

Reports for YCARC Meeting 3/12/2023

Education:

A hand-on Soldering Class at Massabesic Center for Adult Learning (MCAL) began on March 2nd with 11 participants.

VE Testing

With the cancellation of the Technician class and many VE tests scheduled by other clubs, no VE tests are scheduled by YCARC, at this time.

w1yca.org Web Site

A new page for monthly programs was added. PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS <https://w1yca.org/prgms.html> All club monthly videos, programs, and presentations are available for viewing and/or downloading

Please, any suggestions are welcome!

****** 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.

Programs

March: Grounding and bounding
April: Portable Station Power - SOTA/POTA
May: TBD, Open to anyone – Suggestions????
June: Field day discussions.

<https://w1yca.org/Minutes/programs.pdf>

Packet Network

- The Maine Emergency Packet Network (MEPN) was an integral part of the recent SET exercises by the Maine ARRL Section ARES.
- N1QX-1 & N1QX-4, RJ Mere of Kennebunk has joined the MEPN. 145.030 MHz

MESH Network

Maine Mesh Network ARDC Grant Update #1

March 3, 2023

This correspondence is the first in a series of monthly updates as required per the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Maine Mesh Networking Group and the Maine Amateur Radio Foundation (MARF). Amateur Radio Digital Communications (ARDC) awarded a grant in the amount of \$41,798 on October 2022 for the mission of building and expanding a wireless amateur radio mesh network on 2.4 GHz and 5.8 GHz from Portland area to Cooper using 15 sites. Bill Richardson (NG1P) is the project manager for this endeavor and Cory Golob (KU1U) will be issuing monthly communication regarding the project status. Please submit any communication requests to ku1u@proton.me .

Bill has reached out to several vendors requesting a quote and availability of equipment for the backbone system. Aroostook Technologies is the preferred vendor as they are the most local and appear to be able to have the best inventory for the equipment requested. They are double-checking what they have available. Bill is awaiting final word from Wade Macfarland

from Aroostook Technologies.

The crux being faced with vendors is that the recommended equipment is becoming difficult to obtain as it is being replaced by newer models. The newer models are not stable for AREDN protocols and are not able to load the current firmware. Also, the added expense of the newer models is not worth it for the additional features that will not be utilized.

Bill will be presenting an update on the Maine Mesh Networking project at the Maine State Convention & Hamfest on Saturday, March 25, 2023 at the Ramada by Wyndham, 490 Pleasant St, Lewiston. The talk will be held in the Classroom at 10:00 AM. Anyone who has questions is encouraged to attend.

Lastly, there has been concern about the future of the Oak Hill Brunswick site after Bill Messier, K1MNW, passed away. Glen Berube, N1ETU, is now the amateur radio contact for the site who will then coordinate with the new property owner. The Mesh networking site currently in place in Brunswick will continue to operate and remain a staple for the project.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cory Golob – KU1U

Email or call, if you have questions.

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