



The SPARC

Amateur Radio - Communicating Worldwide for A Century

Newsletter of the Boston Amateur Radio Club

Serving Hams in the Greater Boston Area

July 2014 - VOLUME 26, NUMBER 7

www.barc.org - w1bos@arrl.net



Message from the President – Joe Chapman, NV1W

One of the pleasures of being President of BARC is that I find myself charged with extending thanks so often. Club activities from Field Day to the weekly net happen because of the dedication and talent of our members. Given the frequency with which the first application of power to a circuit I've built results in ominous wisps of blue smoke, we should all be relieved that I'm not the one directing the assembly of the R7 vertical antenna.

Now that Field Day 2014 is behind us, I want to thank everyone who showed up, especially those who helped with setup and teardown. This is the second year we've enjoyed a visit from former BARC President Tom, KB1P. This was the first year for Robert, W1RJF; when he told me he'd be able to show up on Sunday, he cheerfully added, "so at least I'll be able to help clean up." I'm glad that he was able to operate for a while, as well as for his help cleaning up!

Hank, K1QK, a club stalwart in so many ways, is a Field Day fixture, as is Nathaniel, KB1QHX, whose great good humor and magical ability to produce exactly the cable or adapter one is looking for amazes me. It was Nathaniel and I who manned the satellite station this year with Blake, K1BTH's, new TS-2000. No QSO, though we heard a clear CQ just as the last practical satellite pass was setting to the south. Next year for sure!

My fellow MBTA victim, Linda, NA1I, joined me in braving public transportation; Bill, W1OHM, lugged his colossal rig down from New Hampshire and racked up plenty of points with it.

Three people deserve special mention. Without Joe, N1QD's, technical expertise, Field Day probably wouldn't get off the ground. Putting what is essentially four shacks in one building presents a special set of challenges, and I'm glad we have someone so capable to deal with them. Joe is also probably responsible for most of the QSOs we make and a most skilled operator from whom I've learned a great deal.

Finally, we all owe so much to the Duffs, Mark, KB1EKN, and Geri, KB1ISG. Geri went on a media blitz this year, including an interview on FM station WATD, and cooked and took care of us all at the Fire Museum. Mark was Mr Field Day, pure and simple. His dedication, hard work, and attention to a million details made the weekend a success. Mark does everything from worrying about the generator to getting ropes up in the trees to storing all the club's stuff until SKYWARN Recognition Day, a vast amount of work. Thank you, Mark and Geri.

On WRTC weekend I'm heading up on my bicycle to Lobstercon, the annual QRP/camping weekend in Maine, so if you see blue smoke drifting over Casco Bay you'll know I've just powered up another homebrew project. Have a good summer and 73!

Joe Chapman, NV1W

No General Meeting in July or August!

BARC takes the months of July and August off. Enjoy your summer, and we will see you in September!

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Simplex: 147.420

443.550 (+) CTCSS 110.9

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Field Day 2014 – Joe Harris, N1QD

Field Day 2014 started much as they have for the past five years. An advance team made preparations at the Bare Cove Fire Museum in Hingham on Friday afternoon to help antennas go up more easily the next day. Early Saturday morning, club members began assembling at the Museum to get BARC's Field Day operations off the ground. A new antenna layout was used to ensure coverage of all bands 80 – 6:



Antenna Layout at the BCFM

The antennas used this year were:

- 80: Off-center fed dipole
- 40: Dipole
- 20, 15, 10: Cushcraft R7 Vertical with Triplexer
- 6: Dipole

Bandpass filters were used on all HF bands to reduce interference. The triplexer on the R7 was used in addition to the filters to allow multiple stations to use the same antenna on 10, 15, and 20 simultaneously. BARC entered Field Day in the 3A class, which allowed for 3 simultaneous HF transmitters as well as a single VHF-only station.

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Raising the R7 vertical antenna

One of the new things BARC attempted at Field Day this year was a satellite contact. It had been close to a decade since there had been a satellite station, and Joe NV1W decided to take the lead. He plotted promising satellite passes, and brought along an Arrow dual band Yagi antenna. With assistance from Nathaniel KB1QHX, they attempted QSOs using SO-50, VO-52 and FO-29. Unfortunately, they were unable to complete a satellite QSO, but this left us with a goal for 2015!



NV1W (L) and KB1QHX track a satellite

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On the HF side, 40 and 20 continue to be the "money bands" for Field Day. A large majority of all the club's contacts were made on those two bands. In particular, 40 was busy during the entire event. The higher bands did not produce anywhere near as much activity. There were a handful of QSOs on 15 and zero made on 10. Nonetheless, BARC still had its highest QSO total ever at the Bare Cove Fire Museum, and the most since 2002, when we entered in the 6A category from Larz Anderson Park in Brookline!

Final QSO Totals

	CW	DIGITAL	PHONE	TOTAL
80	3	0	31	34
40	368	10	24	402
20	139	6	49	194
15	10	0	11	21
10	0	0	0	0
6	0	0	7	7
TOTAL	520	16	122	658



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BARC Meeting Calendar for 2014

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings will take place at the Brookline Police Headquarters; the map is later in this newsletter.

General Meetings

February 19 ~~Wed 7:30 pm~~
March 19 ~~Wed 7:30 pm~~
April 17 ~~Thu 7:30 pm~~ **at the Clay Center in Brookline**
May 15 ~~Thu 7:30 pm~~
June 19 ~~Thu 7:30 pm~~
September 18 Thu 7:30 pm
October 16 Thu 7:30 pm
November 20 Thu 7:30 pm

VE Sessions

April 14 ~~Mon 7:30 pm~~
July 14 ~~Mon 7:30 pm~~
October 13 Mon 7:30 pm

Business Meetings

March 6 ~~Thu 7:30 pm~~ **at the Cambridgeside Galleria Food Court**
June 5 ~~Thu 7:30 pm~~
September 4 Thu 7:30 pm
December 4 Thu 7:30 pm

BARC Net Preamble

The control operator for the BARC Net is Joe, W1JJF. He rarely misses a net, but when he does any ham can take up the position and run the net. To assist you in opening and closing the net The BARC Net Preamble is printed below. Do not be afraid to step up and take the challenge.

Is there any further business for the repeater before we begin the Boston Amateur Radio Club Net? This is <<YOUR CALL>>. Calling the Boston Amateur Radio Club Net. This is <<YOUR CALL>>, my name is <<YOUR NAME>> and I am located in <<YOUR TOWN>>. This net meets each Monday evening at 9 pm Eastern Time on the 145.230 Boston repeater, PL 88.5. This net is an informal round table discussion concerning matters of interest to the members of the Boston Amateur Radio Club and the Boston Amateur Radio community in general. When checking into the net, please say, "this is" and drop your carrier to check on doubling. Then give your call sign, name and location. All amateurs are welcome to join the net. Any check-in's for the Boston Amateur Radio Club Net please call now.

[Compile the list of the check-in's and proceed with the net.]

Is there any further business for the net before I close? Hearing nothing, this is <<YOUR CALL>> closing tonight's session of the Boston Amateur Radio Club Net. I would like to thank everyone who participated in the net and those who stood by while I ran the net. The Boston Amateur Radio Club Net will return next Monday evening at 9 pm Eastern Time. This is <<YOUR CALL>> returning the repeater to general amateur use. 73.

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BARC Public Service Events for 2014 - Brett Smith, AB1RL

The Boston Amateur Radio Club organizes hams to provide communications support to several charitable and athletic events in the area. Volunteering at these events is a great way to be active in the hobby: we demonstrate how amateur radio serves the community, and learn a lot about effective communication. Every event has positions that can be filled by new volunteers, and the equipment requirements are very modest. You just need a solid handheld and aftermarket antenna.

To learn more about volunteering, or to sign up for e-mail about upcoming events, please write Brett Smith, AB1RL at <ab1rl@ar1.net>.

- **Sunday, October 12: BAA Half Marathon, Boston**

BARC Badges! -- Joe Chapman, NV1W

Rick, NV5A, the Sign Man of Baton Rouge, is now offering BARC badges. They're full-color plastic badges with our logo and your call sign and first name, at a basic price of \$11.50 for a badge with a safety pin fastener. Rick was a great help in designing a badge for us, and he does good work and ships promptly.

We have not yet been added to the club page (go to <www.thesignman.com>, click on "Club & Group Items", then click on "Other Clubs & Organizations") but we should be soon. In the meantime you can contact him directly and mention the Boston Amateur Radio Club.

Communications Receivers For Sale

Dick, N1SZE has multiple communications receivers available for sale. All radios are located in Brockton. Email <rasjan@aol.com> for more information.

DX-394 COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVER: Radio Shack Cat # 20-224A: Basic staple of SWL's for years, covers 150kHz - 29.999 MHz, in excellent condition, has original box, manual and telescopic antenna. Features direct and manual tuning, jacks for headphones, recorder and external speaker. Operates on 115V or 12VDC. Asking \$100 or BRO

JRC NRD-535D: High Grade Communications receiver, 0.1 to 30MHz. RTTY, SSB, CW. AM, FM. 200 channel memory, RS-232 interface, smooth as glass tuning, original manual. Options installed: cfl-243 BWC, cmf-78 ECSS unit, and cfl-233IF filter. In top condition inside and out. Plenty of detailed info on line. \$625 or BRO

JRC NRD-345: Covers 100kHz to 30 MHz. Radio is in excellent condition and comes in original box with original manual. Comes with Original AC power pack. Equipped with 100 memory channels, has RS-232 interface, tunes in 5 or 10 Hz steps, smooth rotary tuning or direct entry. Pickup, meet, or shipping available. Asking \$400 or BRO

JRC NRD-525: Multi Mode tunes 90kHz to 34 MHz. It is in top condition. Four independent filters, tune via manual, direct, or scan. 200 memory channels, lots of info on web. Flywheel type smooth tuning system, notch filter, 10 Hz digital display. Pickup, meet, or shipping available. Asking \$575 or BRO



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I See the Future

Note: There are no BARC meetings in July or August.

17 Aug	MIT Flea (Cambridge)
24 Aug	NoBARC Flea (N. Adams)
4 Sep	BARC Business Meeting
18 Sep	BARC General Meeting
21 Sep	MIT Flea (Cambridge)
10-11 Oct	NEARFest (Deerfield NH)
12 Oct	BAA Half Marathon (Boston) (Rp)
13 Oct	BARC VE Session
20 Oct	MIT Flea (Cambridge)

(Rp) = BARC Repeater likely to be used

As you might expect, there are many more events (public service, hamfests, flea markets, etc.) taking place - some only peripheral to ham radio. For information on these, covering much of the Northeast, the "Ham - Electronic Flea Market" and the "PSLIST" lists tell the story. Of course, if you know of an event that would be of interest to the readers, please let the Editor know.

Got a Story? Why Not Share It? -- Joe Harris, N1QD

We are always looking for articles for the newsletter. I have reserved this space for your articles, tips, how-to's, or other ham related information. Send your submissions to the Editor, Joe, N1QD, at <n1qd@n1qd.org>.

Articles for the August issue must be received by August 9.

Businesses Can Advertise Here

The SPARC accepts commercial advertisements. BARC encourages monthly promotion of your products and services which would be of interest to hundreds of our members and others interested in the Amateur Radio Service.

The rates for display advertising are:

1 col x 2 in. (business card)	\$15 per issue
1 col x 2 in. (business card)	\$75 per 6 consecutive months
1 col x 2 in. (business card)	\$125 per 12 consecutive months
1 col x 4 in. (1/2 column)	\$30 per issue
1 col x 9.5 in. (full column)	\$60 per issue

Originals of ads must be presented to the Editor in MS Word or .jpg format to print 1:1. Other composition will be at extra cost. We will be glad to quote other ad sizes and durations. Members are urged to seek prospective advertisers who are appropriate to our readers. For additional information, contact Joe Harris, N1QD, at 781.844.8684 or <n1qd@n1qd.org>; or Bob Salow at <wa1ida@arrrl.net> or 508.650.9440.

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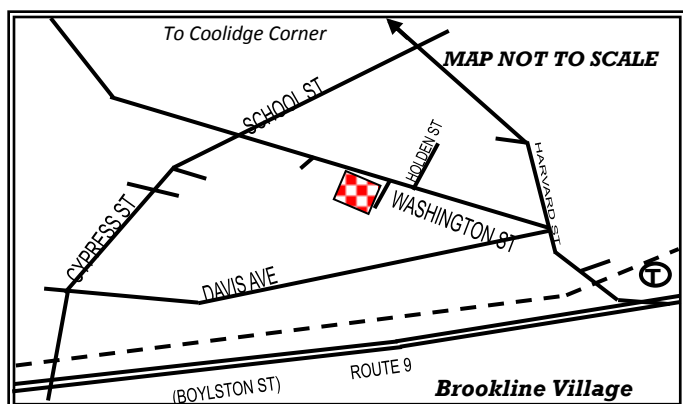
Quarterly Business Meetings -- Bob Salow, WA1IDA


As the Bylaws require, BARC has Business meetings quarterly. Unless circumstances warrant, BARC Business meetings will be held on the first Thursdays of December, March, June, and September. The next such meeting will be on **4 September 2014** at the Brookline Police headquarters. All members are urged to attend and participate in club affairs. This is where club functions are discussed and decided, and your help is needed to guide us.

A short opening period of each General meeting will continue to be used to bring any immediate business matters to everyone's attention.

To provide continuity of club business between meetings we also have a virtual business meeting via an email list. Any member interested in the affairs of the club can ask to be on this virtual meeting list – just give your name, call and your email address to President Joe Chapman, NV1W.

Directions to the Brookline Police Headquarters, 350 Washington Street, Brookline MA





The Clay Center Observatory
Welcomes BARC members

www.claycenter.org

Public Astronomy Nights, Astronomy Day Events,
Amateur Radio Classes, Amateur Radio Youth Club,
Community and Adult Education, Weather Festival,
Science Lecture Series, Educational Outreach

20 Newton St., Brookline, near Larz Anderson Park

BARC Volunteer Exam Sessions

The Boston Amateur Radio Club schedule has been revised to suit the needs and interests of the applicants and examiners. **The 2013 exam session schedule is shown elsewhere in this newsletter issue.** Generally, sessions are held at Brookline Police Headquarters, 350 Washington St in the Community Room (across from the information desk). A map is shown above.


We give all exams (Technician, General, and Extra). *Testing is by reservation only.* Please bring the following with you:

- Your current license and a photocopy for the ARRL, if you are upgrading
- Any CSEs you are claiming, and a photocopy of them
- Valid ID (picture ID preferred)
- A pen and a calculator (if you want to)
- **\$15.00** (good for all the tests you take at that session, except for retests)

Note: Written tests can be taken sequentially at the same session for the same \$15 fee. The needed FCC forms will be provided.

To reserve a seat or for further information, contact:
Jim Clogher, N1ICN, <n1icn@arrrl.net> or Linda Blair, NA1I, <na1i@arrrl.net>.

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Your Personal Ad Could Have Been Here

Are you a depressed BARC member because you have a treasure you must turn to cash? Cheer up, Bunky! *The SPARC* will run your (non-business) ad for free. Of course, a 10% donation if you sell it will be cheerfully accepted. Just send your ad to the Editor, Joe Harris, at <n1qd@n1qd.org>.

BARC Officers and Staff

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The Boston Amateur Radio Club is a non-commercial association of persons interested in the Amateur Radio Service. The Club is organized for the promotion of interest in Amateur Radio communication and education, for the establishment of emergency communications in the event of disasters or other emergencies, for the advancement of the radio art and the public welfare, for the representation of the radio amateur in legislative and regulatory matters, and for the maintenance of collegiality and a high standard of conduct.

The Club is open to all persons interested in Amateur Radio without regard to race, color, religion, creed, national origin, gender, disability, or sexual preference. Our General and Business meeting locations are handicap accessible. Other meeting and activity locations may be handicap accessible by arrangement.

The Club is an ARRL-affiliated Special Service Club, and is a member of the Council of Eastern Massachusetts Amateur Radio Clubs (CEMARC) and the New England Spectrum Management Council (NESMC). The Club is also an associate member of the Courage HandiHams system.

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Greater Boston Net Directory

Daily 5:30 pm	Eastern Mass/Rhode Island Phone Net (NTS)	3.915
Daily 7 pm	MARI (Mass/Rhode Island CW Net) (NTS)	3.658
Daily 8 pm	Eastern Mass 2M Traffic Net (NTS)	145.230 (PL 88.5)
Daily 8 pm	Slow Speed CW Net	28.160
Daily 10:00 pm	Heavy Hitters Traffic Net (NTS)	MMRA-linked repeaters: 146.610, 146.670, 146.715, 146.820, and all 222 and 440 repeaters
First Mon 8:30 pm	EMA Section ARES Net	146.610 and all MMRA links
Mon 9 pm	BARC Club Net	145.230 (PL 88.5)
Tue 8 pm	MMRA Club Net	146.610 and all MMRA links
Wed 8 pm	Wellesley Amateur Radio Society Net	147.030; 444.600 (PL 88.5)
Wed 9 pm	HHTN Swap Net	146.640 (PL 136.5)
Sat 9 am	Northeast SATERN Net	7.265
Sun 9:30 am	Yankee SSB Net	50.275
Sun 8 pm	Algonquin Amateur Radio Club Net	446.675 (PL 88.5)
Sun 8:30 pm	NSRA Net (with Newsline)	145.470 (PL 136.5)
Sun 9 pm	CAARAnet	145.130 (PL 107.2)

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