

## Notes from the New England Division Cabinet meeting January 5, 2008 – Springfield MA

- I. Introductions – about 30 people in attendance
- II. Growth and new hams
  - A. Nationwide, ham radio growth is uneven
    - New England is pretty much flat (864 new hams in 2007 vs 882 in 2006)  
but there were 820 upgrades in 2007 vs 218 in 2006 in NE
    - Nationally the number of new hams did increase over 2006, by ~20%
    - The total number of hams in New England dropped by 617 (2%) in 2007
    - Nationally the total number of hams increased by 1,324 (0.2%)
  - B. ARRL membership growing
    - up 4,895 last year (up 65 in New England)
    - a lot of work being done at HQ
    - new membership mgr (Katie Breen, W1KRB)
    - HQ has been tasked by the Board to increase number of new hams to 30,000/year
  - C. Discussion about new hams
    - Getting new licensees on the air quickly is key to retention
    - Use assigned elmers
    - Does your club do follow-up with new hams?
    - Some offer free club memberships
    - note that new ham list is available to club contacts from ARRL
      - See <http://www.arrl.org/members-only/NEAM/>
    - focused resources for newcomers
    - growth among youth - HQ support of clubs in schools
      - See <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/tbp/>
    - club info from ARRL
      - Start here  
<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/>
      - Active Club Primer – available online or in PDF format:
        - <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/cpw/>
        - <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/cpw/cpw.pdf>
    - find institutions whose staff want to become hams like churches, nursing homes, etc.
    - note that these new hams should be integrated with the rest of the ham community
- III. Results from World Radio Conference 2007 and FCC activity
  - A. 138 KHz allocation agreed upon, awaiting country action. The guess is that FCC won't give access, due to power company use
  - B. no changes 7.2-7.3 MHz

- C. 2011 WRC may consider 15 KHz in 415-526 KHz area
  - D. not much activity from the FCC in recent months
- IV. PAVE/PAWS (radar on Cape Cod and near Sacramento CA)
- A. a lot of CA and MA 440 repeaters will go off the air
  - B. affected repeaters all notified
  - C. recommendations have been made by the League to most repeaters
- V. Emergency preparedness
- A. Red Cross national MOU/SOU with the League has run out - issue of background checks is still the major stumbling point
  - B. snap emergency bulletin in October by Dennis Dura/K2DCD was a success. Summary of results to be sent to SMs
  - C. volunteer database - a work in progress - some discomfort from volunteers concerning use of the information
- VI. Tidbits
- A. note DXer W1FH estate materials gifted to the League - thanks to efforts of Bob, W1YRC
  - B. Mary, K1MMH, pitched the historical work at the League
    - YASME has contributed \$25K a year last 2 years
    - plans to look for more money to fund historical work at HQ
  - C. ARRL 100th anniversary coming in 2014
    - will be the springboard for some major fundraising and program development
    - objective - to build an endowment to help guarantee the long term viability of the League
  - D. League is now handling low volume books as print on demand
- VII. Social events
- A. Near-fest - May 2-3, Oct 10-11. The group is not-for-profit – currently funding station at the Christa Macaulife planetarium in Concord, NH and looking for giving opportunities and projects, tailored to developing new hams in NE and eastern Canada
  - B. Boxboro Aug 22-24 – main contact is K1TWF
    - in planning stages now
    - looking for program materials (contact [WO1N@arrl.net](mailto:WO1N@arrl.net)) and volunteers
  - C. Milton, VT hamfest Feb 23
  - D. Lewiston, ME hamfest April 4-5
- VIII. Government activities
- A. CT, RI have PRB-1 bills in the works
  - B. soliciting people to contact Sununu, Kerry re bills in Congress
  - C. number of letters received is important in influencing votes
    - for fast communication, FAX and email are faster, but may get less attention
    - hand-written envelopes tend to get opened faster

- IX. Club activities and ideas
  - A. subsidizing books for libraries
  - B. Central Vermont ARC gives license classes for first responders and recently for FedEx drivers
  - C. reimburse members for EmComm courses
  - D. kit building sessions
  - E. note web article "10 steps to a healthy club"  
<http://www.arri.org/news/features/2007/03/05/1/?nc=1>
  - F. QSL presorting – get more information about doing it for your club  
Web: <http://www.yccc.org/Resources/w1qslburo.htm>  
Email: [w1qsl@yccc.org](mailto:w1qsl@yccc.org)
  
- X. Proceeds
  - A. Auction raised \$175 for the ARRL Historical fund

Notes taken by Mike Raisbeck, additional info from Tom Frenaye