



The SPARC

Amateur Radio - Communicating Worldwide for A Century

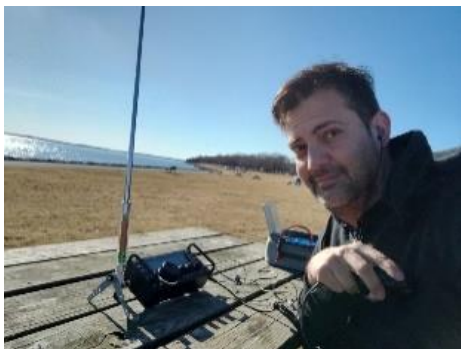
Newsletter of the Boston Amateur Radio Club
Serving Hams in the Greater Boston Area

May 2024 - VOLUME 36, NUMBER 5

www.barc.org - w1bos@arrl.net



Message From the President – Brendan Baldonado, NW1S



A Happy May to everyone. While the weather in New England sure can't make up its mind if it wants to be winter still or summer it's no doubt that Summer is coming and with that good weather more outdoor operating! At the beginning of May we had the NE QSO party where the club had 8 or 9 people get together and operate from Millennium Park. It was cold and windy but getting together to play radio is always a great time. Bi weekly meetings should be starting up soon for field day planning and look for pop up POTA outings on the club email list. Looking forward to seeing everyone at an event this summer.

In this Issue of The SPARC

- Meet the Ham
- April BARC Meeting Minutes
- Upcoming Meetings and Events



BARC General Meeting, Thursday, May 16, 7:30 pm

The next BARC General Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 16, 2024, at 7:30 pm, at Artisans Asylum in Allston and on the Zoom teleconferencing platform. As always, the meeting will be preceded with a half hour of social time beginning at 7:00

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

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Meet the Ham – Samir Parikh, K1SIP

This month, we are featuring Phil Temples, K9HI, in our latest installment of “Meet the Ham”. Phil currently holds an Amateur Extra class license and is a CW enthusiast who likes to operate on the HF bands. As you can learn from his detailed QRZ page and from his responses below, Phil has had an extraordinary amateur radio career spanning over 50 years involving community service and helping fellow hams get their license! He has been actively involved in the ARRL, state and local organizations and numerous amateur radio clubs and associations. Phil has served as a mentor to many in our club with his encouragement and wide-ranging experience. (Fun fact: Phil sent me a radiogram shortly after I activated my first Parks on the Air park!) If you’d like to be featured in a future column of “Meet the Ham”, or would like to see someone featured, please send an email to Samir, K1SIP, at siparikh@gmail.com.



Phil Temples, K9HI, operating under his original call sign WN9EAY in 1971

Later, in my teens, I became fascinated with operating on MIDCARS, in Navy-Marine Corps MARS, NTS traffic handling, and also, obtaining my DXCC and WAS awards. Morse code has always been my favorite mode. I mastered 20 words per minute while still a Novice. I upgraded to General after just eight months.

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Throughout college, I maintained a healthy (perhaps "unhealthy") relationship with the hobby. Some of my friends said that I majored in "Ham Radio" with a minor in "Electrical Engineering." Yet, somehow, I managed to graduate from Purdue University and the Purdue Amateur Radio Club, W9YB. After school, my wife, K9ERA, and I moved to the "People's Republic of Cambridge" where she earned her Ph.D. from Harvard. I worked in industry as a newly-minted software engineer.

What is involved with serving as Vice Director of the ARRL New England Division and Assistant Section Manager for the EMA section?

K9HI: Flash forward some 54 odd years. I've had the privilege of serving three two-year stints as an ARRL Section Manager, and a term-and-a-half as the New England Division Vice Director. Despite its faults, the ARRL deserves everyone's support. Without it, we would be at the mercy of commercial interests that constantly seek to obtain the valuable radio spectrum that is assigned to us as primary and secondary users. If you're not a League member, you

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should be. So many people make the mistake of thinking that ARRL membership is only about a magazine subscription. It's much, much more.

As a Section Manager, I was responsible for the Eastern Massachusetts field organization. I supervised a large network of volunteers who oversee clubs, technical support, traffic handling, emergency communications, state government relations, and public information.

As Vice Director, my role now is more focused on the health of the organization as a business and a corporation. Unlike a division director, I have no voting authority. However, I am "plugged into" the information flow and participate fully in several committees and in all board-level discussions.

I might add that I picked up valuable skills for the Section Manager and Vice Director jobs by serving multiple terms as BARC president over the decades. I succeeded Bob Salow, WA1IDA (SK), as president of the (then) American Red Cross ARC. It was around that time that the club's name was officially changed to the Boston Amateur Radio Club. Gosh, I could probably write a lengthy article on the club's history!

You have a picture on your QRZ page of you in your shack. What is your current rig and antenna system that you use today?

K9HI: That QRZ photo isn't of my shack. It was taken during one of my visits to W1AW at ARRL Headquarters. The folks in Newington maintain a very nice radio station. I believe that picture was taken in "Studio A." When you call "CQ de W1AW," you can quickly find yourself on the receiving end of a massive pileup!

Over the years, I've lived primarily in apartments and condominiums. My true joy was operating HF mobile. I cut a hole in the dashboard of my old Volvo 240DL to accommodate my Yaesu FT-757. (There weren't any convenient control heads for those older radios. ;-)) I operated almost exclusively on CW using a homebrew keyer (two door switches glued together) mounted on the arm rest of the driver's side door. I had lots of time on my hands to play radio while commuting an hour to and from work each day. My favorite band was 40 meters.

What are some things you would like to try that you have never done with amateur radio?

K9HI: That's the wonderful thing about Amateur Radio, isn't it? There are still so many facets of the hobby that I haven't tasted—even after being licensed for over a half a century! I want to get more involved with POTA. I'd also like to connect with the modern digital modes. My digital operations more or less peaked with packet radio and AX.25 in the early 90s. The Wang Labs ARC in Lowell, in which I served as president, operated one of the first packet digipeaters in the country using my call sign. In modern times, I've had some brief encounters with FT8 but haven't been impressed. I probably haven't given it a fair shake, however.

What advice would you give to new hams or members returning to the hobby?

K9HI: Don't ever be afraid to ask questions. There are no dumb questions. It's how we all learn. Try to find one or more mentors and pepper them with questions. In today's modern age, there are also a number of excellent YouTube channels to which you can subscribe for answers.

If you're returning to the hobby after many decades, the variety of operating modes, equipment, and activities can be bewildering. Explore. Do your research. Again, there are no dumb questions. The Boston ARC has some excellent mentors among its membership. Also, don't be afraid to use the club's [groups.io listserv](#).

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Field Day is Next Month! – Joe Harris, N1QD

BARC's 2024 edition of ARRL Field Day will be happening on the fourth full weekend of June. The club has signed the contract to rent the space at the Hale Reservation again, and planning is in full swing! It will be the primary topic of discussion at the club's May and June meetings.

Are you interested in participating? Got a new mode to try out? Want to try for some of the Bonus Points? Just looking to make some Qs and socialize with the club? Come to the next BARC meeting and get in on the discussion!

Minutes of the April, 2024, General Meeting – Joe Chapman, NV1W

A General Meeting of the Boston Amateur Radio Club was held on Thursday, April 18, 2024, at the Artisans Asylum in Allston and simultaneously on the Zoom teleconferencing platform. Members attending: AC1JL, KB1EKN, KB1ISG, KC1PWO, KC1TSA, KC1UPQ, KM1P, N1QD, NV1W, NW1S, W1JF, W1PAC. Guests: KG7FME (Spencer), VU3EAN (Amogh), Shreyas Naveen, Tony (no last name given). The meeting was called to order by Vice President Joe Harris, N1QD, at 7:35 p.m.

A moment of silence was observed for Bob Salow, WA1IDA (SK), the founding President of the club.

Officer reports:

The President and Vice President had no report.

Secretary (NV1W): We have 94 new and renewing members. A very successful VE session was held last week; 4 new Technician licenses and 1 upgrade to Amateur Extra were earned. We gained some new members as well.

Treasurer (KB1EKN): There is \$7258 in the checking account, \$3903 in the savings account (repeater fund), and \$16750 in the A2 account. We have \$1950 in outstanding bills to be paid from the A2 account. We donated a plaque to the New England QSO Party as usual. **A motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the Treasurer's report.**

Old business:

A second vote was held on the following proposed Bylaws amendment:

Article IV, Section 1 (Fiscal Matters of the Club), "Expenditure Authorizations", is amended as follows:

The sentence "An individual Officer may authorize the expenditure of up to \$100 dollars." is replaced with "An individual Officer may authorize the expenditure of up to \$250 dollars."

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the proposed bylaws amendment and passed unanimously.

Classes: it was noted that the QDX class sold out and that it was holding its first session at the same time as the General Meeting.

New business:

New England QSO Party: we decided to do this as a club, probably from the Millennium Park location we used last year. A discussion and signup will be organized on the groups.io list.

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Foxhunting class: KC1TSA announced a forthcoming class on foxhunting.

Field Day: a brief summary of this event, which will be held June 22–23, was given for newcomers. **A motion was made and seconded to hold Field Day at Hale Education in Westwood. The motion passed unanimously.**

KB1EKN described the space at Hale Education and our plans for setting up on Friday, June 21. A discussion was held on whether to have a GOTA station or operate in class 4A. Of concern for 4A are the power requirements for four HF stations. The sense of the meeting supported moving to class 4A. Further discussion will be held on the groups.io list.

NV1W noted problems concerning the accessibility of the Hale Education site for wheelchair users and asked about evaluating our HF stations to see which ones might be usable by a blind operator.

A motion was made and seconded to allocate up to \$300 to purchase a new 40 meter filter. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

— Respectfully submitted, Joseph Chapman NV1W, Secretary.



Chris KC1TSA, Brendan NW1S, and Patrick W1PAC operate as WIBOS from Millenium Park during the New England QSO Party (K1SIP Photo)

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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.

New Course from HamRadioPrep – Joe Chapman, NV1W

Our friends at HamRadioPrep have just announced a new course: *HF Masterclass*. Unlike their licensing courses, this one aims to lead someone with a General or an Amateur Extra license from the first steps of buying a radio and assembling a station through becoming a competent operator on the HF bands. You can read more about it at <https://hamradioprep.com/hf-masterclass/>.

As with all of HamRadioPrep's courses, you can use the coupon code **bostonarc** to receive a 20% discount. BARC also receives a commission for every sale that uses our coupon code, so you help the club as well.

BARC Meeting Calendar for 2024

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

General Meetings

April 18	2024	Thu	7:30 pm
May 16	2024	Thu	7:30 pm
June 20	2024	Thu	7:30 pm
September 19	2024	Thu	7:30 pm
October 17	2024	Thu	7:30 pm
November 21	2024	Thu	7:30 pm
December 19	2024	Thu	7:30 pm

VE Sessions

July 8	2024	Mon	7:30 pm
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Member News – Joe Harris, N1QD

This space is reserved for your news! Send it to N1QD at n1qd@n1qd.org.

BARC Net Preamble

The control operator for the BARC Net is Joe, W1JF. 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

16 May	BARC General Meeting, Artisans Asylum, Allston, and Zoom, 7:30 pm
19 May	Flea at MIT
25-26 May	CQWW WPX CW Contest
1-2 June	ARRL International Digital Contest
8-10 June	ARRL June VHF Contest
16 June	Flea at MIT
20 June	BARC General Meeting, Artisans Asylum, Allston, and Zoom, 7:30 pm
22-23 June	ARRL Field Day, Hale Reservation, Westwood

▲ Note change from usual date and/or location
(Rp) = BARC Repeaters will be used for these events

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>.

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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.

Two Ways to See Yourself in Print! (well, PDF) – Joe Harris, N1QD

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, N1QD, at n1qd@n1qd.org. Articles for the June issue must be received by June 8.

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, N1QD, at n1qd@n1qd.org.

BARC Volunteer Exam Sessions

The Boston Amateur Radio Club offers license exams quarterly. The next session will be held on Monday, July 8, 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 CSEs 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, or Joe Chapman, NV1W, nv1w@arrl.net.

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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.

BARC Officers and Staff

President: Brendan Baldonado, NW1S

brendan.baldonado@gmail.com

Vice President: Joe Harris, N1QD

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Secretary: Joe Chapman, NV1W

nv1w@arrl.net

Treasurer: Mark Duff, KB1EKN,

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Newsletter Editor *locum tenens*: Joe Harris, N1QD

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Volunteer Exams:

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Joe Chapman, NV1W, nv1w@arrl.net

Public Service Coordinator: Ethan Hansen, KC1OIP

ethan.kc1oip@gmail.com

Public Information Officer: Geri Duff, KB1ISG

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 Newslines)	145.470 (PL 136.5)
Sun 9 pm	CAARAnet	145.130 (PL 107.2)



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1



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2



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