



# News Brief April 9, 2012

## Greetings

Greetings to all SMFNA members from the Officers and eBoard. These are exciting times for SMFNA. Be sure to read all of this brief. It takes two pages to let you know all of what's going on !! And give us your feedback. It's YOUR group !!

## March Meeting / 20th Anniversary

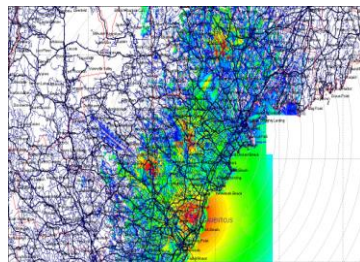
As you know, this was SMFNA's 20th Anniversary. The meeting was well attended and enjoyed by all.

Chief Chris Balentine, York Fire, SM103, began the presentation with a talk about the beginning of the club and the building of the group and it's radio network.

President Ric Plummer, SM653, continued with stressing that the members are the most important part of the organization and the technology that supports us is only a tool for their use. Slides were shown of our repeater coverage and of the area covered by our members.



SM103 Presents History



Our 4 Repeater Coverage



Where We Live



Refreshments, Of Course

With great repeater coverage and a strong membership, the eBoard has approved a project, to first interconnect the repeaters, using VoIP technology, to allow ALL our members better access to get the word out. Then to use VoIP technology on the internet to allow wider access for our members.

It's called Project Accessibility. See Story below for more.

Award certificates were presented to those joining 20 years ago, as well as past officers and other long term contributors. Their efforts over the years are appreciated by ALL.

A show of hands indicates most of use listen to scanners.

So, our catch phrase: **"If you know of an incident, we should all know"** !!!! Put out the incident.

The business meeting wrapped up an excellent evening together.

## June Meeting in Barrington, NH

The June 11th meeting will be in Barrington, NH at 19:00 as usual. This is to allow those members in Western Maine and South East New Hampshire better access. We will also invite surrounding fire department members.

The guest speaker will be Deputy Chief of Operations, John F Sullivan, Worcester Fire.

Chief Sullivan has come up through the ranks of the WFD and has a great deal of experience to share.

He will talk about progress in command, control and accountability since 1999 as well as technology improvements. He will also look to the future as he sees it.

A detailed announcement will follow in a few weeks for this interesting meeting.

## Project Accessibility

As mentioned above, we will make our network of repeaters more accessible in several ways.

First, we will link Ch 12 to Ch 9. This was done on March 10. Then we will link Ch 3 to Ch 1. These will allow members to cover the repeater network with fewer transmissions and Ch 3 and Ch 12 will hear all incident put out on the Ch 1/9 frequency.

Then, we will tie the repeater network into the Internet using VoIP technology. This will allow members to access our entire system from their home PC or Tablet or SMART Phone using either Android or iOS systems.

This will allow the greatest access from literally anywhere you have an internet connection.

So, our system will be truly accessible to all our members. Below is a sample of what's possible on a PC.

Use your imagination and give us your feedback. These are tools for YOU !! All should be available by fall, if not sooner.

LogIn and you're on the LISTEN channel. You can listen to all radios and folks on the channel or mute some if you want.

You can talk to a member and you both move to the SMFNA Chat channel to chat off line.

You can move to one of the SMFNA radio channels and Talk over either set of repeaters, since they will be linked. Here you can see that SM653-Westboro in on SMFNA Talk Ch 1&3.

You can see who else is logged in on any of the channels.

