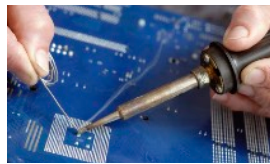




signals
**DOWN
EAST**



PROJECT SESSIONS
SUNDAYS IN
ELLSWORTH



**SWEEPSTAKES
SOCIAL!!!**
NOV 19 MILBRIDGE



**AMATEUR RADIO
PERSONALITY**
MEET N1MLE

DIGITAL TRAINING

The screenshot shows a digital mode software interface. On the left, a message window displays the following text:

```

d1:6 OCT 31
t1:5 1240L
to:8 KB1TCE
/msg:113 THIS IS AN EXERCISE MESSAGE
X SITREP WCARES ACTIVATED X
5 ARES MEMBERS DEPLOYED TO
SPILL SITE X EXERCISE MESSAGE

sig:9 PHIL N1EP
tok:2 20
sta:4 N1EP
org:12 MILBRIDGE ME
svc:1 F
td:1 T
[WRAP:chksum AD16][WRAP:end]
...end
  
```

In the center, a red pentagon-shaped callout box contains the text:

**Tuesdays
6:30pm
146.910**

On the right, another message window shows:

```

PLACE OF ORIG
MILBRIDGE ME
*TO
KB1TCE

TXT:
THIS IS AN EXERCISE MESSAGE
X SITREP WCARES ACTIVATED X
5 ARES MEMBERS DEPLOYED TO
SPILL SITE X EXERCISE MESSAGE

SIG: PHIL N1EP
  
```

At the bottom, a waterfall display shows a signal centered around 146.910 MHz. The interface also includes various control buttons like QSO, KN, SK, Me/Cth, Brag, T/R, Tx, Rx, and TX.

NBEMS Fldigi & Fldmsg

A fun and educational digital training net will continue at least through November on the Hancock County EmComm repeater 146.910- (PL151.4) on Tuesdays at 1830 (6:30pm). All you need to join in the fun is a 2-meter radio and a computer (with sound card) with the right software installed. Optional equipment includes a USB Signalink, RigBlaster, or other digital interface.

**Only a 2-meter rig
and a computer
with sound card
needed to operate!**

You can be a digital guru or a complete novice, it doesn't matter your skill level. The net will use the Narrow Band Emergency Messaging System (NBEMS) suite of software, specifically Fldigi and Flmsg. Both are available for free download on the Internet at <https://sourceforge.net/projects/fldigi/files/>. The programs offer not only powerful emergency communications tools for public service and your own needs, but also can be used for making digital contacts, whether DX (long distance) or leisurely operation. There are more than a dozen digital modes available using Fldigi.

Those not having a Signalink or other interface will need to operate acoustically. To receive and decode the data, your computer's sound card microphone will pick up the audio from your radio's speaker and decode it. The room you are in should not have other ambient noises if you are using the acoustic method, as this could interfere and cause errors. Transmitting is similar. With the form or info already input within the NBEMS software, you keep your radio's microphone PTT (transmit switch) pressed and then press the TX button in Fldigi or the AutoSend button in Flmsg all while holding your microphone near your computer speakers (not too close, though).

Just jump in and get your feet wet. The purpose of the net is to give you an opportunity to learn some digital modes and techniques in a local setting. Then when you are comfortable, you can get on the other bands and chase DX or participate in emergency exercises, etc. Most importantly, HAVE FUN!

Events

A Sweepstakes Social will be held at the home of Phil **N1EP** and Brenda **N1ZPV** Duggan on Sunday, November 19. Come anytime during the day to operate ARRL Phone Sweepstakes using the **W1KMG** callsign, enjoy some snacks and beverages and chat with other local hams. The Duggans live at 195 Kansas Road in Milbridge. Hang around for the 6pm **Maine Ham Radio Society** meeting being held at their home that evening as well!

Sunday Project Sessions are resuming in Ellsworth at the Meadow View Apartments Phase IV Dining Hall, 25 Tweedie Lane on Sundays at noon. The Ellsworth Amateur Wireless Association sponsors the wintertime fun. Bring a project you want to work on, help other hams, or come for the fellowship!

Meet Pete Stackpole N1MLE



Pete lives in Machias and was first licensed in 1992 when he earned his "Technician" ticket.

"I remained a Tech for years, operating SSB on Six and Two Meters. Of the two bands, Six was my favorite," Pete wrote in a recent email.

"I loved Sporadic E Season, mainly working the U.S. and Canada, earning VUCC in 1995, and making many friends. My most memorable occasion on six was giving well-known DXer Fred Fish, W5FF (SK), my Grid, FN64, the last of the 488 Grids needed to complete all of the grids in the contiguous United States, as a thunderstorm approached my station!" Pete said, "That's quite a haul from New Mexico to Maine!"

Read more of N1MLE interview on page 3.

The sessions begin Sunday, November 12 and will be held on most Sundays throughout the winter, weather-permitting. Check out the club website for updates at eawa.org. **N1EP** will try and remember to bring a computer and cable to help folks program their Baofeng HTs if needed at Nov 12 session.

N1MLE continued from page 2. . .

Pete noted that the ARRL, since 2008, has awarded the Fred Fish Memorial Award to those amateurs who have accomplished that feat.

What are Pete's plans for the coming years?

"I would like to work the "Birds" (satellites) as well as to become a competent CW operator. Digital modes hold interest for me as well, but seem a little overwhelming to me at present, so I'll need some Elmering to get me started." *(Ed. We can take care of that, no problem!)*

Our beloved hobby isn't fading away any time soon, says Pete. "I think amateur radio is alive and doing fairly well, despite the belief among some outside of the hobby that it is antiquated and out-dated. One look at our new digital modes should change that mistaken perception very quickly!

N1MLE is now an Extra Class and is a Volunteer Examiner (VE) and is always willing to help administer ham radio tests in order to bring more people into the hobby.

HAM & Eggs!

Join us on the 1st Saturday of the month at 0900 at Denny's in Ellsworth for a Ham Radio Breakfast Social. Have HAM & eggs or anything from the menu. Even if you don't order ham, talk it! The next breakfast is this Saturday Nov 4. Email Phil N1EP phil.n1ep@gmail.com if you plan to attend so he can arrange enough tables.

**Happy Halloween
BOO!**

Ham Radio Nets

Mondays

1830 DownEast Information & Emergency Net
146.595mhz

1900 Washington County Amateur Radio
Emergency Service Net 147.330+(pl118.8)

Tuesdays

1830 Digital Net 146.910-(pl 151.4)

1900 Hancock County EmComm Net Same Freq

Wednesdays

1900 Ellsworth Amateur Wireless Association
Net 147.030+ (PL 100)

M-Sat 1700 Maine Seagull Net 3940khz

Sundays

0900 Maine Public Service Net 3940khz

1700 Maine Emergency Communications Net
3940khz

SKYWARN Training

Learn to be a weather spotter for NWS! National Weather Service Caribou Office is sending a representative to conduct Skywarn Winter Weather-Spotting training to Ellsworth on November 9. The training starts at 6:00pm at Meadow View Apartments Phase IV Dining Hall, 25 Tweedie Lane.

EAWA Meeting

The Ellsworth Wireless Association monthly meeting will take place following Skywarn training at the same location.