

THE SOVARC REPORT

DECEMBER, 2025

SOVARC (Southern Vermont Amateur Radio Club) is a long-standing club (1988) dedicated to Amateur Radio operation, science, emergency service and general practice within the hobby.

SOVARC maintains a repeater (K1SV) on 146.835 (minus offset) with a PL tone of 100hZ.

Nets are held each Sunday night at 8pm local on 28.333, and an ARES net each Monday night at 7pm local on the K1SV repeater.

Our website is sovarc.org and we have a chat group on the N1SP Groups IO.

The club holds regular meetings on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7pm

local time. The location is in the Bennington Village Fire Dept at 130 River St., Bennington, VT 05201. There is plenty of parking in the back parking lot and entrance is through the rear door. (Same door where Bennington residents go to vote)

Anyone, licensed or not, with an interest in Amateur Radio, is welcome to attend.

Note that there will not be a regular meeting at the firehouse in December. Please see information about the Holiday Party within this issue.

Regular member dues are \$25 annually, and due at the beginning of each calendar year.

Club Officers and Contact Info:

President: William Clark, W1BVT

w1bvt@hotmail.com

VP, Newsletter Editor: Randy Horn, N1SP

randyn1sp@gmail.com

Treasurer: Ken Lanoue, N1RZ

n1rz@hotmail.com

Secretary: Bob Collins, KB1NFQ

rgcbjc@gmail.com

Equipment Quartermaster: Alden Jones IV, KC1JWR

ajonesiv78@gmail.com

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November 2025 Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7pm with nine members and two officers present.

After a brief review club financials and a discussion about the Holiday Get-

together, the meeting was passed to our guest speaker, Leigh Dupee AC1IX.

Leigh is the newly appointed Section Emergency Coordinator for Vermont ARES

SOVARC Holiday Get Together

As mentioned on the cover page there will not be a regular meeting at the usual firehouse location. Instead, we will be celebrating the holidays, the club, and each other at the Bennington Pizza Hut on Northside Drive. We will have a short business meeting, then visit and enjoy some good food. The meal costs will be the responsibility of those enjoying, but this restaurant is low priced and we can split pizzas.

When? – Wednesday December 10, 6pm

Where? – Pizza Hut, 207 Northside Drive, Bennington, VT 05201

Management has told us that they can put tables together so we may all be together as a group.

Ham Trivia Corner

What should we assume if while conversing on a repeater, another caller says “break,break break”? A) They wish to join the conversation. B) They are rude and should be ignored. C) They may have an emergency. D) They think they are using their CB microphone.

Local ARES/ RACES Report



During Leigh's visit to our club, he caught the group up on the latest news and answered questions about the changes within the RACES and ARES organizations.

- 1) RACES is no longer active in most states of the US. VT has been one of the last remaining.
- 2) While we still support Vermont Emergency Management, our membership, funding, and guidance will now be directed by the Vermont Dept of Health.
- 3) At some point in the near future, current and future ARES members will be asked to enroll in the MRC (Medical Reserve Core). To do this they need to have a background check and take some online MRC mandated courses that involve privacy of others and our own safety during assumed activations.

More info to follow on joining the MRC soon.

Next Hospital Drii will be on DEC 10 in the afternoon. Announcement to be posted soon.

From the editor: Included in this issue is a list of some HF nets around our region. These are an excellent way to get used to what message forms look like, some digital and how a large net is conducted. Most of these nets are in their infancy, so NOW is a great time to begin learning more skills.

ARES HF Nets Schedule:

VT ARES Linked Repeater UHF FM Net-

Each Tuesday at 7pm local time.

VT ARES Phone Net- Each Sunday at 8AM local time. 3976 khz.

MA ARES 80 Meter Phone Net- First Monday of the month. 6:45 local time. 3938 khz (and up)

MA HF 80 Meter NBEMS Net- 7PM local time. 3584khz THOR22 center freq 1500.

NNY Digital Net- Second Monday of each month at 7pm local time (6:30 Early Check-ins). 7.065 (=/- QRM), THOR 22. This net is also on netlogger.

For the results and more information please visit the VT ARES Groups IO... main@vt-ares.groups.io

Congrats to KC1QJR

Sincere Congratulations to Ed, KC1QJR, our newest member for very recently earning his General Class license. Go get 'em Ed, you've opened up a whole new world of ham radio!

New Phonetics Proposed for Phone Modes

A friend of the editor's sent this list of newly proposed phonetics. I have no idea who is proposing it, but it seems to make sense. Then again, I'm more of a CW and Digi type guy.

A: Aye	N: Pneumatic
B: Bee	O: Owe
C: Kitten	P: Pneumonia
D: Double-U	Q: Queue
E: X-Ray	R: Wrong
F: Phonetics	S: Essence
G: Jail	T: Pterodactyl
H: Heir	U: Eureka
I: Eye	V: Aviary
J: Geriatric	W: Why
K: Knight	X: Exit
L: Elephant	Y: You
M: Emotional	Z: Xylophone

@BisleyT

December Ham Shack Visit

There was no hamshack photo/description submitted for this issue.

Please consider providing the editor info on your shack, no matter how large or small. It can even be your mobile setup or "Go" box.

N1SP QSO on YouTube

Okay, your humble editor is rarely heard on phone, but I was really bored on the night of Nov 22 so got on and operated the North American SSB Sprint (Took a while to find my microphone).

This contest is quite stressful and unique as you can call CQ on any given frequency but, after you have made that QSO, you must hand the frequency over to the person that you just worked and go hunt for another QSO. This makes for a lot of dial turning and searching!

Late in the contest I worked my friend Ron, KK1L who is a fellow Yankee Clipper Contest Club member. (One of the best testers I know). Come to find out he was doing a livestream during the whole contest!

Here is a link if you're interested. Our contact was a little after the 3 hour, 47 minute time on the video. He surprised me so I stuttered a little, but must say I had a butt kicking signal for a 135 foot wire doublet to Burlington area on 80 meters!

https://www.youtube.com/live/E0ROvIKQT6Y?si=HFxQdFvb_0DQSV08&t=13633

Ham Happenings



Hamfests:

The next that the editor is aware of will be the HamCom in Burlington, VT in February 2026. This is an ARRL event.

Contests:

Due to not hearing any chatter about local contest activity I will no longer be listing contests that I feel may be interesting to you.

I will refer you to the WA7BNM contest page: [WA7BNM Contest Calendar: Home](#)

Here you can find a very complete listing (more than the ARRL provides)

Special Events:

Due to the volume of specials events, we direct you to

https://www.arrl.org/special_events/search/page:1/model:Event

Upcoming DX Expeditions:

For those interested in more upcoming DXpeditions, please refer to

<https://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>

Starting mid-July through the winter, there are too many activations completely list here.

Also, by going to “Club Log” <https://clublog.org> you can then click on the “Livestream” tab and see exactly where many of these folks are operating (frequency and mode).

These are the tools that I use, and they will work better for you than me listing them here.

Swapmeet – For Sale/Wanted



This area is intended for the use of dues paying members of SOVARC to post personal ham radio related items for sale or wanted. Each month the list will be deleted, but you may repost it for as long as you wish.

To advertise an item for sale, a want, give away or a repost contact N1SP (Editor)



AmnVolt Si4732 Mini Digital Radio. Version 2. Updated to the latest firmware version 2.33. Complete with original box, telescopic antenna, USB C charging cable and users guide.

This tiny receiver covers Medium Wave, Shortwave, Ham Bands and FM. Built in rechargeable battery, 1/8" earphone jack, USB C charge / programming jack and single rotary control to select the extensive menu choices!

Asking \$25.

Contact N1RZ@arrl.net if interested.

