

# The SPARC

Volume XII, Number 5; May 2000 Newsletter of the Boston Amateur Radio Club http://www.barc.org/barc Email: w1bos@arrl.net



## Our President Speaks

Ed Hennessy N1PBA

It's hard to believe it's May already! Since elections will be coming up at the June General Meeting, let me take a couple of lines to thank everyone who has helped me and the club out over the past two years. I won't name names, since I'd likely forget someone and therefore do them an injustice. But you know who you are. We could not have gotten things done with a lot of those 'behind the scenes' items that happen almost daily. My sincere thanks to everyone.

If you haven't helped out or attended meetings recently, why? I am asking to point a finger at me, not at you. Let me or the other officers know if there's something you'd like to do but the club has not done, or if you find that your schedule doesn't allow you to attend BARC events, or whatever. We'd like to know so we can make things easier for you to participate.

May's General Meeting will be a little out of the ordinary. One, we will talk about Field Day and help to nail down activities and needs a little more (by the way, the committee has been hard at work, and considering that FD almost didn't happen this year, a LOT has already been accomplished!). Second, we'd like to have another "Net Control 101" but instead conduct that training at the General Meeting. If you are part of the BARC Emergency Response Team, this will be an *excellent* opportunity to get a chance to find out how to be net control. When ('if will be unlikely, I am pretty sure) an emergency occurs, we need more than just those who can go to a site with an HT. The important part of all of this communicating is the 'traffic cop' of net control. A net control station (NCS) is the funnel through which all traffic will pass (but that's a good thing), avoiding chaos. Come to the General Meeting in May and find out how to be a BARC Net NCS--it's easy and painless and will prepare us for emergency communications almost as much as having charged batteries.

If there's time left at the meeting, we will show a Kenwood tape on Slow Scan TV (SSTV), which, if you don't know, was used this year (as in years past) by N1CPE and his crew at the Boston Marathon. If you wonder how that all works, this tape will explain it to you. If we don't get to see it, perhaps you can borrow it from the club and view it on your own.

We're always in need of volunteer examiners (VE's) for the club's monthly VE sessions. Even if you can't help the club out a lot otherwise, consider being a VE. We can always use extra VEs, and it will help out those who are testing for new or upgraded licenses. It's easy to become a VE if you are a General class or higher--the ARRL has all of the information, and will send out packets for the asking. Mike Ardai, N1IST or Bob Wondolowski, N1KDA, can also help answer questions.

Hope to see everyone at the General Meeting. Welcome to spring, and 73.

N1PBA

Field Day 2000 Field Pay 2000 Field

## Coming To A Field Near You...

Field Day is an international demonstration of Amateur Radio operating under emergency conditions in the field. BARC sets up complete stations at Larz Anderson Park in Brookline, and you are invited to help and operate on any band. It's a round the clock event - from setting up at 10 am on **Saturday, 24 June** to the end after 2 pm on **Sunday, 25 June**. It's fun and it's a chance to operate on bands your license may not allow. Your help is also needed, so don't be afraid to ask the Field day Chair, Mike Coffey, KB1EZL, any club officer, or a member of the Executive Committee for information. It's a picnic, too, so bring your friends and relatives and introduce them to the *real* ham radio. More details will appear next month, but check your calendar *now*.

Field Day 2000 Field Pay 2000 Field

#### Nominating Committee Formed Club Officers Needed

BARC will elect our club officers, President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, at the June 2000 meeting. This year's nominations committee is Frank Murphy, N1DHW, and Paul Carter, N1TMF. All nominations for all club officers can be given to them, either at meetings or via email, and members can nominate themselves.

Paul Carter	n1tmf@pvctronics.com
Frank Murphy	n1dhw@mediaone.net

### How Would You Like To Tour A Real TV Station?

Frank Murphy N1DHW

I contacted WGBH requesting a tour for BARC members, reminding them we do the Ice Cream Festival for them. They said they would be happy to oblige us during any weekday, but nights and weekends would be a problem for them. We just need to tell them a date (with a few weeks notice) and how many. I did request that it be an operational tour, not the usual building, programming tour since we are *hams*. hi hi

So, if you're interested, and have time on a weekday, please let me know by e- mail, or on the air as soon as possible so I can confirm a date with them. At the last BARC meeting, several members expressed an interest to go. You are welcome to join us!

Please E-Mail to n1dhw@mediaone.net

#### **BARC Monthly Breakfast**

Every month, BARC has a social breakfast on the second Sunday of the month, which is May 14 next month. We'll be meeting at the Old Country Buffet at the Watertown Mall at 8:30am. They are *very* good, offering an extensive breakfast buffet, costing \$6.35 per person.

We just intend to get together, socialize and eat, without having any formal club events or business. Family and friends of club members are welcome also. If you are not a BARC member, you too are invited to meet with us and see what we're all about.

The Old Country Buffet is in the Watertown Mall, on Arsenal St. in Watertown. From Memorial Drive continue on Greenough Boulevard to the Watertown exit, and then turn right onto Arsenal St. There is plenty of mall parking. The #70 T bus from Central Square Cambridge to Watertown Square stops right at the Watertown Mall. Hope to see all of you there – and bring your appetite!

## Marathon Tidbits

Bob Salow WA1IDA

In case you missed it, the 104th running of the Boston Marathon passed you by on 17 April. Most of the 160 hams that volunteered said it was one of the best events they have participated in. It took major efforts from Ed, K1EP, Keith, N1HLK, Mike, N1IST and Bob, WA1IDA and others to make it happen. More importantly, the organizations we served, from the Boston Athletic Association on down, were very pleased and complimentary.

From 0500 to 1830, ten VHF and UHF repeaters were used much of the time. Hams at the Red Cross First Aid Stations called for 15 ambulances, and there were several calls for medical assistance from Water Stations. The weather pattern along the 26 miles was only slightly below ideal for the runners. While it was a bit chilly for the hams, the runners had fewer than average medical problems along the route.

Coming event: the 105th running of the Boston Marathon will be on 16 April 2001. The field will be smaller than this year, but still larger than recent past years. If you have not worked the Boston Marathon in 1999 or 2000, it's not too early to get on the mailing list for 2001 information. Participation requires minimal experience with ham public service or emergency events. If you don't yet have that experience, be sure to volunteer for one of the many other public service events coming up.

Hams from all New England states and New York volunteered for this premier public service event. Your help is needed. Contact Bob Salow, WA1IDA, by phone at 508.650.9440 or email **walida@arrl.net**. He needs your name, call sign, mailing address, home phone, and email address. If you contact him early, and anything changes, be sure to get the change to him. Late in 2000 you will receive the registration and other information. Volunteer hams who have not worked the 2000 Boston Marathon must attend one of the briefing sessions to be held in the weeks before the 2001 Boston Marathon.

#### Walk For Multiple Sclerosis - A Good Job

Bob Salow WA1IDA

The day started cold and rainy, but it cleared up to cold and sunny. The weather was bad enough for the sponsor to shorten the walk course from 10 K to 5K (unfortunately, the portable toilets were now outside the shortened course). That was the price for moving the MS Walk from May to April. Hams are resilient, so on Sunday, 9 April, we dressed properly and met the occasion - as we have for many years. The Walk Director, Adrienne Marani, praised our service extensively. Participating were:

Tony	N1OBL
Bill	KA1MOM
Arthur	N1NHZ
Henry	N1RBY
Mark	KB1EKN

Jay	N9XOG
Rick	N1IWE
Mike	N1IST
Bob	WA1IDA
Ed	N1VSJ

#### Success At The Aviation Expo

For the sixth year, BARC has supported the Aviation Expo at Logan Airport with resounding success. This event on Tuesday, 11 April 2000 was an introduction to careers in aviation and technical fields for school children from elementary through high school. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the Massachusetts Pre-Engineering Program (MassPEP) sponsor aviation Expo.

About 3000 students were bussed in two shifts to a United Airlines hangar at Logan. Many took an interest in our ham radio displays and the literature we had available. Perhaps more significant, there were 40 teachers who expressed an interest, not only in ham radio, but also in using it as a teaching tool. Their names will be referred to ARRL HQ for educational support. The names will also be sent to the appropriate ARRL Section Managers for local contact.

The hams participating were:

Arthur	N1NHZ
Rowe	N1GIE
Bob	N1ENS
Bert	N1MXO
Rick	N1HID
Frank	N1DHW
Bill	N1VUX
Bob	WA1IDA

#### New And Old Hams Join ARRL

It's time to join the ARRL, the National Organization for Amateur Radio. Spectrum protection, legal support, technical help, international representation, and *QST* are only a few of the benefits. Restructuring has encouraged a rush of new hams, and we want you on the inside.

The vast majority of BARC members are ARRL members. Whether you are joining ARRL for the first time, or are renewing, please sign up through BARC. In either case, **make your check out to BARC** and give it and the ARRL membership form to the BARC Treasurer. He will handle the rest, and you will get all the benefits.

#### Badge, Anyone?

As all members should know, BARC provides a call sign identification badge for all licensed members at no charge. Upon joining the club the badges are eagerly awaited. OK, so why are badges lying around with no ham to pin them on? The answer is simple, but the reasons may not be.

The badges are made in batches, so a new member may experience a wait of a few weeks or months (depending on the production cycle). The accumulated badges are then brought to club meetings for distribution. *You must attend a meeting to get your badge!* It's not much of an inducement, but besides, you will find the meetings informative, fun and a helpful exchange between you and the other members. Mailing badges is cost prohibitive, so now you know how to get yours.

If you change your call sign, or otherwise have a change for your badge, tell the Keeper of the Database, WA1IDA, and a new badge will be ordered.

#### Need The History Of Your License?

Those electing to contact FCC archives contractor, ITS Inc., to document having held an amateur license in the past are advised to telephone ITS instead of e-mailing. For a fee, ITS will research prior licensing records and should be able to provide you with the necessary documentary proof.

Call ITS at 717.337.1433 to place an order (e.g., for verification of a pre-March 21, 1987, amateur license). The verification letter you receive will be on FCC stationery and stamped with the FCC seal. The ITS Web site is **http://www.itsdocs.com**. Credit card orders are welcome.

#### **May General Meeting**

This month's general meeting will be held at the Boston Back Bay Salvation Army Building, at 7:30 PM, Thursday May 18. This month, we will be talking about the upcoming Field Day and club elections (which occur in June.)

BARC General meetings are held at the Boston Back Bay Salvation Army Building, corner of Berkeley St. and Columbus Ave. near Copley Square, in the second floor auditorium.

Parking is available; the entrance to the parking lot is from Columbus Ave. (across the street from the firehouse). It is also T accessible; the nearest T stations are Back Bay on the Orange and Purple lines (exit the rear of the station by the busway and walk down Columbus) and Copley or Arlington on the Green line (use the Berkeley Street exit). A map appears on page 7 of the newsletter.

#### **Future General Meeting Dates**

(Third Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.)

15 June 2000 20 July 2000 17 August 2000 21 September 2000 19 October 2000 16 November 2000

#### **Useful Places on the ARRL Web**

The ARRL Regulatory Information Branch (RIB) just put up a new RFI package at: http://www.arrl.org/field/regulations/rfi-legal/

Information on FCC's license restructuring, along with options for upgrading can be found at: http://www.arrl.org/news/restructuring/

The new license question pools for use on or after 15 April are located here:

http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/pools.html

Watch the ARRL web site and the *ARRL Letter* for information on the new certification program.

Make sure to check out the "What's New" section every time you visit the ARRL web site to catch the most recently added items: http://www.arrl.org/whatsnew/

Thanks to Tom Frenaye, K1KI, ARRL New England Division Director k1ki@arrl.org

### Minutes of the Boston Amateur Radio Club Business Meeting

May 4, 2000

Recorded by Michael Ardai, N1IST, BARC Secretary

Present were:

Secretary
Membership Services and ERT
leader
SPARC Editor
Treasurer
Field Day chair
Vice President
President
Public Service

The meeting was called to order at approximately 1840

May meeting topics will be Field Day, the upcoming BARC election, and some special videos.

The nominating committee of N1TMF and N1DHW has been selected. They will present their report at the May general meeting, and nominations from the floor will be open from the May general meeting thru the elections in June.

We need more VEs to help out, especially Extra-class VEs

How can we make BARC Net NCS more attractive? Recommend that BARC ERT volunteers do it for training.

N1DHW is working on a tour of WGBH - probably during the week.

Field Day was discussed, and funds budgeted. We have received confirmation from Brookline Parks and Recreation for the use of Larz Anderson. KB1EZL is doing a great job with the planning, but needs more volunteers to help organize stations, especially someone with HF multi or contesting experience.

I will get the March and April SPARCs on line shortly. Right now we are fighting Adobe/Win2K issues...

We received a thank-you letter from the Salvation Army for our help at the Newton fire.

There will be a Doug Flutie Jr Foundation for Autism 5K run on 5/21 in Natick and Dover - contact WA1IDA if you can help out.

There will be an ARES workshop on the North Shore in August and on the Cape in October. SKYWARN training soon, probably in Lexington.

The barc.org domain has been renewed - thanks to K9HI for the donation.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2012.

The Boston Amateur Radio Club holds its monthly Business meeting on the first Thursday of each month. The next one will be on Thursday, June 1 in the food court of the Cambridgeside Galleria Mall in Cambridge. We meet at 6:30pm in the lower level, down by the windows facing the lagoon.

This is where the real business of BARC is conducted. If you have any suggestions, questions, or comments, this is where to bring them. All members are welcome (and encouraged) to join us at this meeting.

#### **Future Business Meeting Dates**

(First Thursday at 6:30 p.m.)

6 July 2000 3 August 2000 7 September 2000 5 October 2000 2 November 2000

#### **BARC Growth**

It's a rare month when we fail to add a few new members. Periodically we publish their names so that you can give them a special welcome. There may also be some long lost members who rejoin, so greet them, too.

Elliot Belin	K1PAV	Upgrade to General
Marty Connor	KB1FBB	New Tech Plus
Bob Mahoney	KB1FBA	New Tech
Dan Malloy	KA1RDZ	Upgrade to Extra
Bill McIninch	KA1MOM	Upgrade to General
Joe Scully	K1SQT	
Lou Studebaker	WA1FJI	
Bob Wilson		New Tech

In addition, we would like to note here any call sign changes you have made, and honor all members who upgrade. If you fit any of these categories, please promptly notify the Keeper of the Database, Bob Salow, WA1IDA at 508.650.9440 or email: **wa1ida@arrl.net**.

#### Who Are We?

On May 3, 2000 BARC had a total of 140 members. 132 lived in Massachusetts, 8 elsewhere. 33 were Extra class, 19 Advanced class, 19 General class, 35 were Technician Plus class, 27 were Technician class, 2 were Novice class and 5 were not licensed hams. 99 were regular ARRL members, 13 were ARRL Life members and 28 were not ARRL members. 27 were on packet, 114 were on e-mail and 27 were on both.

#### Upgrades 'R' Us

Without going into details, which are covered elsewhere, the FCC restructuring is likely to result in license upgrades for some of us. If you are one of the lucky (clever?) ones, please keep our database up to date. *Regardless of whether you change call sign*, an upgrade is an upgrade. Please notify the Keeper of the Database, Bob Salow, WA1IDA.

#### **BARC VE Session**

The Boston Amateur Radio Club holds its monthly VE session on the second Monday of each month. The next session will be at 7pm on Monday, June 12 at the Pierce School at 50 School Street in Brookline, Room 110 next to the cafeteria.

There is a free parking garage at the circular driveway. If driving, enter School Street from the Washington street side (opposite 394 Washington,) rather than from Harvard Street. Check:

#### http://www.barc.org/barc/school\_map.gif

for more info. This map also appears on page 7 of this newsletter.

For those traveling via public transportation, take the "D" branch of the Green Line to the Brookline Village station. Walk north

along Harvard Street 0.2 miles to School Street then turn left. The Pierce School is on the left. The #66 bus runs on Harvard Street, crossing School Street.

Talk in on 145.23(-), PL 88.5.

We give all exams (Novice thru Extra, CW and written), and you don't need to pre-register. Please bring the following with you:

- Your current license *and a photocopy for the ARRL*, if you are upgrading
- Any CSCE's you are claiming, and a photocopy of them
- Valid ID (picture ID preferred)
- A pen and a calculator (if you want to)
- \$6.65 (good for all the tests you take at that session, except for retests). Novice exams are free. *Novice exams will not be given after this month's session.*

The needed FCC forms will be provided.

For further information, contact Bob Wondolowski N1KDA (508) 865 5822 wondobob@juno.com

#### Future Exam Dates

(Second Mondays at 7:00 pm)

10 July 2000 14 August 2000 11 September 2000 9 October 2000 (Yom Kippur) 13 November 2000

#### **BARC Net Preamble**

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 145.23 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 checkins for the Boston Amateur Radio Club net please call now.

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.

## Boston Marathon 2000 Antenna Installation (Is the antenna cockeved, or is the installer?)

Is the antenna cockeyed, or is the installer?)



#### I See the Future

12-13 May	Hoss Traders Flea (Rochester NH)
14 May	BARC Breakfast
18 May	BARC General Meeting
19-21 May	Hamvention and ARRL National Convention
	(Dayton OH)
20 May	RIFMRS Flea+Auc (Forestdale RI)
21 May	MIT Flea
21 May	Flutie Foundation 5K Race
1 Jun	BARC Business Meeting
4 Jun	NARL Flea (Newington CT)
10 Jun	Falmouth ARA Flea (E Falmouth)
15 Jun	BARC General Meeting
18 Jun	MIT Flea
24-25 Jun	Field Day

15 July	NE Antique RC (Nashua NH)
16 July	MIT Flea
13 Aug	Mohawk ARC Flea (Orange)
20 Aug	MIT Flea
26-27 Aug	ARRL NE Div Conv (Boxboro)
9-10 Sept	WGBH Ice Cream FunFest
10 Sept	SEMARA Flea (S Dartmouth)
17 Sept	MIT Flea
6-7 Oct	Hoss Traders Flea (Rochester NH)

#### (**Rp**) = Repeater may 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 New England and some of New York, the "Ham - Electronic Flea Market" and the "PSLIST" lists tell the story. They are posted by e-mail to barc-list and on PBBSs regularly. If needed, contact any club member who has access to these.

#### Several Hundred Boston Area Hams Could Be Reading Your Ad Right Now

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

Rates for display advertising are:

1 col x 2 in. (business card)	\$10 per issue
1 col x 2 in. (business card)	\$50 per 6 consecutive months
1 col x 2 in. (business card)	\$90 per 12 consecutive months
1 col x 4 in. (1/2 col)	\$20 per issue
1 col x 9.5 in. (full col)	\$40 per issue

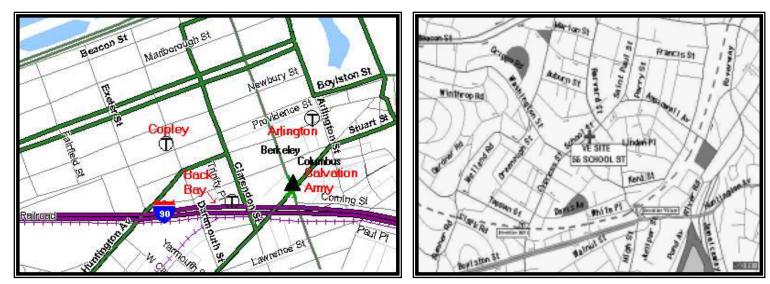
Originals of ads must be presented to the Editor in MS Word or .jpg format to print 1:1. Other composition will be at extra cost. We will be glad to quote other ad sizes and durations.

Members are urged to seek prospective advertisers who are appropriate to our readers.

For additional information, contact Paul Carter at **n1tmf@pvctronics.com** or 617.232.6982; or Bob Salow at **wa1ida@arrl.net** or 508.650.9440.

#### Your Ad Could Have Been Here

Are you a depressed BARC member because you have a treasure you must turn to cash and you couldn't make it to the last flea market? Well, cheer up, Bunky! The SPARC will run your (nonbusiness) ad for free. Of course, a 10% donation if you sell it (and of course you will) will be cheerfully accepted. Just send your ad to Editor Paul Carter, N1TMF.



General Meeting – Boston Salvation Army Corner of Berkeley St. and Columbus Ave. VE Session – Pierce School 50 School Street, Brookline, Room 110 next to the cafeteria

#### BARC Officers and Staff

President: Ed Hennessy, N1PBA; Vice President: Dick Doherty; KA1TUZ Secretary: Mike Ardai, N1IST; Treasurer: Jim Clogher, N1ICN, Vol Exams: Bob Wondolowski, N1KDA; Membership: Arthur Ashley, N1NHZ; Public Service: Bob Salow, WA1IDA; Newsletter Editor: Paul Carter, N1TMF; 781.391.8257; n1pba@qsl.net; N1PBA@KA1TUZ 617.969.4880; kaltuz@gis.net; KA1TUZ@KA1TUZ 617.738.8652; n1ist@netcom.com; N1IST@K1UGM 617.364.4658; n1icn@gis.net; N1ICN@KA1TUZ 508.865.5822, wondobob@juno.com 617.661.2988, n1nhz@arrl.net 508.650.9440; wa1ida@arrl.net 617 232 6982; n1tmf@pvctronics.com

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 a participant in Partnerships Advancing Technical Hobbies Which Attract Youth to Science (PATHWAYS). The Club is also an associate member of the Courage Handi-Hams system.

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Greater Boston Net Directory		
daily 5:30pm	Eastern Mass/Rhode Island Phone Net (NTS)	3.915
daily 7 and 10pm	Eastern Mass/Rhode Island CW Net (NTS)	3.658
daily 8pm	Eastern Mass 2M Traffic Net (NTS)	145.23 (PL 88.5)
daily 8pm	Slow Speed CW Net	28.160
daily 10:30pm	Heavy Hitters' Traffic Net (NTS)	146.64
M 9pm	BARC Club Net	145.23 (PL 88.5)
Tu 8pm	MMRA Club Net	146.61 and all MMRA links
Tu 9pm	EMA Public Safety Net	145.23 (PL 88.5)
Tu 9pm	NETARC Satellite Net W1ME (ex K1MON)/NCS	446.575 (PL 88.5)
W 8pm	Wellesley Amateur Radio Society Net	147.03
W 9pm	HHTN Swap Net	146.64
Th 8:30pm	Amsat Net N1OHJ/NCS	146.64
F 9pm	SATERN Net	145.23 (PL 88.5)
Su 9:30am	Yankee SSB Net (6M)	50.275
Su 3:30pm	Youth Net	3.970
Su 7pm	Algonquin Amateur Radio Club Net	53.470 (PL 100.0/71.9), 223.860 (PL 241.8), 446.675 (PL 88.5)
Su 8:30pm	NSRA Net (with Newsline)	145.47
Su 9:30pm (4 <sup>th</sup> Sun. of Month)	EMA Section ARES Net	146.61 and all MMRA links