

Reports for YCARC Meeting 12/04/2022

Education:

The ten-week General License Class at Massabesic Center for Adult Learning (MCAL) concluded on November 29th. Eight students started the class, one took his General test mid-way through the course, three others dropped out because of personal scheduling reasons. MCAL asked me to instruct two classes beginning in January. One class is the Technician level course, over ten weeks, and the second is a hands-on course, over five weeks, covering soldering, simple kit building (e.g., simple Field Strength meter), Building Antennas, Setting-up a Ham Station, etc. This course is under development and **all suggestions are welcome.** (FYI: this is donated time; I chose not to be paid for instructing)

VE Testing

A VE Test session is scheduled for Saturday, December 10th. Details are on the website. <https://w1yca.org/docs/vetest.pdf> Currently eight people have preregistered. At this time, I hope to organize VE test Sessions late February, and another in late April following the conclusion of the Technician License course. Testing materials were received from the ARRL today (11/30/2022).

w1yca.org Web Site

Small additions and/or changes to many pages are made almost daily. **Please, any suggestions are welcome!**

With Paul's sad & untimely passing, I need a volunteer or two (three?) to assist moderating the calendar and email reflector - instructions provided!

The LINKS page continues to develop with the addition of the Propagation-Atmospherics category. One category remains open for development - suggestions anyone?
Word-merchant, a.k.a., Tony, AA3HD, wrote a series of articles: Menu item **INFO > Articles by Members.** <https://w1yca.org/articles.html>

The next development will be pages where members can join the club by completing an on-line form and pay dues by *PayPal* & credit card. Membership renewal shall also be included. Please note the web site already uses the secure **https** format, and *PayPal* adds further encryption. Any payments made through the web site are deposited directly into the YCARC bank account.

**** Pictures of club member ham shacks are needed to replace the internet images now in use in the page sliders. ****

Email Reflector

The email reflector members@w1yca.org is open to every club member for communicating club business, buy/sell/swap - anything ham related really. Any email sent to

members@w1yca.org is received by all members of the club. I would encourage members to use the service more. The email reflector is not associated with google, groups.io, or any commercial platform. It is a stand-alone, secure, program hosted on the w1yca.org web server. The program can be segregated by topics (subjects) if desired. If you are on the mailing list and now receive emails from ****@w1yca.org, then you are able to use the email reflector. If encountering difficulties, send me a personal email: webmaster@n1xp.com.

Programs

The programs list was developed some months ago, now revised, and is on the website: <https://w1yca.org/Minutes/programs.pdf>

Packet Network

The Maine Emergency Packet Network is operating nominally. No new nodes have been recently added. The YCARC Node W1YCA-15 remains off-air due to lack of an antenna at the Club radio room site - little progress seems to have been made recently. The KC1JMH-15 node in Westbrook continues in a marginal state linking to W. Gardiner. A plan is proposed to place an intermediate node to strengthen the link. Details at next meeting.

MESH Network

An HSMM-MESH (Broadband-Hamnet) network has been proposed for the state of Maine. A presentation was made at the Maine-ARRL convention, this past March, during the Lewiston Hamfest. Other than some "Power-Point Engineering" little has been accomplished. A "Zoom" meeting was held last week with a presentation to the NE-ECAPS group from Orv Beach, W6BI, about Mesh Networking in California. Building a low-powered, 5.8 GHz microwave network in Maine will not be easy. -30-

Email or call, if you have questions.

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