



RADIO AMATEUR NEWS & VIEWS

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June 2025 RANV Meeting

Stew [KC1IFK](#)

Mitch, Bob and I are going to show off our mobile rigs in our cars. It should be interesting to see how each of us set stuff up even though I think Bob and I are probably pretty much alike sincerely Stew Casey one IFK.

FIELD DAY Planning

Mitch [W1SJ](#)

The June 10th RANV meeting will be the starting point for planning Field Day, which is a little over 2 weeks away. Part of the meeting will be to introduce new hams who have been invited to the meeting and to bring everyone up to speed about Field Day. In case you have been hiding in cave with no Internet, Field Day is Friday, June 27-Sunday, June 29 at the Vermont State facility on 111 West Street in Essex Junction.

Planning has been on the slow side. We have lost a couple of people to family trips and a couple more have cut down on their available time. That means we need to bring in new people to do the set up and operating. Be sure to reach out to acquaintances –

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Meetings: 2nd Tuesday • 7:00 PM
Holy Family Parrish Hall
30 Lincoln Street
Essex Junction, Vt

Repeater: 145.150, PL 100; WB1GQR

New Hams, Mentoring:
RANVMentor@gmail.com

both ham and non-ham, to get them involved in Field Day. We can sure use the help! Field Day basic details are at <https://ranv.org/fd.html> . There you will find a link to the RANV Field Day survey which is entry point for Field Day participation. We will hold a couple of planning meetings on line. Those dates and times will be announced at the June meeting.

JUNE VHF CONTEST THIS WEEKEND

Mitch W1SJ

This weekend is the ARRL June VHF Contest. The event gets underway at 2 PM this Saturday, June 14th and runs until 11 PM Sunday night. All amateur frequencies above 50MHz are in play.

June is Sporadic E-skip season. While we make no guarantees on propagation, check 6 meters often for openings. For the casual operator, there are 3 key places to look for activity: 50.125-50.160 MHz SSB, 50.313 MHz FT8 and 146.52 MHz FM. You should at least hear some activity on FT8. Keep your FM radio on 146.52, as you will hear stations call CQ there as well.

I'll be running WB1GQR from atop Mt. Equinox. You should hear me most of the time. Try calling at the top of the hour when I turn the beams north.

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS IN MAY

Mitch W1SJ

The May public service doubleheader, the Essex Memorial Parade and Vermont City Marathon was held on Memorial Day weekend.

The Memorial Parade was on Saturday during light rain at times. Marshals had to deal with getting everyone lined up properly in wet conditions. The staff included AA1SU, K3BH, KB1YGP, KD2AKK, N1WCK, W1DEB, W1OKH and W1SJ.

The Vermont City Marathon on Sunday had much better weather, and it was a bit on the cool side, meaning there were very few medical calls. The start went off without a hitch and stragglers at the end were carefully tracked before closing down the aid stations. Thanks to communicators AA1SU, AC1RI, K1BIF, K3BH, KB1LVE, KB1OKH, KC1IZP, KC1ROS, KC1SFJ, KD2AKK, KK1L, N1CCL, N1KJ, N1YD, N2KLC, W1NGO and W1SJ



Chittenden County Region FM Simplex Net Zachary **K1ZK**

KiwiSDR @ K1ZK

The KiwiSDR receiver at K1ZK in Shelburne is QRV. Log in here and give a listen to the HF bands as heard in FN34jj: <http://76.23.193.13:8073/>



ARRL June VHF Contest

The ARRL June VHF contest starts at 2pm local time on **Saturday, June 14**. All VHF/UHF activity is encouraged — make a few contacts from your HT on a mountaintop, or go nuts on all modes/bands from your home or a rover or with a group. If you only have FM, look for activity especially on and near 52.525, 146.52, 223.5, and 446.0. More details available here: <https://www.arrl.org/june-vhf>

Chittenden County Region FM Simplex Net

The June edition of the net will be on **Monday, June 23, 2025** at 7:30pm on 146.55MHz. Mark your calendars and join us on simplex!

Stream Deck in the Shack -- The May Meeting

Jeff **N1YD**

Seven people joined the meeting in person, and five by Zoom. Matthias AC1RI announced that he is going to organize a Field Day event in the Saint Albans area.

Club president Stew Corey, KC1IFK, brought his elaborate setup of cameras, microphones, and a sound mixing board to give a good experience to everyone joining the meeting remotely. His main camera even has an AI capability. When I stepped aside for a moment, the camera automatically turned to follow me!

Stew showed us how he is using a Stream Deck to make software work better in the shack. The Stream Deck is a USB device. Depending on the

model, it has fifteen or more programmable keys and rotary encoder knobs. Each keytop is a tiny display, so you can make the buttons show any kind of icon or symbol.

The key definitions are nested. You might have a button for "Ham Radio". Pressing it might bring up keys for "WSJT" and "FLDIGI". Then pressing the "WSJT" button would bring up a set of keys for calling CQ and doing other WSJT things.

In the end, pressing a key will send a sequence of keystrokes and clicks to a program that is open on your desktop. It is a little bit like having convenient control keys, only much more flexible and easier to use once it is all set up.

Later, I showed off the Solarbotics Three Fives kit that I recently built. It is a working 555 timer chip made with forty transistors and a set of resistors. Although the 555 is not really a radio device, building it was educational and fun.





NEWS & VIEWS

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NEXT MEETING

Tuesday June 10th 7:00pm
Holy Family Parish Hall
30 Lincoln St, Essex Junction, VT 05452

Meeting Topic
Field Day / Mobile Rigs

If the main room is in use, we will use the classroom downstairs

Upcoming, Notices, & Misc

- Steering Wheel: 3rd Tue Noon; JP's Essex, Vt
- VE Exams every 2nd Friday;
- Contact AB1WG for information
- Dues due? Pay online at www.ranv.org/ranvpay.html