



# The SPARC

Amateur Radio - Communicating Worldwide for A Century

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

July 2023 - VOLUME 35, NUMBER 7

[www.barc.org](http://www.barc.org) - [w1bos@arrl.net](mailto:w1bos@arrl.net)



## President's Message – Brendan Baldonado, NW1S



*As the dog days of summer continue on, we the club take a small respite from meetings. It has been a great past twelve months for BARC; we began VE sessions again, progress at A2 continues with some new interest, our grant from ARDC was approved and we had our second Field Day since COVID. I am happy to say things are going well and I hope to see more suggestions for events you want to have and even other people hosting such fun events.*

*We also see our long-standing, faithful Treasurer has finally passed the reins over to Mark Duff. We are forever grateful and in debt to him and his service to the Boston Amateur Radio Club. Thank you, Jim!*

*Have a great summer everyone!*

## In this Issue of The SPARC

- Field Day
- Conferences and Expositions
- Member news
- Upcoming events



## No BARC General Meetings during the summer

No BARC General Meetings are held in July and August. Have a good summer, and we will see you on Thursday, September 21, 2023, at 7:30 pm.

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

Simplex: 147.420

449.175 ( - ) DMR CC1

## ***The SPARC***

### **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](mailto:BostonARC+subscribe@groups.io).

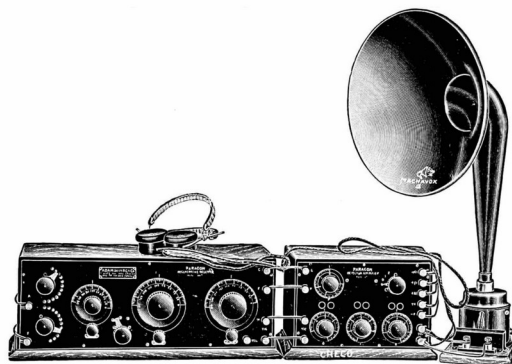
### **Antique Wireless Association Conference – Mike Migliaccio, N3HLM**

Please consider advising your club members about the 2023 Antique Wireless Association Conference [no problem — Ed.]

On-line registration for the annual AWA Conference, at the RIT Inn and Conference Center in Henrietta, NY, is up and running. Conference dates: 26–30 September 2023. This year's conference is again sanctioned by the ARRL.

Go to our conference main page at <https://www.antiquewireless.org/homepage/conf-main-page/> to register, see a preliminary program schedule, reference equipment contest rules, conference award rules and download the conference flyer.

There will be: free access for buyers and sellers to the AWA Communication & Electronic Equipment Flea Market also at the RIT Inn & Conference Center on Thursday 9/28 & Friday 9/29. • Equipment auction on Saturday 9/30 • Book mart • Over a dozen outstanding presentations • Equipment contest • Admission to the Antique Wireless Museum is free Wednesday September 27th • Friday (9/30) afternoon “Show And Tell”: bring your 1920s Broadcast artifacts! *You do not need to register for the conference to buy or sell at the flea market.* Conference registration includes the free dessert social on Wednesday evening September 27th, this year's registration also includes your free Friday night banquet dinner and includes equipment auction bidder's card. As always, registration for your spouse or significant other is free. You do not need to be an AWA member to attend.



Please contact Mike if there are any questions: [vicepresident@antiquewireless.org](mailto:vicepresident@antiquewireless.org).

### **Editor Sought for *The SPARC* – Joe Chapman, NV1W**

Sharp-eyed readers will note that I have once again assumed editorship of *The SPARC*, amateur radio's finest news source™. After three years as Editor, Doc Kinne, KE1ML/M7RCK has decided to retire. I will try and keep it afloat, but would appreciate having another club member to step in and take over.

With the activity on the Groups.io mailing list and greater participation in our monthly meetings due to Zoom, there has been discussion of converting *The SPARC* to a quarterly format, which either I or the new editor will probably do at some point.

You will note by the volume number on the masthead that BARC has been producing this newsletter for 35 years now!

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### **Minutes of the June 2023 General Meeting – Joe Chapman, NV1W**

A General Meeting of the Boston Amateur Radio Club was held on Thursday, June 15, at Artisans Asylum and on the Zoom teleconferencing platform with the following persons in attendance: K1BTZ, K1SU, KB1EKN, KC1OIP, KC1PWO, KE1L, N1ICN, NA1I, NV1W, NW1S, Steven Provost, N3XJP (guest). The meeting was called to order by President Brendan Baldonado, NW1S, at 7:31.

Officer reports:

- President (Brendan, NW1S): we have got the ARDC grant and are waiting for the check.
- Vice President (Joe, N1QD): not present.
- Treasurer (Jim, N1ICN): bank account balances are checking \$5000.78, A2 account \$988.00, savings \$3902.95. Linda, NA1I, has sent in the 501 c(3) form.
- Secretary (Joe, NV1W): filed the annual report with the League.

A2 status: we have been thinking about holding beginner ham radio nights and coming to Electronics and Robotics open houses. Shirley, KE1L, reported that we have antenna work scheduled for next Tuesday, and should have more effective antennas soon. Plans include raising the elevation of the OCF dipole and adding an end-fed dipole as well.

Field Day (Scott, K1SU): Dinner on Saturday will be pizza from Camella's. The antenna plan is still a work in progress, but the main antenna will be the BuddiHex. A new 80 meter filter has been purchased and is being added to the patch panel. People who intend to attend are encouraged to fill out the survey on Google forms.

Elections: Mark, KB1EKN, was nominated for Treasurer from the floor. The following officers were elected for 2023–2024:

- President: Brendan Baldonado, NW1S
- Vice President: Joe Harris, N1QD
- Treasurer: Mark Duff, KB1EKN
- Secretary: Joe Chapman, NV1W

Mark, KB1EKN, recommended raising the limit for discretionary spending by officers from the current level of \$100 to \$250. Joe, NV1W, will prepare a bylaws amendment for consideration in the fall.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m. EDT.

— *Respectfully submitted, Joseph Chapman NV1W, Secretary*

### **Northeast HamXposition is Next Month – Joe Chapman, NV1W**

The Northeast HamXposition (including the ARRL New England Division Convention) returns to the Best Western Hotel and Conference Center in Marlborough, MA on August 25, 26 and 27. It will feature a flea market, talks, a DXCC/Contest dinner and a banquet, a “Tech in a day” class, a foxhunt, and a whole bunch of other stuff that you can read about at <https://hamxposition.org>.

The event is actively looking for volunteers to help keep the convention running smoothly. Among the duties are:

- Setup on August 24
- Ticketing, Flea Market and Forum Speaker Help on August 25, 26, and 27
- Take Down on August 27

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All volunteers will be scheduled into two-hour shifts. Those that work two or more shift receive free admission. If you are interested in helping, please visit: <https://hamxposition.org/volunteer.html> to register.

### **BARC Meeting Calendar for 2020**

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings and VE sessions will take place at Artisans Asylum.

#### **General Meetings**

September 21	2023	Thu	7:30 pm
October 19	2023	Thu	7:30 pm
November 16	2023	Thu	7:30 pm

#### **VE Sessions**

October 9	2023	Mon	7:30 pm
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### **Member News – Joe Chapman, NV1W**

BARC welcomes Ephiteo Evans, KC1TDI, of Brookline, and Michael St. Germain, KC1SUV, of Boston. Ephiteo is a newly minted Technician, and Mike has made a clean sweep at BARC VE sessions, earning his Technician in April and upgrading to Extra in July. Congratulations to you both, and we'll hear you on the air!

### **Field Day 2023 – Joe Chapman, NV1W**

What may well have been BARC's most successful Field Day ever was held at Hale Education in Westwood, MA on the weekend of June 24–25. We made over 1750 contacts, breaking the previous record (at least in anyone's memory) of 1,227 in 2018. The total includes several satellite contacts. Band conditions were superb, but we also had a dedicated group of operators that kept our three HF stations busy for almost the entire 24-hour period.

We welcomed 20 visitors, including our ARRL Division Director Fred Kemmerer, AB1OC, and Anita Kemmerer, AB1QB, as well as several unlicensed people who we hope received a good introduction to amateur radio.

We did most of the setup on Friday afternoon. The HF stations were an K3, a FlexRadio, and the club's new IC-7610, all set up for voice, CW, and digital modes. Antennas included N1QD's amazing BuddiHex for 20, 15, and 10 meters, and dipoles for 80, 75, 40, and 6 meters. Vlad, W1MTI, brought a complete satellite station. The only technical glitch was a mysterious high SWR on 10 meters, which gives us something to work on for next time.

Teardown went quickly and finished up before a round of rainstorms passed through the area. Statistics and photographs will appear in a forthcoming issue of *The SPARC*.

### **BARC Net Preamble**

The control operator for the BARC Net is Joe, W1JJE. He rarely misses a net, but when he does any ham can take up the position and run the net. Even Walter Cronkite, KB2GSD, at least if he weren't a silent key! 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*



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*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 July	North American QSO Party, RTTY
15–16 July	CQ Worldwide VHF Contest
16 July	Flea at MIT, Cambridge
22 July	“Tune-Up” Hamfest, New England Wireless & Steam Museum, East Greenwich, RI
5 August	Deadline for articles for the August SPARC
5–6 August	ARRL 222 MHz and Up Distance Contest
5–6 August	North American QSO Party, CW

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

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



## **The SPARC**

who are appropriate to our readers. For additional information, contact Joe Chapman, NV1W, at 617.267.6349 or [nv1w@arrl.net](mailto:nv1w@arrl.net).

### **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 'n' 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](mailto:nv1w@arrl.net). Articles for the August issue must be received by August 5.

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](mailto:nv1w@arrl.net).

### **BARC Volunteer Exam Sessions**

The Boston Amateur Radio Club offers license exams quarterly. The next session will be held on Monday, October 9, at 7:30 pm. Test sessions are held at Artisans Asylum, 96 Holton St., Boston, MA 02135.

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 CSCEs you are claiming, and a photocopy of them
- 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](mailto:n1icn@arrl.net), or Joe Chapman, NV1W, [nv1w@arrl.net](mailto:nv1w@arrl.net).



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](http://www.NESciTech.org) or [www.NE1AR.org](http://www.NE1AR.org).



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## ***The SPARC***

### **BARC Officers and Staff**

President: Brendan Baldonado, NW1S  
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Vice President: Joe Harris, N1QD  
[n1qd@n1qd.org](mailto:n1qd@n1qd.org)

Secretary: Joe Chapman, NV1W  
[nv1w@arrl.net](mailto:nv1w@arrl.net)

Treasurer: Mark Duff, KB1EKN,  
[emgmt@comcast.net](mailto:emgmt@comcast.net)

Newsletter Editor *locum tenens*: Joe Chapman, NV1W  
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Volunteer Exams:

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Joe Chapman, NV1W, [nv1w@arrl.net](mailto:nv1w@arrl.net)

Public Service Coordinator: Ethan Hansen, KC1OIP  
[ethan.kc1oip@gmail.com](mailto:ethan.kc1oip@gmail.com)

Public Information Officer: Geri Duff, KB1ISG  
[geriduff52@juno.com](mailto:geriduff52@juno.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 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
Sun–Fri 9:45 pm, Sat 10 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 7 pm	Two Meter SSB Net	144.244 USB
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)
Tue Thu 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)
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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