



# ***The SPARC***

**Amateur Radio - Communicating Worldwide for A Century**  
Newsletter of the Boston Amateur Radio Club

**Serving Hams in the Greater Boston Area**

June 2025 - VOLUME 37, NUMBER 6

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



## **Message From the President – Brendan Baldonado, NW1S**



*Summer is certainly off to an interesting start. We have been hoping to host a weekend POTA event but rain has plagued us nearly every weekend so far! Let us all hope that the rain stays at bay for Field Day, which is our next big event for this month, after our monthly meeting of course. At this month's meeting we will finish up any plans for Field Day including food, and we'll get a quick briefing on using NIMM, the logging and transceiver control program. Join us in person this month, as afterwards we will be heading to a local pub for an adult beverage and to talk more about ham radio. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the meeting and at Field Day!*

### ***In this Issue of The SPARC***

- May Meeting Minutes
- 2025 Event Calendar
- 2025 Public Service Events



### **BARC General Meeting, Thursday, June 19, 7:30 pm**

The next BARC General Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 15, 2025, at 7:30 pm, at Artisans Asylum in Allston and on the Zoom teleconferencing platform. This month's meeting will feature officer elections and a final Field Day planning session. 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**

**Simplex: 147.420**

**449.175 ( - ) DMR CC1**

## ***The SPARC***

### **.Minutes of the May, 2025, General Meeting – Joe Chapman, NV1W**

A General Meeting of the Boston Amateur Radio Club was held on Thursday, May 15, 2025, at the Artisans Asylum in Allston and simultaneously on the Zoom teleconferencing platform. Members attending: K1SU, KB1ISG, KB1P, KC1VJH, KE1L, N1PHL, N1PNG, NV1W, KB1EKN, KC1PWO, N1QD, NW1S, W4RD. Guests: KC1AOJ, KC1HHO, KC1WRM. The meeting was called to order by President Brendan Baldonado, NW1S, at 7:32 p.m.

#### **Officer reports:**

- President (NW1S): Many things in progress including planning for Field Day. The ARDC is asking for a final report on the project they funded; will work with KC1PWO on that.
- Vice President (N1QD): No updates on the repeater. Note that elections will be next month.
- Secretary (NV1W): Excluding honorary members we have 116 members, of which 24 are new this year. 17 did not renew for 2025 and of those, 3 joined the club in 2024. Only 1 of our current members is not yet licensed.
- Treasurer (KB1EKN): The checking account has \$8115. This includes the amount we paid to Hale Education for the Field Day site in June. The A2 account has \$13,813 and we will be writing a \$1260 check to A2 before June 1. Repeater fund has \$1900.

#### **Old business:**

- Antenna committee (from Shirley, KE1L): The anchor point for the antenna went up last week. We need to figure out the grounding situation for the antennas.
- Brendan, NW1S: An Elecraft KX3 has been donated to the club and we bought some side rails for it.
- The club participated in the New England QSO Party from Millenium Park in Boston on May 4 and made 30 Qs.
- NW1S, NV1W, and W1PAC went to the STARS club in Natick as representatives of BARC for a joint meeting.
- Field Day (from Scott, K1SU):
  - we only have 13 people signed up, so sign up.
  - we may have a GOTA station this year.
  - a logsitics meeting was held last week.
  - we need to figure out food, maybe only covering food on Saturday?
  - equipment is all set.
- The Executive Committee met recently, and will send out email announcing dues changes for 2026.

#### **Program:**

- Peter, KC1HHO, gave a presentation on the National Traffic System and the Radiogram.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

— *Respectfully submitted, Joseph Chapman, NV1W, Secretary.*

## BARC Meeting Calendar for 2025

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

### General Meetings

16 January	2025	Thu	7:30 pm
20 February	2025	Thu	7:30 pm
20 March	2025	Thu	7:30 pm
17 April	2025	Thu	7:30 pm
15 May	2025	Thu	7:30 pm
19 June	2025	Thu	7:30 pm
18 September	2025	Thu	7:30 pm
16 October	2025	Thu	7:30 pm
20 November	2025	Thu	7:30 pm
18 December	2025	Thu	7:30 pm

### VE Sessions

13 January	2025	Mon	7:30pm
14 April	2025	Mon	7:30pm
14 July	2025	Mon	7:30pm
13 October	2025	Mon	7:30 pm

## 2025 Boston-area Public Service Event Calendar

The following events will be looking for ham radio volunteers. For additional details, please contact Ethan KC1OIP, BARC's public service event coordinator.

- Boston 10K - Sunday June 22nd
- Head of the Charles - October 17th - 19th
- Cycle For Shelter - Sunday, September 14
- Boston Half Marathon - Date TBD

## 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).

## 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.

## ***The SPARC***

### **Member News – Joe Harris, N1QD**

This space is reserved for your news! Send it to N1QD at [n1qd@n1qd.org](mailto:n1qd@n1qd.org).

### **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**

<b>19 June</b>	<b>BARC General Meeting, Artisans Asylum, Allston, and Zoom, 7:30 pm</b>
<b>28 – 29 June</b>	<b>ARRL Field Day, Hale Education, Westwood</b>
<b>1 – 7 July</b>	<b>13 Colonies Special Event</b>
<b>12 – 13 July</b>	<b>IARU HF World Championship</b>
<b>19 – 20 July</b>	<b>Flea at MIT</b>
<b>17 August</b>	<b>Flea at MIT</b>
<b>21 – 24 August</b>	<b>Northeast HamXposition, Marlborough (Formerly Boxboro)</b>

**▲ 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>.

**145.230 ( - ) CTCSS 88.5/100.0**

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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](mailto: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](mailto:n1qd@n1qd.org). Articles for the July issue must be received by July 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, N1QD, at [n1qd@n1qd.org](mailto:n1qd@n1qd.org).

### **BARC Volunteer Exam Sessions**

The Boston Amateur Radio Club offers license exams quarterly. The next session will be held on Monday, April 14, 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).

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# **HamX - The Northeast HamXposition**

**August 21 - 24, 2025**

**ARRL New England Division Convention**

*The Northeast's largest gathering of radio amateurs, featuring in-person experts  
presenting on timely topics, trends and technologies*



### **Thursday Night Comedy Kick-Off**



Featuring Comedian Justin McKinney  
Thursday, August 21, 2025

### **Friday Night DX/Contest Banquet**

sponsored by:  
**DX**  
ENGINEERING



Featuring Ned Stearns, AA7A  
Friday, August 22, 2025

### **Convention Keynote Address**



Featuring Thomas Witherspoon, K4SWL  
Saturday Morning, August 23, 2025

### **Saturday Grand Banquet Presentation**



Featuring Nathaniel A. Frissell, W2NAF  
Saturday Evening, August 23, 2025

**Over \$14,000 in prizes \* Large Outdoor Flea Market \* W1XPO GOTA Station**

**ARRL • ACOM • FlexRadio • Elecraft • Quicksilver Radio • Reliance Antennas • VE2DX Electronics  
Lido Radio • Gold Medal Ideas • Scanner Master • plus many more!**

**Talks and Presentations:** 2.4 GHz xcvr Build • Kit Building Workshops • MARS • YL Meet & Greet • 3-D Printing • Youth Forum • FEMA Talk • SWR and S-Parameters • Remote Radio  
Transmitter IMD • Demystifying Quantum Computing • ARRL Section Meetings • Operating all Bands • Club Forum • Andy's Linux • MESH Update • and more!

**August 21 - 24, 2025 \* Boston-Marlborough MA \* [hamx.org](http://hamx.org)**

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

### **BARC Officers and Staff**

President: Brendan Baldonado, NW1S

[brendan.baldonado@gmail.com](mailto:brendan.baldonado@gmail.com)

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,

[emgmgt@comcast.net](mailto:emgmgt@comcast.net)

Newsletter Editor *locum tenens*: Joe Harris, N1QD

[n1qd@n1qd.org](mailto:n1qd@n1qd.org)

Volunteer Exams:

Jim Clogher, N1ICN, [n1icn@arrl.net](mailto:n1icn@arrl.net)

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



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