



The SPARC

Amateur Radio - Communicating Worldwide for A Century

Newsletter of the Boston Amateur Radio Club

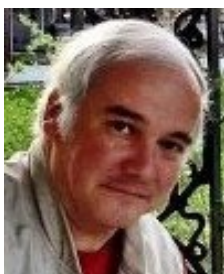
Serving Hams in the Greater Boston Area

September 2018 - VOLUME 30, NUMBER 9

www.barc.org - w1bos@arrl.net



Message from the Editor - Joe Chapman, NV1W



The club has been gradually adjusting to operating without a President. As I was delighted to discover when I held that office, often the club seems to run itself, thanks to the efforts of so many of our members.

One task that usually fell to the President was arranging for speakers at meetings, and this is an area where we could use some help. If you would like to speak at a meeting, or you know of a potential speaker or topic that people would find interesting, please reach out to either Vice President Mark Duff, KB1EKN, or myself.

In an effort to reduce the number of meetings, especially in the winter months when we can't use Brookline Police Headquarters and weather makes travel and parking difficult, the Executive Committee and others attending the September Business meeting decided to merge the quarterly Business meetings with General meetings four times a year. The presiding officer will attempt to keep the business portion of these combined meetings short. With the repeaters in good shape, the financial position of the club solid, and an established routine for SKYWARN Recognition Day, the Holiday Party, and Field Day, we expect that the normal operating needs of the club can be addressed in this more compact format.

Happy operating and 73!

In this Issue of The SPARC

- Field Day Recap
- Repair Cafe in Methuen
- Fall Public Service Opportunities



BARC General Meeting, Thursday, September 20, 7 p.m.

The next General Meeting will be on Thursday, September 20, at 7:30 p.m. at Brookline Police Headquarters in Brookline. This will be a social meeting as no speaker is scheduled.

Repeaters: 145.230 (-) CTCSS 88.5 in/100.0 out

Simplex: 147.420

449.175 (-) DMR CC1

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BARC's Online Discussion Group - Joe Harris, N1QD



BARC has an online forum at Yahoo groups. The Yahoo group serves as a sounding board for members to post their suggestions and comments, and is intended to foster discussion. The group can also be used to share photographs from club events! Come visit us at: <http://groups.yahoo.com/bostonARC>.

Field Day Recap - Joe Harris, N1QD

Early on a Saturday morning, members and friends of the Boston Amateur Radio Club and the Harvard Wireless Club descended on the Bare Cove Fire Museum in Hingham. There were antennas to assemble, ropes to string into trees, a mast to erect, and four stations to get on the air. By lunchtime, there was a triband Yagi up 25 feet on the bluff behind the building, and there were wire antennas strung up for 15, 40, 80, and 6 meters. The stations were built, the computers were networked. All was ready for the bell at 2PM!

Over the next 24 hours, there were 1200+ QSOs made on all bands from 80-6 meters, using phone, CW, and digital modes. CW made up the bulk of the contacts, outpacing phone at a pace about 1.5:1. Digital made up about 4% of the total. As it has in years past, 40 meters was also the band with the most action, contributing almost 40% of all QSOs. 80 and 20 were also good sources of QSOs. 15 was a surprising contributor, an impressive early run of over 100 phone QSOs just after the event started. 10 never really opened much, but the team still managed to pull out 20 CW contacts.

Beyond the QSO points the group earned many bonus points over the weekend. Highlights included running 100% emergency power, making 5 QSOs using solar power, copying the ARRL bulletin, and sending NTS traffic. See the score summary for a full list of all points claimed.



Band	CW	Digital	Phone	Total
160	0	0	0	0
80	144	0	115	259
40	256	33	186	475
20	166	9	21	196
15	135	2	118	255
10	20	0	0	20
6	7	0	15	22
Total QSOs	728	44	455	1227
Points /QSO	2	2	1	
QSO Points	1456	88	455	
Power Multiplier	2			
Total QSO Points	3998			

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Bonus Points	
100% Emergency power	300
Media publicity	100
Public Location	100
NTS Message to SM	100
NTS Message Handling	100
Alternative Power	100
Field Day bulletin	100
Web Submission	50
Social media	100
Total Bonus Points	1050
Total QSO Points	3998
Total Score	5048

Repair Cafe in Methuen - via Andy Stewart, KB1OIQ

[The following was sent by Andy, KB1OIQ, the ARRL EMA Affiliated Club Coordinator.]

I'm a librarian with the Nevins Library in Methuen. On November 10, we're holding our first Repair Cafe. I found you listed as the ARRL Affiliated Club Coordinator, so I thought I'd reach out and see if you know of any members who might be interested in participating in our event as volunteers.

A Repair Cafe is a community event that aims to keep repairable household items out of the trash. Community members bring in their broken stuff and our volunteers take a look at it and see if it can be fixed.

If you know of any ARRL members who might want to participate, I'd love a chance to talk to them. The library would be happy to let them promote the ARRL while they're here, and of course our volunteers would get coffee and donuts. I also know some other folks in the Repair Cafe community if you're interested in more information, and there's a web site <https://repaircafe.org/en/> where you can get more of an idea of what it's about.

Anna Gooding-Call
Reference and Technology Librarian
Nevins Memorial Library
305 Broadway, Methuen, MA
(978)686-4080
nevinslibrary.org

20 Years Ago in *The SPARC* - Joe Chapman, NV1W

In the September, 1998, issue of *The SPARC*, public service opportunities included the Jimmy Fund Walk and the WGBH FunFest — Newton was forming an Emergency Response Team and MEMA announced a Public Safety Fair — At the General Meeting Terry Strader, KA8SCP, was to speak on "Emergency Communications Update for Eastern Massachusetts" — The ARRL launched a members-only website and the Eastern MA section website went live — A Yaesu FT-900 was going for \$1000 — And elsewhere, Larry Page and Sergey Brin incorporated Google.

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Minutes of the September, 2018, Business Meeting - Joe Chapman, NV1W

The Boston Amateur Radio Club held its quarterly Business Meeting on Thursday, September 6, at Brookline Police Headquarters in Brookline. Members attending: KB1EKN, KB1`ISG, N1ICN, NA1I, NV1W, WA1IDA. The meeting was called to order by Vice President Mark Duff, KB1EKN, at 7:32 p.m.

Officer reports: Mark, KB1EKN, reported that we are looking to go to the repeater site sometime in the next month to replace the VHF antenna. Jim, N1ICN, reported that we have \$1851.00 in the Repeater Fund and \$3001.92 in the checking account. Joe, NV1W, noted that we have a balance of nearly \$800 in the PayPal account that we need to work with Mike, N1IST, on getting.

A discussion was held on the topic of meetings. We determined that the bylaws do not mandate separate Business Meetings and agreed by consensus to merge the quarterly Business Meetings with General Meetings four times a year. The President or presiding officer is encouraged to keep the business portion of these combined meetings to one-half hour. We also discussed problems with the Jamaica Plain location used for some meetings in the winter and will consider dropping the General Meeting in February due to the potential for bad weather and parking difficulties.

Joe, NV1W, agreed to draw up a Bylaws amendment reducing the number of mandated meetings to give us more flexibility with scheduling.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

— Respectfully submitted, Joseph Chapman, NV1W, Secretary.

New Members - Joe Chapman, NV1W

We welcome George Kehler, W4BQK, of Arlington, and John Ruser, N3KRL, of Washington, DC, and Cambridge, to BARC.

I also extend our congratulations and a welcome to the hobby to my colleague Bryan Gurney of Framingham, who passed his Technician exam at the Boxboro convention and is awaiting his shiny new call.

Fall Public Service Opportunities - Brett Smith, AB1RL

The Jimmy Fund Walk will be held on Sunday, September 23. This is the Jimmy Fund's annual fundraising walk along the Boston Marathon route. There are positions available to work with a medical team at each rest stop along the route, so there's a variety of locations and volunteer times available. To sign up, just e-mail me at ab1rl-pubserv@brettcsmith.org to let me know, and I'll add you to our roster. Let me know if you have any scheduling requirements or location requests.

BARC Meeting Calendar for 2018

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings will take place at the Brookline Police Headquarters.

General Meetings

September 20	2018	Thu	7:30 pm
October 18	2018	Thu	7:30 pm
November 15	2018	Thu	7:30 pm (<i>Business/General Meeting</i>)

VE Sessions

October 8	2018	Mon	7:30 pm
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New Business/General Meetings – Bob Salow, WA1IDA, and Joe Chapman, NV1W

The Bylaws require that BARC hold four Business meetings per year. In an attempt to streamline our meeting schedule, BARC Business meetings will now be held concurrently with the General meetings in March, June, September, and November. We will attempt to keep the business portion of these combined Business/General meetings to a half hour. The next such combined meeting will be on **November 15, 2018** at Brookline Police Headquarters in Brookline. 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.

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 Secretary Joe Chapman, NV1W.

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-ins 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.

I See the Future

15–16 September	ARRL 10 GHz & Up Contest — Round 2
15–16 September	New Hampshire QSO Party
16 September	Flea at MIT, Cambridge
16 September	North American Sprint, RTTY
20 September	BARC General Meeting, Brookline Police Headquarters, Brookline, 7:30 p.m.
22–23 September	Maine QSO Party
23 September	Jimmy Fund Walk (public service event) (Rp)
29–30 September	ARRL EME — 2.3 GHz & Up
29–30 September	CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY
6 October	Deadline for articles for the October SPARC
7 October	BAA Half Marathon (public service event) (Rp)
8 October	BARC VE Session, Brookline Police Headquarters, Brookline, 7:30 p.m.

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15–19 October	ARRL School Club Roundup
18 October	BARC General Meeting, Brookline Police Headquarters, Brookline, 7:30 p.m.
21 October	Flea at MIT, Cambridge
27–28 October	ARRL EME 50 to 1296 MHz
27–28 October	CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB

▲ **Note change from usual date and/or location**

(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.

For an up-to-date calendar of events, including web links, visit <http://www.barc.org/calendar>.

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 × 2 in. (business card)	\$15 per issue
1 col × 2 in. (business card)	\$75 per 6 consecutive months
1 col × 2 in. (business card)	\$125 per 12 consecutive months
1 col × 4 in. (½ column)	\$30 per issue
1 col × 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 Chapman, NV1W, at 617.267.6349 or nv1w@arrl.net.

See Yourself in Print! (well, PDF) – Joe Chapman, NV1W

We are always looking for articles for the newsletter. I have reserved this space for your articles, reviews, tips, how-tos, hints, kinks, photos, schematics, or other ham related information. Photos of you operating or your shack are especially welcome. Send your submissions to the Editor, Joe, NV1W, at nv1w@arrl.net. Articles for the October issue must be received by October 6.

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 next exam session will be on Monday, October 8, 2018.** Generally, sessions are held at Brookline Police Headquarters, 350 Washington St. in the Community Room (across from the information desk).

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

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- Valid picture ID or two valid non-picture IDs
- 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@arrl.net, or Linda Blair, NA1I, na1i@arrl.net.

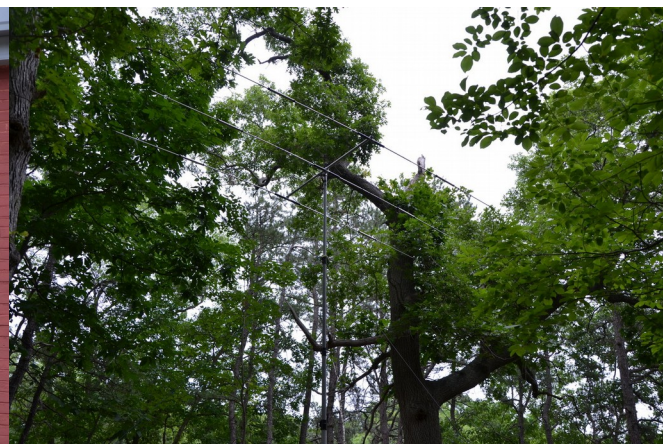
Your Personal Ad Could Have Been Here

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 Joe Chapman, NV1W, nv1w@arrl.net.



NEW ENGLAND SCI-TECH

New England Sci-Tech Inc is a new 501(c)(3) STEM education center, amateur radio training center, and maker space located at 16 Tech Circle, Natick. It is home to New England Amateur Radio Inc (NE1AR) and the youth radio club Sci-Tech Amateur Radio Society (STARS). NE Sci-Tech welcomes memberships and donations via www.NESciTech.org or www.NE1AR.org.



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BARC Officers and Staff

President: (position vacant)

Vice President: Mark Duff, KB1EKN
781.749.7664; emgmt@comcast.net

Secretary: Joe Chapman, NV1W
617.267.6349; nv1w@arrl.net

Treasurer: Jim Clogher, N1ICN,
781.901.3545; n1icn@arrl.net

Volunteer Exams:

Jim Clogher, N1ICN, n1icn@arrl.net

Linda Blair, NA1I, na1i@arrl.net

Public Service Coordinator: Brett Smith, AB1RL
859.466.5915; ab1rl@arrl.net

Public Information Officer: Geri Duff, KB1ISG
781.749.7664; geriduff52@juno.com

Membership Services: Linda Blair, NA1I
617.500.4406; na1i@arrl.net

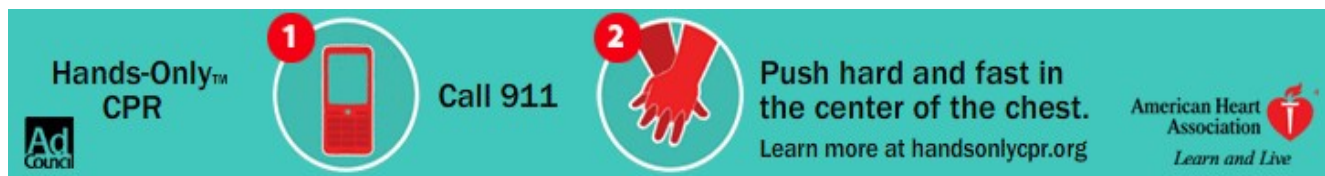
Newsletter Editor: Joe Chapman, NV1W
617.267.6349; nv1w@arrl.net

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 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 7 pm	MARI (Mass/Rhode Island CW Net) (NTS)	3.565
Daily 8 pm	Eastern Mass 2M Traffic Net (NTS)	145.230 (PL 88.5 in/100.0 out)
Daily 8 pm	Slow Speed CW Net	28.160
First Mon 8:30 pm	EMA Section ARES Net	146.610 and all MMRA links
Mon 8 pm	New England DMR Net	DMR New England Talk Group (TG 3181)
Mon 9 pm	BARC Club Net	145.230 (PL 88.5 in/100.0 out)
Sun Mon Wed Fri 10 pm	Heavy Hitters Traffic Net (NTS)	MMRA-linked repeaters: 146.610, 146.670, 146.715, 146.820, and all 222 and 440 repeaters
Tue Thu Sat 6 pm	MA RI Phone Net (NTS)	3.978
Tue 7:30 pm	Clay Center ARC Net	446.325 (PL 146.2)
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	Waltham Wranglers 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 Newline)	145.470 (PL 136.5)
Sun 9 pm	CAARAnet	145.130 (PL 107.2)



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