

*It's that time  
of the year!*

# **Boston Amateur Radio Club**

# 2008 Holiday Party

*Here's why you must not pass this up:*

1. Past experience has shown that you are guaranteed to have a good time,
2. You will be among the members and friends of the *Boston Amateur Radio Club*.
3. The BARC gourmet and gluttony departments have praised it far and wide.
4. Good food at a reasonable price.
5. You get to vote on the BARC "Ham of the Year," and watch the winner squirm.
6. It's for you, your family and your friends (if any).

*Here's what's goin' down:*

**Where:**

Stockyard Restaurant  
135 Market Street  
Brighton MA 02135

**When:**

Thursday, 11 December 2008  
7:00 pm  
(The regular club meeting is suspended.)

Free parking in the adjacent lot or on the street ♦  buses #86 and #84 stop nearby ♦ Talk in on 145.230

*Food ?? Of course !!*

The coupon below will guide you to choices you can make at the table. There is no need to decide now.

*Cost ?? We knew you'd ask !!*

It's a bargain at \$25.00 per person (tax and gratuity included). Reserve seats for yourself, your family and your friends by sending your check, payable to BARC, with the coupon below, and get it in the mail quickly. Take a \$5.00 discount for each of your guests. If you must delay, there will be a \$5.00 per person surcharge added at the door.

**Nominate your choice for the 2008 BARC Ham of the Year on the other coupon below.**

Send *both* coupons below to:

**Mike Ardai, N1IST**  
41 Williams Street  
Malden MA 02148

Send before 17 November 2008

Send before 17 November 2008

Send before 17 November 2008

**A party? Of course we'll be there!**

Make menu selections at the table.

**Body Count:** \_\_\_\_\_

Rosemary Roasted Chicken  
NY Strip Steak  
Tenderloin Tips  
Baked Schrod  
Grilled Salmon

Garden Salad  
Mashed Potato  
Coffee, Tea  
Dessert

*You will be responsible for your own bar bills*

**2008 BARC Ham of the Year**

I nominate: \_\_\_\_\_

Because: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_



# The SPARC

Newsletter of the Boston Amateur Radio Club

Volume XX, Number 11; November 2008

<http://www.barc.org>

[w1bos@arrl.net](mailto:w1bos@arrl.net)



## BARC To Operate SKYWARN Recognition Day

-- Mark Duff, KB1EKN

On Saturday, 6 December 2008, SKYWARN Recognition Day, BARC will participate for the sixth straight year from the Blue Hill Observatory in Milton. Our operating hours will be from 0900 to 1500. Mark your calendars now for a fun event.

Fun – you want some fun? How about an antenna held 200 feet aloft by a kite in 2004? Then there was the gale-force snowstorm in 2003. There are antennas to be installed and HF/VHF/UHF stations to be operated. We have the opportunity to meet with visitors to demonstrate and explain the relationship between weather observation and ham radio. All this will be at the weather station with the oldest continuous weather records in the country.

On a good day the visibility is over 100 miles from the Blue Hill Observatory. We invite you and any other hams to help and participate. Access to the top of the hill is restricted, so contact Mark, KB1EKN, at [emgmt@comcast.net](mailto:emgmt@comcast.net) for more information.

## SKYWARN Recognition Day Celebrates Ten Years!

-- ARES E-Letter, October 15, 2008

The 10th annual SKYWARN Recognition Day (SRD) special event will take place Saturday, December 6, 2008. SRD is co-sponsored by the National Weather Service and the ARRL. SKYWARN Recognition Day is a way to recognize the commitment made by Amateur Radio operators in helping keep their communities safe. During the 24-hour special event, Amateur Radio operators visit their local National Weather Service (NWS) office and work as a team to contact other hams across the world.

2008 SKYWARN Recognition Day will be held from 0000 UTC to 2400 UTC December 6. Last year contacts were made in all 50 states and 40 countries during the 24 hour event. If you haven't joined in the fun, 2008 is your year!

## Badges At Last

Delays no more! Every current BARC member will now have a new badge. Thanks to the leadership of Tom, KB1OKP, and the support of Mike, N1IST, and Bob, WA1IDA, a new design has been produced on a laminated badge. Get yours by coming to any BARC meeting; the badges and clips will be ready.

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Money talks! Mine says "Good Bye."

## A New Excitement at the November Meeting

Attila the Hun was always on the move. Count Dracula lived in a cramped box. After getting their licenses Attila wasn't sure about mounting a mobile antenna and Dracula needed help setting up his station in a limited space. The BARC meeting on **Thursday, 20 November** is the support they needed.

There are three kinds of hams: new hams, experienced hams but still learning, and experienced hams who know the ropes. Well, let's put them all to good use.

There is hardly a ham who doesn't have a problem; newly licensed hams certainly have questions before they realize they have a problem. BARC is here to help.

Newly licensed hams start questions: "How do I...?" and, "I didn't know that would be a problem." Buying a radio or antenna; trying to figure the difference between manufacturers of similar gear; using it now that you bought it... the questions have always been there and are still there. Of course, it's not just new hams that need a lift – an experienced ham with a new radio may be in the same fog. BARC brings help at the November General meeting.

What radio should I buy? How do I set-up my station? What antenna do I buy? What is the difference between manufacturers? How and, where do I mount my mobile radio? We have been there. Now is the time to help our inexperienced members get answers to their ham radio related questions. November's meeting will be devoted to answering these questions. This meeting will be the first in a series of BARC General meetings designed to meet these needs. The plan for this meeting is to match-up members who need answers to members who can help them.

Tom Bertolino, KB1OKP, will chair the meeting. You can email your questions to Tom before the meeting or just walk in with your question. If it's related to your radio, bring the radio and the manual. Tom's email address is [kb1okp@arrl.net](mailto:kb1okp@arrl.net). The meeting is on **Thursday, 20 November**, and will start at 7:00 pm. See you there.

## November BARC Meeting

Our General meetings are held starting at 7:00 pm on the third Thursday of each month at the Salvation Army third floor auditorium. The address is 147 Berkeley St, but the entrance is on Columbus Ave. The nearest T stations are Back Bay on the Orange line or Commuter Rail (exit the rear of the station) and Arlington on the Green line. Free parking is available in the adjacent lot. The entrance to the parking lot is from Columbus

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Ave. (across the street from the firehouse). A map appears on page 7 of the newsletter.

With our meeting structure, the first 30 to 45 minutes will be pending business, followed by the main topic of the month. Both portions of this particular meeting are important.

If you have any ideas about topics that you would like to see presented at future meetings, please feel free to contact one of your officers. Remember – this is *your* club and we are here to help *you* have fun and get the most out of ham radio.

## BAA Half Marathon - Run and Done

-- Bob Salow, WA1IDA

At last, the weather was just right. OK, so we had to get out of bed in the dark, but it was smooth from there. The event was the eighth running of the BAA Half Marathon on a certified course - 98% in Boston and 2% in Brookline. On Sunday, 12 October, we deployed 11 hams along the beautiful Emerald Necklace, from Clemente Field in the Fenway to the Franklin Park Zoo and back. As requested, we supported medical and water stations, certain hazardous locations and administrative needs.

The Half Marathon is now a recognized event in the running field. With recent success, the 5000 openings for this year were grabbed shortly after the announcement. When the BAA Half Marathon was over, we received the gratitude of not only the BAA staff and the medical team, but also the Boston and State Police, and the Boston Emergency Medical Service for our professional integration with them.

The Boston Athletic Association Half Marathon has now taken its place as a "Boston Tradition." Ham radio has established its community value at times like these. Here's who we were:

Arthur	N1NHZ	Russ	WB1DGS
Tom	KB1OKP	Chuck	W1SKT
Jim	KB1JKJ	Bill	N1RGM
Allan	K1VQ	Bob	WA1IDA
Ralph	N1LAH	Rick	KB1LYJ
Eric	K1NUN		

## Looking Ahead At Public Service

-- Bob Salow, WA1IDA

When hams engage in public service as mandated by the FCC Rules, the benefits go well beyond just following the rules. We can enjoy our hobby - have fun! We protect the health and safety of event participants. We support worthy charities. We learn to work within an organized effort. We experience the technical aspects of operating under adverse conditions. We practice communicating under emergency conditions. We can demonstrate these qualities to the communities we serve and thus promote our service for their acceptance.

Throughout the year BARC coordinates numerous public service events. Most of these are open to hams who are new to helping at such events as well as experienced hams. Here is a look ahead at events that we have been asked to support. Formal recruiting will not take place until closer to each event. Feel free to contact Bob

Salow, WA1IDA, if you have any questions - [wa1ida@arrl.net](mailto:wa1ida@arrl.net) or 508.650.9440.

- *SKYWARN Recognition Day* – **6 December 2008** – Blue Hill Observatory (Milton)
- *Multiple Sclerosis Journey of Hope* – **4 April 2009** – (Newton)
- *Multiple Sclerosis Boston Walk* – **5 April 2009** – (Boston and Cambridge)

Other events may jump in on short notice. Among our skills is the ability to apply our technical, organizational and staffing quickly and proficiently. Join our team and join in the fun and learning.

## BARC Business Notes

Recorded by Joe Harris, N1QD, Acting Secretary, at the General meeting, October 16, 2008.

The Treasurer's balance as reported by KB1OKP estimates our account at \$5608.72

The 145.230 repeater is fully operational at this time. 447.175 is still down due to the previously reported lightning strike. A work crew will be going to the site later this month to repair the UHF repeater and replace the VHF repeater.

SKYWARN Recognition Day is coming up on December 6. There is a possibility of operating on December 5 also.

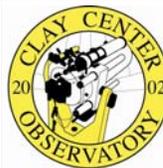
The November General meeting will be a question and answer session designed to help newly-licensed hams.

The next VE session will take place on 10 November at 7:00 pm since the school will be open.

A \$75 donation will be made to the American Red Cross in the memory of Paul Oliveri, N1ZKR.

## Future BARC Meeting Dates (Third Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.)

- 20 November 2008 – General Meeting
- 4 December 2008 – Quarterly Business Meeting
- 11 December 2008 – (*Holiday Party – No General Meeting*)
- 15 January 2009 – General Meeting
- 19 February 2009 – General Meeting



**The Clay Center Observatory  
welcomes BARC members**

[www.claycenter.org](http://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*

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## W1HFA to Introduce the Film *CONTACT*

The movie *CONTACT* will be screened at the Coolidge Corner Theater on Monday, 1 December at 7:00 pm. This is an adaptation of the Carl Sagan novel exploring the existence of extraterrestrial life. Before the film, astrophysicist Paul Horowitz W1HFA, will give a talk on the search for extraterrestrial intelligence (SETI). A true pioneer in this field, Horowitz and his work are believed to have been the inspiration for Sagan's novel.

Paul Horowitz is Professor of Physics and of Electrical Engineering at Harvard. At age 8, he achieved distinction as the world's youngest Amateur Radio operator. His research group is focused on several problems in experimental astrophysics, including the search for intentional radio signals or laser flashes from extraterrestrial intelligent civilizations.

The lead character in the film, played by Jodie Foster, uses ham radio to discover an intelligent message from deep space.

Tickets are \$9.75 for regular admission or \$7.75 for students, seniors, and Museum of Science members. Tickets are available in advance at the box office (290 Harvard St, Brookline) or online at [www.coolidge.org/showtimes](http://www.coolidge.org/showtimes).

## Quarterly Business Meetings

-- Bob Salow, WA1IDA

We will have Business meetings quarterly rather than monthly as in the past. 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 4 December 2008. 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 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 any officer.

## Newsletter Needs Folding

When this newsletter has an insert it takes a little more effort to publish. What do we do? We have a party! The December, January and February issues will contain the Membership Information form for 2009, so we will party and get the job done easily and quickly. Actually, the process is to eat, fold, staple, label and stamp.

Here's the deal – (usually) on the Wednesday after the first Thursday of the month, we meet at the CambridgeSide Galleria in the Food Court lower level. If you want to eat, get there at 1800; if you don't, you can arrive at 1830. If you can help, send an email to Tom at [kb1okp@arrl.net](mailto:kb1okp@arrl.net) and you will then be notified as the date approaches.

## It's Time For the Holiday Party and the "BARC Ham of the Year"

One of our most successful club events has been our Holiday Party in December. From the earliest days of BARC, our members, family and friends have had a wonderful time at our purely social get together. We have selected the famous Stockyard Restaurant in Brighton again this year, and we expect to have a great time with its great food. The Stockyard has an excellent reputation and has been carefully scouted by our devoted mastication team. The enclosed Holiday Party flyer gives all the details. The parking is free and the location is accessible by public transportation.

Mark the date: Thursday, 11 December. The December General meeting is omitted.

As indicated on the flyer, your cost is a \$25.00, with any excess, the tax and the gratuity paid by the club. Please bring your family and friends – with a \$5.00 discount for each. Send your check with the coupon, but menu selections need not be made in advance – just place your order at the table. If you cannot decide until the last minute, there will be a \$5.00 surcharge at the door. A cash bar will provide fortification, but you will be responsible for your own bar bills.

As has become our custom, the Holiday Party is where we award the "BARC Ham of the Year." The winner is chosen by your nomination from among the members. This means, of course, that it is up to you to recommend whom you feel most deserves the award this year. We want to recognize a BARC member for outstanding contribution to the club and to the Amateur Radio hobby.

Previous winners were:

- 1992 Mike Ardai, N1IST
- 1993 Lajos Gergely, AA1BW/HA0DR
- 1996 Dick Doherty, KA1TUZ and Bob Cassell, N1ENS
- 1997 Terry Koen, N1IWF and Arthur Ashley, N1NHZ
- 1998 Mike Kass, N1YER and Bob Wondolowski, N1KDA
- 1999 Paul Carter, N1TMF and Mike Koenemund, KB1CKF
- 2000 Mark Duff, KB1EKN
- 2001 Frank Murphy, N1DHW and Bob Salow, WA1IDA
- 2002 Jim Clogher, N1ICN
- 2003 Dick Doherty, KA1TUZ
- 2004 Blake Haskell, K1BTH
- 2005 Arthur Ashley, N1NHZ
- 2006 Jim Clogher, N1ICN
- 2007 Eric Falkof, K1NUN

It is important that you return the two coupons on the Holiday Party flyer – or at least the "BARC Ham of the Year" nomination if you are not able to attend the party. The return date is set to allow enough time to notify the restaurant of the expected attendance, and for the award to be engraved for the Ham of the Year.

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Women should not have children after 35. Really, 35 children are enough.

## BARC Volunteer Exam Sessions

The Boston Amateur Radio Club holds monthly VE sessions on the second Monday of each month. Sessions are held at 7:00 pm at the Pierce School, 50 School St in Brookline, Room 110, next to the cafeteria. A map is shown on page 7.

If the Brookline Public Schools (or the Pierce School itself) is closed due to inclement weather or other problems, the exam session for that month will be canceled.

There is a free parking garage at the circular driveway. If driving, enter School St from the Washington St side (opposite 394 Washington), rather than from Harvard St. Check: [www.barc.org/barc/school\\_map.gif](http://www.barc.org/barc/school_map.gif) : for more info.

For those traveling via the **T**, take the "D" branch of the Green Line to the Brookline Village station. Walk north along Harvard St 0.2 miles to School St, then turn left. The Pierce School is on the left. The #66 bus runs on Harvard St, crossing School St.

Talk in on 145.230 MHz (-), PL 88.5 Hz.

We give all exams (Technician, General, and Extra). You don't need to pre-register. 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 ID (picture ID preferred)
- A pen and a calculator (if you want to)
- **\$14.00** (good for all the tests you take at that session, except for retests)
- Written tests can be taken sequentially at the same session for the same \$14 fee.
- **NOTE: Beginning in January 2009, the exam fee will be \$15.00**

The needed FCC forms will be provided.

For further information, contact:

Jim Clogher, N1ICN, 617.364.4658 [n1icn@arrl.net](mailto:n1icn@arrl.net)  
Tom Bertolino, KB1OKP, 781.395.5538  
[thbe125@yahoo.com](mailto:thbe125@yahoo.com)

## Future Exam Dates

(Second Mondays at 7:00 pm)

8 December 2008  
12 January 2009  
9 February 2009  
9 March 2009

### W1FWH SK

We have received word from his widow that Fred Hamilton, W1FWH, had died on 15 October. He had been a BARC member for many years, but rarely attended meetings.

## BARC Growth

It's a rare month when we fail to add a few new members. Periodically we publish their names so that you can give them a special welcome. There may also be some upgrades and long lost members who rejoin, so greet them, too.

Jim Bradley	KB1JKJ
Larry Garvin	KB1QQM
James Surprenant	NB1R
Gary Toth	N2CRT

Please welcome the new BARC members and congratulate the new upgrades. Make it a point to introduce yourself when you see them at a meeting. In addition, we would like to note here all call sign changes. If you fit any of these categories, please promptly notify the Keeper of the Database, Bob Salow, WA1IDA at: 508.650.9440 or email: [walida@arrl.net](mailto:walida@arrl.net).

## Thanksgiving Day – Did You Know?

In the fall of 1621, the religious separatist Pilgrims held a three-day feast to celebrate a bountiful harvest, an event many regard as the nation's first Thanksgiving. It eventually became a national holiday in 1863 when Abraham Lincoln proclaimed the last Thursday of November as a national day of thanksgiving. Later, Franklin Roosevelt clarified that Thanksgiving should always be celebrated on the fourth Thursday of the month to encourage earlier holiday shopping, never on the occasional fifth Thursday.

A preliminary estimate of 271 million turkeys will be raised in the United States in 2008. Of these, 49 million are expected to be raised in Minnesota. The Gopher State is tops in turkey production. It is followed by North Carolina (39 million). The turkeys produced in 2007 together weighed 7.9 billion pounds and were valued at \$3.7 billion.

The forecast for US cranberry production in 2008 is 689 million pounds, up 5 percent from 2007. Wisconsin is expected to lead all states in the production of cranberries, with 385 million pounds, followed by Massachusetts (190 million).

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## Officers Needed

President (vacant)  
Secretary (vacant)

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## Hams Can Help Scientists Study Shrikes

-- ARRL Letter, October 17, 2008

For the second year, scientists are asking ham radio operators and VHF monitors to assist in scientific studies of Eastern Loggerhead Shrikes [www.shrike.ca/index.html](http://www.shrike.ca/index.html). If you live in an eastern state and can tune away from the ham bands for a few minutes a day, you could help scientists study this endangered bird species. Every year, these birds leave their captive breeding program in Ontario, Canada, but fewer and fewer are returning in the spring.

Researchers at the University of Guelph in Ontario have placed radio tags on 20 young shrikes. Although the primary purpose of the tags is to determine dispersal patterns - the movements the birds make immediately after leaving their nests - scientists also hope that more may be learned about the birds' fall migration journey. Scientists think the birds will fly south to Florida, but they might also overwinter in Tennessee, North Carolina and states just south of there. You can help by tuning in regularly to the tag frequencies, which are between 172 and 173 MHz. The complete frequency list is published at [www.homingin.com/](http://www.homingin.com/), along with articles to help you distinguish the pulsed tags from other signals you may hear. Please listen now, as migration is under way; the radio tag batteries will only function until the end of November.

## I See the Future

20 Nov	BARC Meeting
4 Dec	BARC Quarterly Business Meeting
6 Dec	SKYWARN Recognition Day (Blue Hill Observatory)
8 Dec	BARC VE Exams
11 Dec	BARC Holiday Party
14 Dec	BARC Breakfast
11 Jan	BARC Breakfast
12 Jan	BARC VE Session
15 Jan	BARC Monthly General Meeting
18 Jan	BARC Breakfast
9 Feb	BARC VE Session
14 Feb	AARC Flea (Marlboro)
15 Feb	BARC Breakfast
19 Feb	BARC Monthly General Meeting
5 Mar	BARC Quarterly Business Meeting

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 New England and some of New York, the "Ham - Electronic Flea Market" and the "PSLIST" lists tell the story. They are posted by e-mail to barc-list and on PBBSs regularly. If needed, contact any club member who has access to these.

## 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 Editor Paul Carter, N1TMF.

## Business 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. **Note that these rates will be effective 1 January 2009.**

Rates for display advertising are:

1 col x 2 in. (business card)	\$15 per issue
1 col x 2 in. (business card)	\$75 per 6 consecutive months
1 col x 2 in. (business card)	\$125 per 12 consecutive months
1 col x 4 in. (1/2 column)	\$30 per issue
1 col x 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 Paul Carter at [n1tmf@pvcronics.com](mailto:n1tmf@pvcronics.com) or 617.232.6982; or Bob Salow at [wa1ida@arrl.net](mailto:wa1ida@arrl.net) or 508.650.9440.

## Have Breakfast With BARC

BARC holds a social breakfast on the second Sunday of each month at the Old Country Buffet in the Watertown Mall. Breakfast is served from 0800 to 1130 (although we rarely stay beyond 1000).

**NOTE: Beginning January 2009, the breakfast date will change to the *third* Sunday of each month.**

We just get together, socialize and eat, without any formal club events or business. Family and friends are welcome. The extensive buffet breakfast is *very* good. The cost is reasonable (seniors get a discount).

The Old Country Buffet is in the Watertown Mall, 550 Arsenal St. in Watertown. There is plenty of parking. From Memorial Dr, continue on Greenough Blvd to the Watertown exit, turn right on Arsenal St. The #70 T bus from Central Square Cambridge to Watertown Square to Waltham stops right at the Watertown Mall. We hope to see all of you there - and bring your appetite!

## Getting Started on Amateur Radio Satellites

-- G4TUT from qrz.com

The RadCom article *Getting Started on Amateur Radio Satellites* by John Heath, G7HIA, can be downloaded from the AMSAT-UK website. It is an excellent introduction to the exciting world of Amateur Satellite Communications.

The increased interest in satellites generated by the Slow Scan TV (SSTV) transmissions from the International Space Station (ISS) has resulted in many newcomers wanting to find out more about Amateur Radio satellites. This article is a good place to start. It originally appeared in the March 2007 issue of the Radio Society of Great Britain magazine *RadCom*. The RSGB and author have

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generously agreed to allow AMSAT-UK to put the .pdf of the article on the web. It can be downloaded from [www.uk.amsat.org/content/view/408/168/](http://www.uk.amsat.org/content/view/408/168/).

AMSAT-UK publishes a quarterly newsletter full of the latest information on Amateur Satellites.

## Free Emergency Management Courses

-- ARES E-Letter, October 15, 2008

If you haven't looked at the independent study programs of FEMA's Emergency Management Institute lately, do yourself a favor and click on: <http://training.fema.gov/is/> Many new courses have been added, and a few of the classic original courses have been revised. Some of the newer courses significant for ARES members include:

- IS-102 Deployment Basics for FEMA Response Partners (New 9/2008)
- IS-802 Emergency Support Functions (ESF) #2 - Communications (New 8/2008)
- IS-775 EOC Management and Operations (New 8/2008)
- IS-100 Introduction to Incident Command System (Revised 7/2008)
- IS-200 Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents (Revised 7/2008)
- IS-809 Emergency Support Function (ESF) #9 - Search and Rescue (5/2008)
- IS-808 Emergency Support Function (ESF) #8 - Public Health and Medical Services (4/2008)
- IS-800B National Response Framework, An Introduction (2/2008)

FEMA's Independent Study Program offers courses that support the nine mission areas identified by the National Preparedness Goal: Incident Management, Operational Planning, Disaster Logistics, Emergency Communications, Service to Disaster Victims, Continuity Programs, Public Disaster Communications, Integrated Preparedness, and Hazard Mitigation.

Education in all of these should be ARES training goals. Here is what Dennis Dura, K2DCD, ARRL Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager, recently told the nation's Section Managers in reference to the ESF#2 Communications course: "Many of you may already be aware of this course (IS-802), or have taken it. It is a relatively new FEMA on-line independent study course that presents the concepts of Emergency Support Function #2-Communications. For those that have heard my presentations around the country, I strongly encourage integrating ARES in the local, county, regional or state government emergency operations plans, of which ESF #2 is a part. This presents us a variety of mission options, not beholden to any one specific group, and we become more aligned with the emergency management structure. The course will take approximately 30 minutes to complete."

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No one ever says "It's only a game," when their team is winning.

Everybody is somebody else's weirdo.

## ARRL General License Course Now Available On CD-ROM

-- ARRL Letter, October 17, 2008

Now there is even more help for upgrading to a General class license - the new "ARRL General Class License Course" at [www.arrl.org/catalog/?item=1387](http://www.arrl.org/catalog/?item=1387). The course includes the popular book, "ARRL General Class License Manual" with an all new instructional CD-ROM. This package has everything you need to upgrade.

The CD-ROM includes topics divided into "bite-sized" sessions, allowing you to learn at your own pace. The visual animations, along with colorful illustrations and audio, make your learning experience exciting and fun. The CD-ROM also includes quizzes and practice exams based on official exam questions to help reinforce your learning. The complete "General Class License Manual" is on the CD, giving you the freedom to have the entire book at your fingertips.

There are many reasons to upgrade your license, including:

- ✓ More frequencies - The General class licensee has access to more bands.
- ✓ More communications options - As you access the General frequencies, you now have many more ways to make contacts on new modes and with new groups of hams. Your new skills are also valuable to your emergency team or club.
- ✓ New technical opportunities - With your new General class privileges, you now have many more ways of assembling and operating a station. The effects of the ionosphere and solar conditions will become second nature. Your improved technical understanding of how radio works will make you a more knowledgeable and skilled operator.
- ✓ More fun - The traditional activities of ragchewing, DXing and contesting continue to attract hams as they have for decades. You'll find that even familiar activities take on new and interesting aspects on the HF bands.

Not only does upgrading your license grant you more privileges, but your experiences will be much broader. You'll enjoy Amateur Radio in ways that hams have pioneered and fostered for generations. These new privileges are well worth the effort.

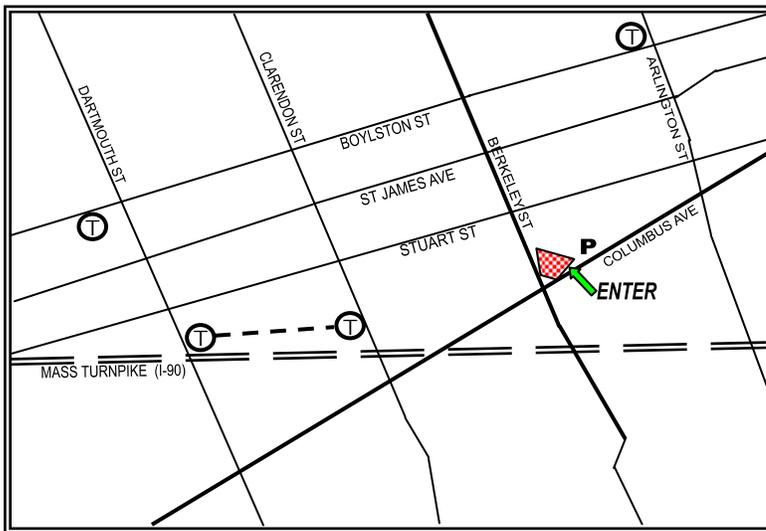
By earning your General class license, you will gain access to nearly all amateur frequencies. Remember: There are no bands on which a General class licensee can't transmit! As a more experienced ham, your wider knowledge will allow you to experiment with, modify and build equipment and antennas to improve your communications abilities. This course is valid for exams given until June 30, 2011.

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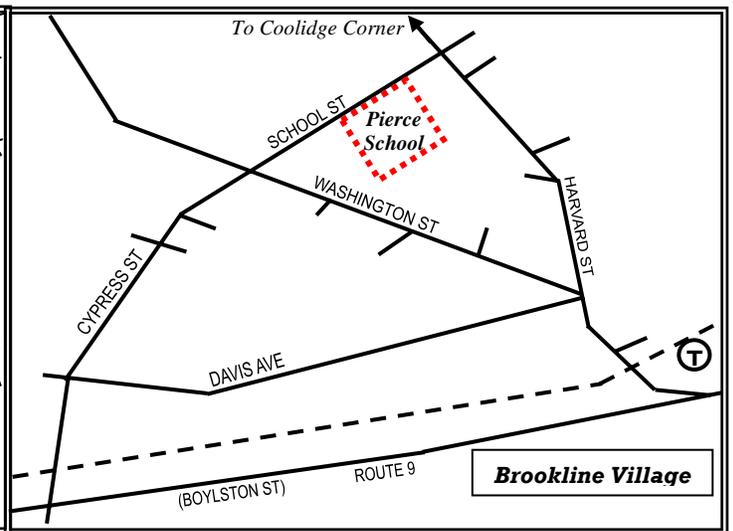
Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach him how to fish, and he will sit in a boat and drink beer all day.

How come you don't ever hear about grunted employees? And who has been dis-ing them anyhow?

You need only two tools in life - WD-40 and duct tape. If it doesn't move and should, use the WD -40. If it shouldn't move and does, use the duct tape.



General Meeting – Boston Salvation Army  
Corner of Berkeley St. and Columbus Ave.



VE Session – Pierce School  
50 School Street, Brookline, Room 110 next to the cafeteria

### BARC Officers and Staff

President	(Vacant)		
Acting President	Bob Salow, WA1IDA	508.650.9440	walida@arrl.net
Vice President	Tom Bertolino, KB1OKP	781.395.5538	kb1okp@arrl.net
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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 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 a participant in Partnerships Advancing Technical Hobbies Which Attract Youth to Science (PATHWAYS). The Club is also an associate member of the Courage Handi-Hams system.

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### Greater Boston Net Directory

Daily 5:30 pm	Eastern Mass/Rhode Island Phone Net (NTS)	3.915
Daily 7 and 10 pm	Eastern Mass/Rhode Island CW Net (NTS)	3.658
Daily 8 pm	Eastern Mass 2M Traffic Net (NTS)	145.230 (PL 88.5)
Daily 8 pm	Slow Speed CW Net	28.160
Daily 10:00 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 9 pm	BARC Club Net	145.230 (PL 88.5)
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	HHTN Swap Net	146.640
Thu 8:30 pm	AMSAT Net	146.640
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

Repeaters: 145.230 (-) PL 88.5    447.175 (-) PL 110.9

Simplex: 147.420

## ***ONCE UPON A TIME EVERY HAM WAS NEW***

New hams have the same questions – and some we never thought of before. The November meeting is where these questions should be brought and experienced hams can provide some guidance. This is not to deny that some of the experienced hams among us have some of the same questions, but anyone can ask and it is likely that an answer will be provided.

Got a question on any ham subject (equipment, operating, installation, etc.)? Come. Got some knowledge? Come and share it. This is what hams do!

*The next Meeting is:*  
**20 November 2008 at 7:00 pm**  
**at the Salvation Army Headquarters building**  
**Columbus Avenue at Berkeley Street**  
**Boston**  
*Parking in the adjacent lot on Columbus Avenue*  
*Talk-in on 145.230 MHz (CTCSS 88.5 Hz)*

***Help eradicate blank space!***

**Get your news, views, stories and other contributions for the December issue of *The SPARC* to Editor, Paul Carter, N1TMF, no later than December 5, 2008.**

***First Class Mail***  
*Dated Material - Do Not Delay*

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