

**New England Division Cabinet Meeting
Springfield MA - 1/15/2011**

- I. Introductions
 - A. Names and callsigns
 - B. Discussion of the mechanics of the ARRL board meeting
 - C. Purpose of the cabinet meeting – information gathering

- II. The Web site
 - A. Too much flash - many places have slow access – performance of a flashy site is not good
 - B. Ditto for handheld devices
 - C. Violates the “3 click” rule
 - D. LOTW
 - a. Note that VUCC is now up on Logbook
 - b. More contests to be added, including non ARRL ones
 - E. Mapping old site to new site less than perfect

- III. The League
 - A. Should the awards programs pay for themselves?
 - B. Note that not all programs make, or are designed to make, money
 - C. Electronic publication
 - a. where is the point at which we switch
 - b. note issues of advertising, redistribution, revenue, bootlegging, etc.
 - D. Can we support “trial memberships”? Encourage dealers or clubs to sponsor them?
 - E. Vendor program to “round up” purchases to nearest dollar, and send the difference to the League?
 - F. 2014 convention ??
 - G. Electronic voting
 - a. Considering for all League elections
 - b. Current mechanical equipment is getting old

- IV. Emergency operations
 - A. Any activity in the recent blizzard?
 - a. Lots of Skywarn
 - b. Used IM and twitter as well as radio
 - c. CERT activity
 - d. ARES on standby, but not activated
 - B. Discussion of 2 day FEMA course for ham
 - a. AEC auxiliary emergency communications course
 - b. Requires EC 100, 200, 70, 800
 - C. Note animosity toward unpaid volunteers occurs occasionally

- V. New hams
 - A. Use of social media
 - a. Note that the League has a Facebook presence
 - b. Note that email is fading out in favor of twitter, etc.
 - c. We need to do more – this is part of reaching younger hams and potential hams
 - d. Can the League assist clubs in this area?
 - B. Fell a bit short of new hams
 - a. 26,000 in '10 – we had hoped for about 29,000
 - b. NE also down from 275 to 200
 - C. With new web site, info about which new hams are League members is apparently no longer accessible
 - D. Note the “makers” fairs and the appeal of making things to the youth market

- VI. Contesting
 - A. WRTC
 - a. Doug Grant K1DG is chairman – planned for July, 2014
 - b. Looking for operating locations
 - B. Would it be possible to get per-state info about DXCC ?

- VII. FCC
 - A. 5MHz
 - a. Working on allowing some CW and digital
 - b. Working on changing 1 channel, and upping power level
 - B. BPL
 - a. Still no final response from FCC on the BPL court decision
 - b. IBEC, a BPL provider, has been caught lying about frequency notching
 - c. Smart metering may become a spinoff of BPL
 - C. LF allocation
 - a. Experimental work on 138KHz and 495KHz
 - D. National broadband initiative
 - a. Adding 500MHz in UHF and microwave – will certainly impact Amateur radio
 - b. Should we use some of this spectrum as fodder for negotiation
 - c. If we're going to keep some of this spectrum, we need to use it
 - E. Antenna cases
 - a. One in Palmdale, CA
 - b. One in NC
 - c. We can provide some consultation, and a lot of materials, but not free attorneys
 - F. PRB-1 legislation
 - a. Still no statute in RI and CT
 - b. Best bet is work locally

G. Legislative action

- a. A newsletter being developed by HQ
- b. Emergency Comm Enhancement act has a decent chance of passage now – HR-81 – purpose is to give a push to the FCC on CCR/HOA issue

H. VEC

- a. Electronic filing to the VEC ?? Can we get it?

VIII. Funds

- A. Auction - \$218 + \$10 donation to go to W1AW equipment fund

K1TWF