



RADIO AMATEUR NEWS & VIEWS

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RANV PICNIC

The August 12th RANV Get-Together

Join us at RANV's summer picnic, Saturday, August 12th, 11AM-3PM at Kamp Kill Kare State Park, St. Albans Bay. RANV will provide park admission, water and charcoal for the barbecues. You bring the rest. Bob K1BIF will set up his station and we'll do a Park Activation as well.

Be sure to also stop by at the St. Albans Hamfest, which runs 8AM – noon at the VFW, 353 Lake Street. When done shopping for bargains, simply continue down Route 36 through St. Albans Bay, and turn left on Hathaway Point Road which ends at the park.

Remember, no pets are allowed, and be sure to take all your trash out with you.

W1AW/1 NEXT WEEK

Mitch W1SJ

Have you ever had the urge to operate from W1AW- likely the most sought-after non-DX station there is? To do so requires a 4-hour pilgrimage to Newington, Connecticut. This is not a bad idea, really, as there is much to see there. But you CAN operate from W1AW and not have to travel. How is that possible? Through the ARRL

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Meetings: 2nd 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

Volunteers On The Air (VOTA) Activity. As part of this year-long celebration, W1AW will be activated from all 50 states. We have already had a W1AW/1 activation in March which netted 7000 contacts. Our second activation will be next week.

The plan is to operate W1AW/1 from stations across Vermont, on as many frequencies and modes as we can muster. This is not a contest – more like a DXpedition. Our job is to make W1AW/1 Vermont as available as possible – especially to DX stations all over the world. Hams will be vying to work W1AW portable from all 50 station, so activity will be intense. Contacts will be short, but a little ragchewing is also possible. The non- WARC HF bands and VHF/UHF bands are all in play. We are talking about 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters on CW, phone and digital.

Our operating period is August 16-22 UTC. This means that we start Tuesday night, August 15 at 8PM, and run until Tuesday night, August 22, at 7:59:59 PM. Ideally, we want to have 2 or more bands on the air daily from 9AM until 11PM. This requires a team of operators. While anyone can help out with the operating, a good signal on phone is necessary. That means a good antenna and medium to high power. We can't be of much help to the masses if they cannot hear W1AW/1! Smaller stations should work out fine on CW or digital modes.

You cannot just go on the air and sign W1AW/1. You need to be an ARRL member and need to register with me first. Operators will be given password access to our scheduling site where they can choose days, times and modes to operate. We have to carefully schedule operations as we cannot have two W1AW/1 stations on the same band and mode! Operators will have to keep a computerized log and generate an ADIF file which is sent to me and then I upload to the ARRL.

There is a fun element to this as well. Saturday 2PM to 2AM is the North American QSO Party on phone. When rare W1AW/1 shows up from rare Vermont, it will create pileups. I'm looking forward to it!

There will be two ways to participate. Operators can register, choose operating times and go directly on the air. Or else, you can skip the registration process requirements by simply scheduling a time to come over to my shack and operate from there. But again, all of this must be scheduled in advance. You cannot call me mid-week to set things up as I will be super busy making contacts!

So, let me know WHEN you want to operate W1AW/1.

HAM ACTIVITIES COMING UP

Mitch W1SJ

Let's see: We have a hamfest, a picnic, a W1AW/1 activation, and we have even MORE!

On September 2-3, I plan to finish off the last two parks of the Groton State Forest cluster. Saturday, I will activate Big Boulder State Park which is a spectacular beach on Lake Groton. Saturday night, I'll camp out and operate from New Discovery State Park, a real nice park just up the road. Sunday, I'll finish up with Molly's Falls State Park in Marshfield. Both Boulder and Molly's Falls have not been activated very much and are very much in demand.

You can opt to operate on either Saturday, or Sunday, or the whole thing. But you do need to plan and coordinate with me ahead of time so we know exactly what to set up. These parks are just under 90 minutes from Essex, so it is not a terribly long trip. Since this is Labor Day weekend, you will have Monday off to do non-ham things!

The next weekend, September 9-10 is the September VHF QSO Party which starts at 2PM Saturday and runs until 11PM Sunday night. Keep an eye out on 6 meter FT8 and also monitor 146.52 for activity. Drive up to a high spot to work more people. This is a great time to do a SOTA activation as there will be a lot of folks on FM looking for contacts.

We plan to do one more park activation, finishing up at Lake Elmore State Park. The date is not firm yet, but we are looking at the weekends of September 16-17 or 23-24. If you have a preference, let us know.

A reminder that we are moving the RANV meetings back to Tuesday night. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, September 12th at 7PM. Be sure to make a note of it so you don't try to show up on Thursday!

Activation Scout Summer Camp Mt Norris

Jeff [N1YD](#). George [KC1JGM](#)



On Wednesday the 2nd I helped George set up his HF station at the Mount Norris Scout Reservation. We found a nearly perfect location beside the camp's mess hall. It had 110 volt power, a 110 foot tree, and three really big picnic tables. The antenna launcher worked well and we soon got on the air with HF. The band was very quiet, then improved during the day.

Just like velociraptors, Scouts travel in packs. :-)
Each camper's day must be fairly structured, because no individual Scouts dropped in all afternoon. This gave us plenty of time to set up, then we got a crowd of more than 20 Scouts right after supper.

The campers were Cub Scouts and regular Scouts. Scouting is now co-ed, so the demo was for boys and girls, with ages ranging from about 7 to 17.

When preparing for our visit, I was wondering if my demo should be something like a class, or whether I should just put out a wide variety of gadgets for the Scouts to try out on their own. I took the latter approach, and it worked very well. My demo included:

Motion Sensing Radar The device beeps and lights up as you approach it. The Scouts tried sneaking up on it, with good success.

Inductor Powered LED Put the device over the toothbrush charger, and it lights up due to mutual inductance.

ADSB Aircraft Tracking The radio was just the size of a thumb drive, but it easily picked up airliners of various types and directions, and displayed their positions on the PC's display as if we had actual radar.

Antenna Powered Oscillator The circuit is powered by radio waves. The Scouts would key up the HT and the device would come to life.

Measure the Speed of Electricity My function generator output a square wave, and a short wire and a long wire ran over to the dual trace oscilloscope. The signal that ran through the longer wire was delayed by about 30 nanoseconds, as expected.

Code Practice Oscillator They absolutely loved tapping on that code key.

Fourier Analysis Just an app to display the sound spectrum on an Android tablet. They would whistle at it, or view tones that they created on the function generator.

Function generator They used it to make assorted beeping sounds.

Solar cells and a miniature motor They learned about series vs. parallel, connecting wires with alligator clips, etc.

The entire demo was very well received, and George and I are planning to do it again next year. The best compliment of the day was from a boy who looked at the assorted gadgets spread out over the tables and said, "You built all this yourself..." as if I had invented the Elecraft K3. About fifty years ago, I was just as impressed when I watched a ham connect a solar cell to a Simpson meter.

One final note, one scout asked where do you connect to the internet.

RANV meeting. 7/13/2023 minutes
Bob, **K1BIF**

Present on-line was: W1SJ

In person: N1YD, K1BIF, KC1IFK, KB1LOT,
W4YFJ, W1EJC, KC1JGM, KC1PYO
AA1SU, KC1PYO,

Discussion on Field Day results and success of the event. Thanks to the efforts of Anna, KC1PYO the food was excellent.

Assignments to review alternate sites for field day 2024.

Financial report on Field Day expenses, insurance and trailer registration.

Picnic August 12th Kill Kare State Park

Meeting ended at 8:30
Bob, k1bif, secretary



NEWS & VIEWS

INSIDE

- RANV Picnic
- W1AW
- HAM Activities Coming Up
- Activation Mount Norris Scout Reserve
- July Meeting Minutes

NEXT MEETING

August 12th 2023 11:00 -3:00pm
Kill Kare State Park

Meeting Topic
Picnic

Upcoming, Notices, & Misc

- Steering Wheel: 3rd Thur Noon; Guilty Plate Colchester
- VE Exams every 2nd Friday; Contact AB1WG for information
- Dues due? Pay online at www.ranv.org/ranvpay.html