Good Bye.

Reflecting on the visit, as a ham, I have known many of the members of BARC, RANV since the days of the Old Lantern Campground (Charlotte Hamfest) in Charlotte, Vermont since the mid 1970's. Radio is a great tool as other means via the internet are great for keeping in touch. Sadly, life throws us with responsibilities, family, work and choose from the long list that occupies our time. As we age, these responsibilities are reduced, hopefully making more time to keep in touch more frequently.



John Grow VE2EQL

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## GREEN RIVER RESERVOIR PARK ACTIVATION

**Mitch W1SJ**

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On Sunday, August 21st , we activated Green River Reservoir State Park. This remote park is in the town of Hyde Park, in Lamoille County. Campsites can only be reached by canoe or kayak. There is a small day-use area and parking lot, in which we set up.

Because parking is limited, we got up real early and were on site by 9:00. Carl and I arrived first and got the 20 meter station going and Bob showed up a bit later and got 40 meters on the air.

We were bit concerned about the coronal mass ejection episode a couple of days earlier. This particle release from the sun causes a magnetic disturbance which can seriously affect propagation. Fortunately, the affect was minor. In fact, we had excellent short skip openings on 20 meters and many stations in New England and New York were worked. When that subsided, we were working DX stations at a regular pace. This was some of the best conditions I've seen in a while during an activation. However, missing from action were stations out West, which were few and far between. Over on 40 meters, conditions were slow, but steady.

Around 2:30 there was a rumble of thunder and Bob and Carl quickly pulled everything down and left skid marks leading out of the parking lot! I stayed on, noting that the thunder subsided after a few minutes. When it was all done, we put 755 QSO's in the log from around 30 states and 20 DX countries. Not a bad showing from a park which has been a very rare find up to this point. Stay tuned as we will plan to activate another park before the season ends.

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## RANV Picnic. 7/14/2022

Bob **K1BIF**

Here's all the RANV picnic fun in one short video.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EYnDifpX0GE>

After the STARC hamfest, at which they had a great “free stuff” table”, 23 people showed up at Kill Kare state park for the RANV picnic. Water and charcoal were provided, and many a burger and hot dog were consumed, along with chips and other snacks. No official business was discussed, as no one wanted to be interrupted from having fun with their fellow hams.

A 500-watt station was put together by K1BIF and several hams had fun making contacts. However, we used a recommended (by the POTA folks) logging program, HAMRS. This program has several faults, one being, there is a large button to turn the clock off right on the main screen. And, someone did just that by accident, so most of the contacts had the same start time, with no rhyme or reason to the order. Lesson learned the hard way. Mitch gave a demonstration of making satellite contacts – see the pictures. He used human tripods to hold the yagi antennas.

The following people signed the check-in sheet:  
AA1SU, AB1DD, K1BIF, KB1LOT, KC1IFK,  
KC1JGM, KC1PAH, KC1PYO + ?  
KC1VT + Hugh, N1EX + Jeanne, Caleb,  
N1WCK + Sam, Heather, George, Al  
N1YD, W1SJ, W1ZU, W4YFJ  
15 + 8 = 23 total

Bob, k1bif, secretary

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## NEWS & VIEWS

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### NEXT MEETING

Thursday • 8<sup>TH</sup> • 7:00 PM  
Holy Family Parrish Hall

Meeting Topic:  
SOLAR POWER AND ELECTIC CARS

### Upcoming, Notices, & Misc

- Steering Wheel: 3<sup>rd</sup> Thur Noon; Ninety-Nine Restaurant, Taft Corners, Williston
- VE Exams every 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday; Contact [AB1DD@arrl.net](mailto:AB1DD@arrl.net) for information
- Dues due? Pay online at [www.ranv.org/ranvpay.html](http://www.ranv.org/ranvpay.html)