



RADIO AMATEUR NEWS & VIEWS

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HAM-CON 2023

Mitch **W1SJ**

HAM-CON, the ARRL Vermont State Convention, will be held Saturday, February 25, 8AM-2PM at the Hampton Inn Convention Center, at Exit 16 Colchester. There are no longer any pandemic restrictions. We welcome everyone to attend in person. In fact, we emphasize that people attend in person. We did OK with our hybrid operation last year, but the vendors suffered. We cannot do that again - otherwise we will no longer have vendors! Besides the flea market, we will have 8 forums, which will be available both live and on-line. But we need your help in determining what events to hold. I know what I'm interested in, but I really need to know what everyone else wants to see. In addition, what other activities, besides forums would be of interest? Please send me your suggestions on topics and speakers so that I can build another great program. We have over 1200 hams in our immediate area. I want to see more of them at the show. In fact, with our prices going up, we absolutely need our attendance to get better. So, make suggestions, and make sure you attend HAM-CON. Next month we'll reveal the schedule and activities.

Remember – HAM-CON is February 25!

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Meetings: 2nd Thursday • 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

Vermont QSO Party FEBURARY 4-5

Mitch **W1SJ**

The 65th running of the Vermont QSO Party will take place on the weekend of February 4th . The event will start Friday night at 7PM and run for 48 hours. You can operate as much of it as you dare.

Vermont is the **FIRST** QSO Party of the year, starting 14 hours before Minnesota, and 16 hours before British Columbia, which both run on the same weekend. Vermont's QSO Party is one of the oldest, running since 1958.

WE NEED VERMONT STATIONS TO GET ON.

While we do get a few stations active, there are still complaints that Vermont is hard to find. Yes, we are a rare state, but we still need to ramp up our activity on our special weekend.

So, get on the air. Get on 20 meters SSB, get on 40 meters SSB, get on CW, get on FT8. Whatever your favorite gig is, get on and make contacts. But you must call CQ! They won't find you if you just tune around – that doesn't work.

Some of the other QSO Parties are dropping FT8. We are not. If that is your mode of choice, get on and make a lot of contacts. The scoring is somewhat different, but worry about the contacts first and we'll figure out the score later.

I will be running the club station W1NVT from my home station and I am looking for operators. I am especially looking for newer hams to do the operating. I will provide all the training and coaching. The QSO Party is easy – you simply call CQ and work the callers. It is much easier than Field Day. I'll open up 2-hour slots all afternoon and evening on Saturday and Sunday. Let me know when you might be interested in operating.

Before the event, let me know when and where you will be operating and I'll list this on the web site. Full rules are at www.ranv.org/vtqso.html.

Northern Vermont Winter Breakfast

Mitch **W1SJ**

Join us at the **Northern Vermont Winter Breakfast** on Saturday, January 28 at JP's Deli, River Road – Route 117 in Essex.

We'll get together starting at 9AM. JP's has all sorts of great breakfast and lunch items which you can order directly off the menu. In past years, we've had nearly 30 people join us for eating and talking. We hope to see you there!

RANV Holiday Party

Bob **K1BIF**





Bob, k1bif, secretary



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NEXT MEETING

Meetings Resume March 2023
Holy Family Parrish Hall

Meeting Topic:

Upcoming, Notices, & Misc

- Steering Wheel: 3rd Thur Noon; Ninety-Nine Restaurant, Taft Corners, Williston
- VE Exams every 2nd Friday; Contact AB1DD@arrl.net for information
- Dues due? Pay online at www.ranv.org/ranvpay.html