



The SPARC

Amateur Radio - Communicating Worldwide for A Century

Newsletter of the Boston Amateur Radio Club
Serving Hams in the Greater Boston Area

May 2023 - VOLUME 35, NUMBER 5
www.barc.org - w1bos@arrl.net



Message from the Editor – Doc Kinne, KE1ML / M7RCK

The last three or so years for the Boston Amateur Radio Club have been a time of transition and turn-around, which has been wonderful to see.

While the astronomer in me refuses to admit it, summer is in full swing now. And not just summer, but somehow, *normal* summer. Our temperatures are consistently above 20C. Hamfests have started up – hamfests where we actually, physically congregate and remember each others faces again! Many of us are looking forward to a regular Field Day again.



BARC is moving forward as well. While not completely consistent, the trend to seemingly having regular “Ad Hoc” Meetings at Artisans Asylum have been very interesting to see!

Finally, please remember that our Annual Elections are incoming! The level of activity the club has garnered has been most impressive! Please consider being part of the team that continues this magnificent journey!

And remember, we’re looking for a new SPARC Editor! This is one of the high impact ways you could make a difference in BARC. Contact me for details.

BARC General Meeting – Thursday, May 18, 7:30PM

BARC will be holding a General Meeting on Thursday, May 18, at 7:30 PM on the Zoom teleconferencing platform and, simultaneously, at Artisans Asylum. We will discuss the options for those BARC members who will be community members of Artisans Asylum through BARC. The proposed amendment from last month with be presented Ongoing discussions regarding the upcoming Field Day will be held!

Directions to Artisans Asylum can be found at: <https://www.barc.org/directions-to-artisans-asylum-allston/>.

To join the Zoom meeting above go to:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87557714647?pwd=ejgvOTF0blo1d2pyQWVlNm52UjBKdz09>

Meeting ID: 875 5771 4647 Password: BARC

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

Simplex: 147.420

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- Minutes from the April, 2023, General Meeting
- Early Speaker Callout for the NE Division Convention
- National Hurricane Center ARS Annual Test

BARC's Online Discussion Group – Joe Harris, N1QD



BARC has an online forum at Groups.io. The 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: <https://groups.io/g/BostonARC>. You can join, if you're not already there, by sending an email to "BostonARC+subscribe@groups.io."



Minutes from the April, 2023, General Meeting – Joe Chapman, NV1W

A General Meeting of the Boston Amateur Radio Club was held on Thursday, April 20, 2023, at the Artisans Asylum in Allston and simultaneously on the Zoom teleconferencing platform. Members attending: K1SU, KB1EKN, KB1ISG, KC1OIP, KC1PFS, KC1PWO, KE1L, KM1NDY, N1ICN, N1QD, NV1W, NW1S, Steve Provost, W1ZQI. Guests: Mike Austin, KA1MOM, KB1PHO. The meeting was called to order by President Brendan Baldonado, NW1S, at 7:39 p.m.

Officer reports:

The President and Vice President had no report. Treasurer (N1ICN): we are waiting on our insurance renewal. There is \$1468.00 in the A2 account, \$3902.89 in the savings account (repeater fund), and \$5914.61 in the checking account. Secretary (NV1W): the grace period for membership renewals is over. 17 members didn't renew, and we have 92 members total.

Old business:

NV1W and KC1PWO presented the following proposed Bylaws amendment:

After the paragraph "Senior Member", Article III, Section 1 is amended to add the following:

Advanced Member:

An individual who is a licensed radio amateur may join as an Advanced Member. An Advanced Member shall receive all the benefits of a Regular member as well as additional privileges and responsibilities set forth by a majority vote of members present at a General meeting or a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Section IV. 1: Fiscal Matters Of The Club

The paragraph "Membership Dues" in Article IV, Section 1 is amended to read as follows:

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Dues shall be payable in an amount decided by a majority vote of an Executive Committee Meeting. An Executive Committee Meeting may specify an optional payment plan for any dues more than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) per year. All other dues shall be payable at the beginning of a calendar year, or at such time as an application for membership is made.

A discussion followed. NV1W described an alternate suggestion from WA1IDA to not define a new membership category, but treat Artisans Asylum community membership as an optional program with a charge similar to the way we handle the Holiday Party. The group discussed the ARDF grant status and what we will do if the grant does not materialize. NW1S described the new cost structure based on price increases at Artisans Asylum. **A motion was made to adopt the proposed bylaws amendment and passed unanimously.** The amendment will be presented at the next meeting for the required second vote.

Repeater repairs: N1QD had no updates. KB1EKN reported that we have tried contacting a senior member of the Red Cross to resolve our open Memorandum of Understanding.

15 meter filter: KE1L contacted DuneStar and completely rebuilt the filter with all new capacitors. The cost of the repair was \$20. She also tested the 10 meter filter and it's working correctly; everything will be re-tested before Field Day.

Status with Artisans Asylum: there have been some communication issues as they were not clear on the number and type of meetings and events we would have. AC1NY has written a very complete proposal for roof access and the antenna installation which requires approval from Artisans Asylum and then Harvard. We will not be publicizing the ad-hoc meetings some of our members have been having, but will publicize General Meetings and VE Sessions and we will establish a process for that.

New business:

New England QSO Party: do we want to do this as a club? Locations were discussed for operation on Sunday, and we decided to do it as an informal get-together organized on the groups.io list.

Field Day: KM1NDY reached out to Hale Education in Westwood and we are pencilled in for Friday–Sunday. We are attempting to get the same area (ACLC) that we used last year. **A motion was made to set aside \$1000 for Field Day and passed unanimously.** We discussed having a GOTA station and decided against it. The following topics were identified for planning: 2023 rules, natural power bonus, community outreach, local officials, antenna plan, camping, and transportation.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Early Speaker Callout for NE Division Convention – Phil Temples, K9HI

Don't just attend the 2023 Northeast HamXposition @ Marlborough— **be part of it!**

The logo features the word "Northeast" in a white sans-serif font above the word "HamXposition". "Ham" is in white, "X" is in a large, bold, orange font, and "position" is in a smaller white font. The entire text is set against a dark red rectangular background.

The HamXposition Committee seeks fresh and exciting presentations for this year's ARRL New England Division Convention, August 25-27, 2023. We're looking for talks of both technical and non-technical natures. As a HamXposition speaker, you will have the opportunity to share

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your subject and knowledge with amateur radio operators from around New England, the surrounding states, and Canada.

In addition to workshops on Friday, we will feature forums throughout the day Saturday, Saturday evening entertainment, and-a-half-day Sunday program.

If you represent a regional club or organization (e.g. YCCC, NEQRP, WRONE, MARS, etc.) we can help facilitate open forums or closed meetings by providing you a meeting space.

Non-profit groups who wish to set up information tables should get your requests in early. While the tables are offered without charge, we ask for some volunteer time in return to assist us with ticket sales and other logistics during the convention.

To register as a speaker or presenter (or if you'd like to suggest someone), please go to <https://hamxposition.org/speaker-form-t.html> or email if you have additional questions.

We look forward to seeing you at the Convention.

National Hurricane Center ARS Annual Test – from the ARRL

The amateur radio station of the National Hurricane Center, WX4NHC (NHC), located on the campus of Florida International University in Miami, will conduct their on-the-air Annual Communications Test on Saturday, May 27, 2023, from 9 AM - 5 PM EDT (1300z- 2100z).

This is the NHC's 43rd year of public service. NHC Amateur Radio Assistant Coordinator Julio Ripoll, WD4R/WX4NHC, reports that the purpose of this event is to test amateur radio equipment and antennas at the NHC as well as operators' home equipment, antennas, and computers prior to this year's hurricane season. The 2023 hurricane season begins June 1 and runs through November 30.



This event is good practice for amateur radio operators worldwide to practice amateur radio communications during times of severe weather.

Ripoll said WX4NHC will be on HF, VHF, UHF, 2- and 30-meter APRS, and Winlink, To contact the NHC's amateur radio station send an email to wx4nhc@winlink.org. The subject of the email must contain //WL2K.

WX4NHC will try to stay on the Hurricane Watch Net frequency, 14.325 MHz, for most of the time, as well as 7.268 MHz depending on propagation. They may also change frequencies due to potential QRM.

You may be able to find WX4NHC on HF by using one of the DX spotting networks, such as the DX Summit website at <http://www.dxsummit.fi>

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The VoIP Hurricane Net will also be active from 4 PM - 5 PM EDT (2000-2100z), RLP node 9219/EchoLink WX-TALK Conference node 7203. Visit their website for more information.

WX4NHC will also make a few contacts on local VHF and UHF repeaters, as well as the Florida Statewide Amateur Radio Network (SARnet) system to test station equipment.

QSL cards are available via WD4R with a self-addressed stamped envelope. More information about the NHC is available at their website.

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

18 May	BARC General Meeting
3-4 June	International Digital Contest
10 June	SPARC Article Deadline
10-12 June	June VHF Contest
17 June	ARRL Kids Day
24-25 June	Field Day

▲ Note change from usual date and/or location

Before going to any event over the next few months, please confirm that the event will take place and what the hours are.

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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 Doc Kinne, KE1ML, at 617.297.2718 or kinnerc@gmail.com.

Two Ways to 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, Doc, KE1ML, at kinnerc@gmail.com. Articles for the September issue must be received by September 6.

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 Doc Kinne, KE1ML, kinnerc@gmail.com

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BARC Officers and Staff

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Public Service Coordinator: Ethan Hansen, KC1OIP

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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 club, and is a member of 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
M,T,F,S 8:30PM	Massachusetts Rhode Island Slow Net	3598
First Mon 8:30 pm	EMA Section ARES Net	146.610 and all MMRA links

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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
Mon-Sat Sat, 5 pm	MA RI Phone Net (NTS)	3.978
Tue 8 pm	Sci-Tech Amateur Radio Society (STARS) 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)
Thu 8 pm	Wellesley Amateur Radio Society Net	28.3MHz
Sat 9 am	Northeast SATERN Net	7.265MHz
Sun 9:30 am	Yankee SSB Net	50.275MHz
Sun 8 pm	Algonquin Amateur Radio Club Net	446.675 (PL 88.5)
Sun 8:30 pm	NSRA Net (with Newslines)	145.470 (PL 136.5)
Sun 9 pm	CAARAnet	145.130 (PL 107.2)

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