



The SPARC

Amateur Radio - Communicating Worldwide for A Century
Newsletter of the Boston Amateur Radio Club
Serving Hams in the Greater Boston Area
June 2016 - VOLUME 28, NUMBER 6
www.barc.org - w1bos@arrl.net



Message from the President – Joe Harris, N1QD



June means one thing in the ham radio community: Field Day! In the 13+ years I've been involved in amateur radio, Field Day has always been the highlight of my year.

My Field Day history with BARC began in 2003, the summer after I was first licensed. The club was running their event in Larz Anderson Park in Brookline. While the location was excellent for spraying RF at the ionosphere, the sheer amount of labor involved in setting up there was unreal. Several members would travel to Hingham to pick up supplies and load multiple vehicles up with gear. There were tents and canopies to set up so that the operators and cooks could be out of the oppressive sun. The club had to rent a porta-potty, as there were no facilities on the hill. Once the event was over, there was a return trip to Hingham to bring all the club's supplies back into storage. Larz Anderson was a good location, but with a high cost in manual labor.

This all changed in 2009, when the club moved their Field Day operations to the Bare Cove Fire Museum in Hingham. There, the club had access to shelter in the museum, a much easier setup/teardown, and (perhaps most importantly!) access to indoor plumbing. This location has proven to be an excellent site for the club to operate from. The past few years have seen new additions to the setup, like a full-time VHF / satellite station.

This June, BARC will operate from the BCFM for the eighth straight year. I'm looking forward to seeing many of you on June 25–26!

Joe Harris, N1QD

In this Issue of *The SPARC*

- BARC Breakfast
- Repeater update
- A BARC-to-BARC HF QSO
- Nominations for BARC officers
- Field Day Food Help Needed
- 2016 meeting and VE session dates



BARC General Meeting

Thursday, June 16, 2016 at 7:30 pm

The June General Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 16, at 7:30 pm in the Community Room at Brookline Police Headquarters. The club's annual elections will be held and there will be a discussion of Field Day.

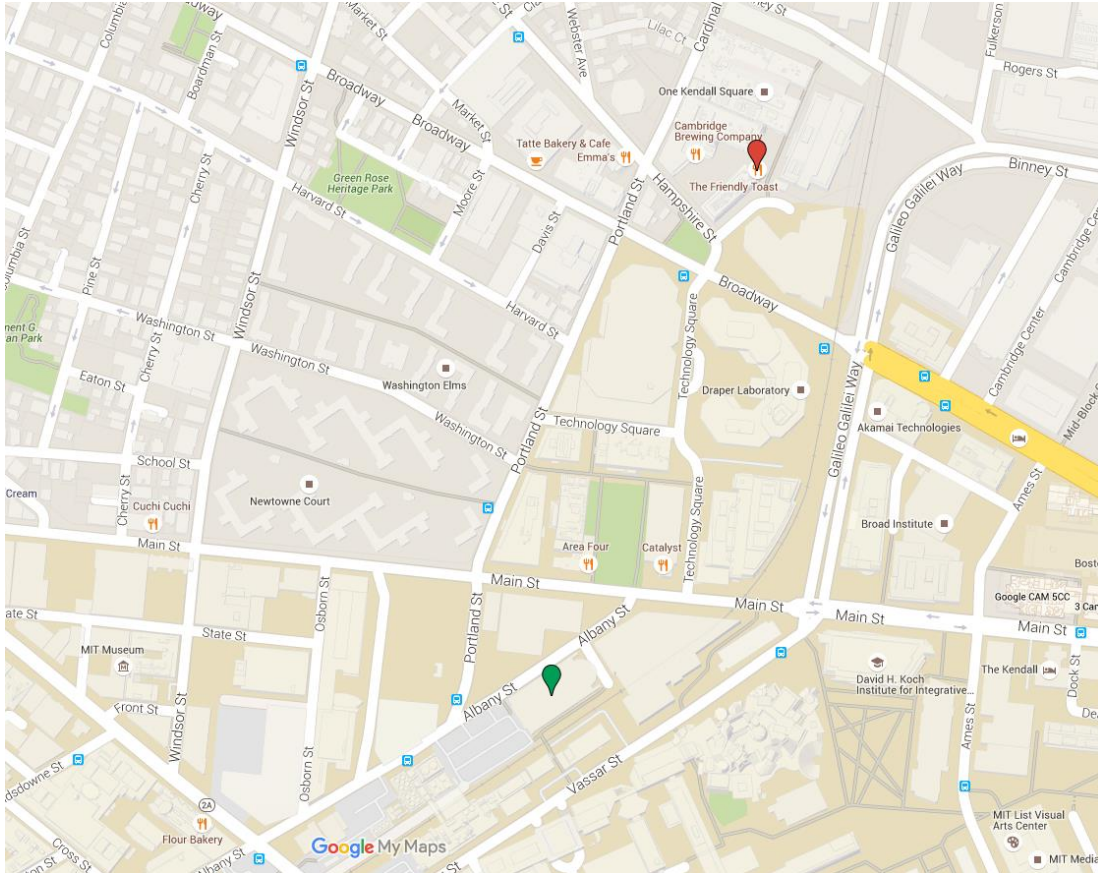
Repeaters: 145.230 (-) CTCSS 88.5

Simplex: 147.420

449.175 (-) DMR CC1

BARC Breakfast – Joe Harris, N1QD

BARC holds its monthly breakfast on the third Sunday of the month, coinciding with the MIT Flea Market. We descend upon The Friendly Toast, located at 1 Kendall Square in Cambridge at 8AM sharp. This month’s breakfast will be held on June 19. 1 Kendall Square is a group of buildings bordered by Hampshire St., Binney St., and Cardinal Medeiros Ave. The restaurant is a short walk from the flea site, and there is plenty of on-street parking. See the area map for details.



Red pin is the Friendly Toast. Green Pin is the Albany Street Garage, home of the MIT Flea Market.

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: <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/bostonARC/info>.

June General Meeting – Joe Harris, N1QD

The Boston Amateur Radio Club holds their next general meeting on Thursday, June 16 at 7:30 pm at the Brookline Police HQ community room, 350 Washington St, Brookline. The meeting agenda will include officer elections and Field Day planning. See you there!

Repeater Update – Joe Harris, N1QD

BARC's VHF repeater continues to be bothered by intermittent de-sense. A service trip is planned for mid-June to give the entire system a thorough examination.

The club's UHF DMR repeater continues to be active with local, regional, and nationwide traffic.

Minutes from the May General Meeting – Joe Chapman, NV1W

The Boston Amateur Radio Club's May General Meeting was held on Thursday, May 19, at Brookline Police Headquarters. Voting members present: AB1RL, KB1EKN, KB1ISG, KB1TIC, KB1QHX, KC1AXR, KO4W, N1ICN, N1QD, NA1I, NV1W, W1JFF, WA1IDA. The meeting was called to order by President Joe Harris, N1QD, at 7:31 p.m.

In the business portion of the meeting, Mark, KB1EKN (VP and Chair, Repeater Committee), reported that the 145.230 repeater is still having de-sense issues and he is planning a service trip sometime in the second half of June. Joe, N1QD, reported that the UHF DMR repeater had 30 users in the last month and that the consensus is the repeater is working well. A motion to pay John Garrett, WN9T, \$300 from the Repeater Fund for the current UHF repeater antenna carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted, Joseph Chapman, NV1W, Secretary

Minutes from the June Business Meeting – Joe Chapman, NV1W

The Boston Amateur Radio Club's June Business Meeting was held on Thursday, June 2, at Brookline Police Headquarters. Voting members present: KB1EKN, KB1ISG, KB1QHX, N1ICN, N1QD, NA1I, NV1W. The meeting was called to order by President Joe Harris, N1QD, at 7:34 p.m.

The March, 2016, Business Meeting minutes were approved.

Officer reports:

- Joe, N1QD (President), is working on the fall meeting program. Some have raised the possibility of a Saturday meeting in the fall, and Nathaniel, KB1QHX, has suggested a foxhunt.
- Mark, KB1EKN (Vice President), mentioned the service trip for the 145.230 repeater sometime in June. He also has not ordered the 6 meter filter but will do so this week so we will have the filter for Field Day.
- Jim, N1ICN (Treasurer), reported that we have \$1100 in the Repeater Fund and \$2643.36 in the checking account.
- Joe, NV1W (Secretary), reported that we have 72 members (*correction: we currently have 75 members — Ed.*)

Committee reports: There were no reports from Public Service or Membership Services.

Old business:

- The Nominating Committee reports via N1QD that the current slate of officers is running for re-election.
- N1QD reported that the project to update the website is stalled somewhat and a brief discussion was held. The consensus was that we should at the very least fix erroneous information currently on the website.
- For Field Day, Geri, KB1ISG, will order 15 pins. It was noted that KB1EKN and KB1ISG have another commitment on Saturday evening of Field Day so a volunteer is needed to handle Saturday dinner. NV1W asked whether we should consider appointing a Safety Officer, worth 100 points, and we will discuss this at the June General Meeting.

New business:

- Blake, K1BTH, has already received a call from The Stockyard about next year's Holiday Party. The general consensus was that we prefer January to December, and KB1EKN noted that a straw poll at this year's party was very much in favor of the January date. We will discuss in a General Meeting.
- The ARRL New England Cabinet Meeting will be held in Nashua, NH, in July and N1QD will attend.
- Boxboro is now in September, and N1QD mentioned getting a club table for the Saturday banquet, though this has not generated much enthusiasm in the past.
- N1QD mentioned the following possible programs for fall meetings: foxhunting (with a foxhunt), AMSAT, HF digital modes such as RTTY, and a presentation on the ARRL Field Organization.

Announcements: KB1EKN announced that he and N1QD will be participating in the ARRL June VHF Contest the weekend of June 11 at the KB1EKN shack in Hingham, and all are invited to attend. Contact him for more information.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Joseph Chapman, NV1W, Secretary

Call for Volunteer Examiners – The BARC VE Team

BARC could use some more Volunteer Examiners (VEs) for our exam sessions. Recently we had to scramble to get the required three VEs for an exam session. If any unforeseen situation arises and a VE is not able to make a session we would be forced to cancel the test.

There are some BARC members who are qualified VEs that have not been participating in the testing. We urge these VEs to become active. If you can spare one night every couple of months please come to a session.

We can also surely use additional VEs. The test procedure for qualification is simple. Materials are available from the ARRL and the examination is an open book test. Hams with General and Amateur Extra class licenses are eligible to become VEs, though only Extras can administer tests for General and Amateur Extra licenses. If you would like to become a VE and help with testing please contact Linda, NA1I or Jim, N1ICN.

Nominations for Officers, 2016–2017 – Joe Chapman, NV1W

Officers for 2016–2017 will be elected at the club's General Meeting in June. The Nominating Committee, chaired by Hank Buccigross, K1QK, proposes the following slate of nominees for club officers: President: Joe Harris, N1QD; Vice President: Mark Duff, KB1EKN; Treasurer: Jim Clogher, N1ICN; Secretary: Joe Chapman, NV1W. Additional nominations will be accepted up until the election, and competition is welcome and encouraged! If you are interested in serving as an officer of the club, contact either Hank or President Joe Harris, N1QD.

Field Day Food Help Needed – Geri Duff, KB1ISG

One of the benefits of having Field Day at the Bare Cove Fire Museum is the complete kitchen and access to a charcoal grill. This year volunteers are necessary to organize the food as KB1ISG is not available during this weekend.

Meals for the weekend include Saturday's lunch and supper and Sunday's breakfast and lunch. There is a detailed list from last year that can be used as a guideline. A mile away from the Fire Museum is a Stop & Shop and several restaurants in the area for takeout. This will be discussed at the General Meeting June 16 or you can contact President Joe Harris N1QD for more details.



BARC Meeting Calendar for 2015 and 2016

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings will take place at the Brookline Police Headquarters. A map for this meeting location can be found below. Note that there are no General Meetings in July and August.

General Meetings

June 16	2016	Thu	7:30 pm — Elections
September 15	2016	Thu	7:30 pm
October 20	2016	Thu	7:30 pm
November 17	2016	Thu	7:30 pm

VE Sessions

July 11	2016	Mon	7:30 pm
October 10	2016	Mon	7:30 pm

Business Meetings

September 1	2016	Thu	7:30 pm
December 1	2016	Thu	7:30 pm

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-in’s 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

11–13 June	ARRL June VHF Contest
16 June	BARC General Meeting (Elections), Brookline Police Headquarters, Brookline
18 June	ARRL Kids Day
19 June	BARC Breakfast, The Friendly Toast, Cambridge
19 June	Flea at MIT, Cambridge
25–26 June	Field Day, Bare Cove Fire Museum, Hingham

145.230 (-) CTCSS 88.5

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449.175 (-) DMR CC1

26 June	BAA 10K (Rp)
1–6 July	13 Colonies Special Event (www.13colonies.net)
9–10 July	IARU HF World Championship
11 July	BARC VE Session, Brookline Police Headquarters, Brookline

▲ 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.

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 July issue must be received by July 9.



**The Clay Center Observatory
Welcomes BARC members**

www.claycenter.org

Public Astronomy Nights, Astronomy Day Events,
Amateur Radio Classes, Amateur Radio Youth Club,
Community and Adult Education, Weather Festival,
Science Lecture Series, Educational Outreach

20 Newton St., Brookline, near Larz Anderson Park

FOR SALE

Cushcraft A124WB 144-MHz 4-element Yagi antenna, new condition, original carton (assembled for indoor use as a receiving antenna in an RF emission sniffing test, never taken outdoors). \$75 plus shipping. (HRO lists this at \$109.95.)

Steve Hersey, N1XNX, n1xnxham@gmail.com.

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; or Bob Salow, WA1IDA, at w1ida@arrl.net or 508.650.9440.

Quarterly Business Meetings – Bob Salow, WA1IDA

As the Bylaws require, BARC has Business meetings quarterly. Unless circumstances warrant, BARC Business meetings will be held on the first Thursdays of December, March, June, and September. The next such meeting will be on **1 September 2016** at Brookline Police Headquarters. 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.

A short opening period of each General meeting will continue to be used to bring any immediate business matters to everyone's attention.

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 President Joe Harris, N1QD.

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 2016 exam session schedule is shown elsewhere in this newsletter issue.** 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
- Valid ID (picture ID preferred)
- A pen and a calculator (if you want to)
- **\$15.00** (good for all the tests you take at that session, except for retests)

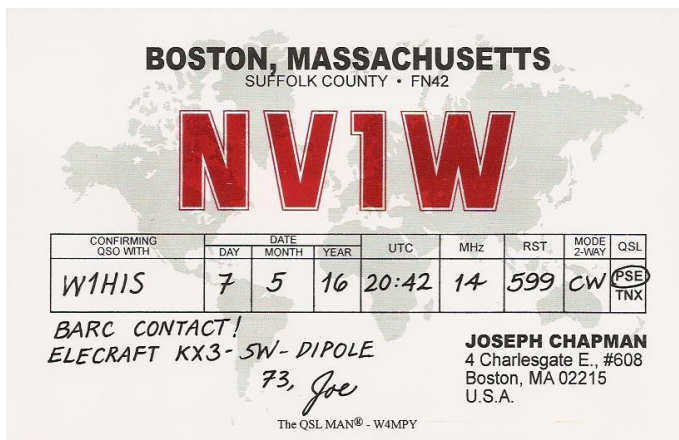
Note: Written tests can be taken sequentially at the same session for the same \$15 fee. The needed FCC forms will be provided.

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 the Editor, Joe Chapman, at nv1w@arrl.net.



BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS
SUFFOLK COUNTY • FN42

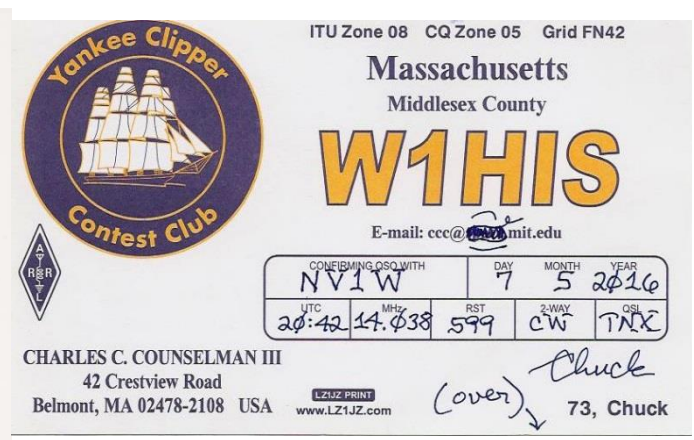
NV1W

CONFIRMING QSO WITH	DATE			UTC	MHz	RST	MODE	QSL
	DAY	MONTH	YEAR				2-WAY	
W1HIS	7	5	16	20:42	14	599	CW	PSE TNX

BARC CONTACT!
ELECRAFT KX3-SW-DIPOLE
73, Joe

JOSEPH CHAPMAN
4 Charlesgate E., #608
Boston, MA 02215
U.S.A.

The QSL MAN® - W4MPY



ITU Zone 08 CQ Zone 05 Grid FN42

Massachusetts
Middlesex County

W1HIS

E-mail: ccc@mit.edu

CONFIRMING QSO WITH	DAY	MONTH	YEAR	UTC	MHz	RST	MODE	QSL
							2-WAY	
NV1W	7	5	2016	20:42	14.038	599	CW	TNX

CHARLES C. COUNSELMAN III
42 Crestview Road
Belmont, MA 02478-2108 USA

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Chuck
(over) 73, Chuck

A BARC-to-BARC QSO in the 2016 New England QSO Party

145.230 (-) CTCSS 88.5

Simplex: 147.420

449.175 (-) DMR CC1

BARC Officers and Staff

President: Joe Harris, N1QD
781.844.8684; n1qd@n1qd.org

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,
617.908.5019; 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 Special Service 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)
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 9 pm	BARC Club Net	145.230 (PL 88.5)
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 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 Newsline)	145.470 (PL 136.5)
Sun 9 pm	CAARAnet	145.130 (PL 107.2)

145.230 (-) CTCSS 88.5

Simplex: 147.420

449.175 (-) DMR CC1