



Southern Vermont
Amateur Radio Club

27 May 2020

The SOVARC Report

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Written by Alden Jones IV KC1JWR

SOVARC President

NEXT MEETING

22 July 2020

Regular SOVARC Club Meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM at the Library at 101 Silver St. in Bennington, VT. Meetings are open to anyone with an interest in

During the COVID-19 all meetings will be on the air or with zoom. The meetings will still be the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM.

Amateur Radio.



Calendar Events

- Jul 22 2020 [Monthly Meeting](#)
- Aug 26 2020 [Monthly Meeting](#)
- Sep 26 2020 [Special Event Station](#)

For more information contact

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SOVARC DIRECTORY

Club Officers

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SOVARC Repeater K1SV 146.835

PL Tone - 100.00 hz

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SOVARC Membership is \$20 annually

Payable at our meetings or send to:

Bill Clark

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Editor: "The SOVARC Report"

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In May 2020 monthly meeting was an on the air.

Check-ins for the Zoom meeting was KC1JWR Alden, WA1NBU Chuck, KB1NFQ Bob C, W1BVT Bill, AC1IX Leigh, N2HX Ed, WA2VYZ Bob H.

The zoom meeting when off well with very little problems so we will be trying to use it for the meetings till we can start getting back together in person.

The club special event is now showing on the ARRL web site and we have sent out an email with the QSL card ideas for everyone to vote on.

Club treasurers report \$127.71

Just a friendly reminder that club dues are due for 2020.

On page 6 you will see a article from the 25 June ARRL letter about amateur radio saving life.

Weekly Nets

SOVARC net, an informal net that meets every Sunday at 8pm local on 28.333

ARES net, a directed net that meets every Monday at 7pm local on 146.835 repeater and Echolink K1SV-R if repeater is having trouble 146.835 simplex

Vermont Emergence Management ARES/ RACES Net Sundays 8:30pm on the Mount Equinox repeater on 444.050



What is ARES?

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) consists of licensed amateurs who have voluntarily registered, their qualifications and equipment for communications duty in the public service when disaster strikes. Every licensed amateur, regardless of membership in ARRL or any other local or national organization, is eligible in the ARES. The only qualifications, other than possession of an Amateur Radio license, is a sincere desire to serve. Because ARES is an amateur service, only amateurs are eligible for membership. The possession of emergency powered equipment is desirable, but not a requirement for membership.

There are four levels of ARES organization: National, Section, District, and Local are the designations. National emergency coordination at ARRL Headquarters is under the supervision of the ARRL Field and Educational Services Manager, who is responsible for advising all ARES officials regarding their problems, maintaining contact with federal government officials concerned with amateur emergency communications potential, and in general with carrying out the League's policies regarding emergency communications.

Bill Clark will be bringing his new go box for us to take a look at and answering any questions on it. This is put on hold till we get back to regular meetings.

Nets in or around Vermont

Vermont Emergence Management ARES/ RACES Net Sundays at 8:30pm on the Mount Equinox repeater on 444.050

Vermont Emergence Management ARES/ RACES Net Mondays at 1pm on 3980

Vermont Emergence Management ARES/ RACES Net Thursdays at 7pm on DMR MARC Vermont Statewide talk group.

Mount Greylock Traffic Net daily at 1pm and 4pm on the Mount Greylock repeater on 146.910

ARES/ Skywarn Net 146.985 Tuesdays 8pm

Eastern Area NTN Net 7.243 weekdays 2:30pm

Green Mountain Net 3.933 Monday– Saturday 5pm

Vermont Phone Net 3.934 Sunday 9am

Vermont New Hampshire Traffic Net 3.539 daily 7pm

RANV Net on 145.150 and 3803 and RANV zoom on Tuesdays at 7pm

Skywarn spotter reporting 147.375

SOVARC FIRST ANNUAL

COVERED BRIDGE SPECIAL EVENT

The first annual covered bridge special event station will be held at the Henry Covered Bridge over the Walloomsac River on River Road in North Bennington VT on 26 September 2020. Originally built about 1840, it was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973 as Bennington County's oldest covered bridge. It was rebuilt in 1989 by the Vermont Agency of Transportation. The historic Henry House stands just south of the bridge.

We look forward to talking to you from this special event station and to years of further events and more locations in the future.

Rescued Radio Amateur Says, "Ham Radio Saved My Life"

Alden Sumner Jones IV, KC1JWR, of Bennington, Vermont, is thankful for amateur radio, after he suffered a medical incident and lost consciousness on June 16 while hiking with others along a remote section of the Long Trail, not far from his home. An EMT from Appalachian Mountain Rescue (AMR), who was hiking nearby, saw Jones pass out, but was unable to connect with 911 via his cell phone. Jones, 41, regained consciousness and was successful in contacting Ron Wonderlick, AG1W, via the Northern Berkshire Amateur Radio Club's K1FFK repeater on Mount Greylock. Wonderlick initiated what turned into an 8-hour effort to get Jones off the trail and to a medical facility, acting as a relay among Jones, emergency crews, and other agencies involved. As the *Bennington Post* [reported](#), "The Vermont State Police also received assistance from several licensed amateur radio operators who helped facilitate communications, greatly assisting in the rescue."

Matthew Sacco, KC1JPU, headed to a staging area where rescue crews were gathering. When he could not make it into the repeater, he employed some ham radio ingenuity to fashion a J-pole antenna from some window line he had on hand, casting it into a tree using a fishing pole. That did the trick. An individual on site was able to obtain an accurate location for Jones using the GPS on his cell phone.

After it was determined that rescuers could not reach Jones using an all-terrain vehicle, arrangements were made to have a search-and-rescue crew from New York retrieve Jones by helicopter. Amateur radio participants were able to relay critical information, including an accurate location, as preparations continued.

time with the EMT and other rescuers to talk up amateur radio and explain how to get licensed. According to one account, rescuers were having trouble making contact with the helicopter, so Jones loaned them a better antenna he happened to have.

Jones was eventually flown to a hospital in Albany, New York, again taking advantage of the occasion to promote amateur radio to the helicopter pilot and crew. Jones is said to be recovering.

"Ham radio saved my life last night, and I am very thankful for how everyone helped me," Jones said afterward.



A helicopter-supported litter carries Alden Sumner Jones IV, KC1JWR, to safety. [Vermont State Police photo via the Bennington Post]