



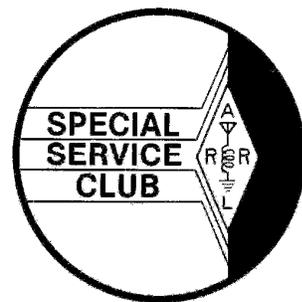
The SPARC

Newsletter of the Boston Amateur Radio Club

Volume XXI, Number 9; September 2009

<http://www.barcl.org>

w1bos@arrr.net



The President's Corner

-- Tom Bertolino, KB1P, President

The summer is over, and it's time to enjoy the fall. Autumn is my favorite time of the year. It's not too hot or too cold. The leaves start to change color and the mornings are cool. It is just a good time to enjoy the outdoors. Some excellent ways to enjoy the fall are the public service events which BARC supports. They are: The Boston Salvation Army Field Exercise (26 September), at Camp Wonderland in Sharon, and the BAA Half Marathon (11 October) in Boston, and the SKYWARN Recognition Day (5 December) at the Blue Hill Observatory in Milton.

The first event, The Salvation Army Field Exercise on **Saturday, 26 September**, needs hams to help the managers control the exercise. There is a short article in this issue of the newsletter which gives the point of contact for this event. If you can help out, please do so promptly.

The next event, the BAA Half Marathon on **Sunday, 11 October**, requires a number of hams stationed along its route to ensure the safety of the runners, spectators and staff. I will send an email out to Boston area hams asking for their help. Depending on *The SPARC's* publication date you may already have received the email.

Getting closer to winter, on **Saturday, 5 December**, SKYWARN teams across the country are recognized by the National Weather Service for the exemplary service hams provide. BARC responds with a portable station at the top of Great Blue Hill in the observatory holding the oldest weather records in the nation.

These events are excellent opportunities for newly licensed hams and hams in general to gain valuable experience.

A club update, on 3 September, Bob, WA1IDA, Frank, N1DHW, and I met with the General Secretary of The Salvation Army HQ in Boston. Having sold their present HQ building, TSA will be moving to several other properties they own in the Greater Boston area. He assured us that TSA will support BARC and will provide us with space in one of their locations that will meet BARC's needs for meetings and our activities. He stated that we could continue to use the HQ building in Boston for our meetings and VE sessions until their scheduled move in January 2010.

As a consequence, this month's VE session will be held on the 14 September at 1900 at the Boston HQs of The Salvation Army. Directions (the same as for our General meetings) can be found in this newsletter.

I am looking forward to seeing you at our meetings or one or more of the public service events.

Go Around the World on Your Keyboard With Low Power - An Introduction to BPSK-31

If you have antenna or power restrictions, and you are looking for an answer on how to operate on HF, then BPSK-31 could be your answer. All you need is a HF radio, a simple antenna (indoors or outdoors), a computer and an interface and you are ready to go.

What is BPSK-31? How does it work? Why is it becoming so popular? What do I need to run BPSK-31? All these questions will be answered, and internet references given to help you set-up your own BPSK-31 station (with the proper license class). The presentation will concentrate on the how to rather than theory. If time allows we will set-up a station and demonstrate how BPSK-31 works. If you are interested in or want to know about the BPSK-31 mode, come to the meeting. If you now use BPSK-31, come and assist in the discussion. Everyone is invited.

Our September General meeting will be held on **17 September**. The meetings are on the third Thursday of each month, starting at 7:00 pm at the Salvation Army HQ third floor auditorium. The address is 147 Berkeley St, Boston, 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 Ave. (across the street from the firehouse). A map appears on page 7 of this newsletter.

We usually take the first few minutes for any pending business, followed by the main topic of the month. Both portions of the 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.

Monthly VE Sessions Relocated

After a fallow July and August, our VE sessions are now to be held at the same location as our meetings - in the Salvation Army HQ building in Boston. The sessions have been moved from the Pierce School in Brookline because economic conditions led Brookline to require a fee beyond our means.

The sessions will continue to begin at 7:00 pm. Parking is free in the adjacent lot accessed from Columbus Ave.

I missed winning the lottery by only six numbers!

Repeaters: 145.23 (-) PL 88.5 444.050 MHz (+) 110.9 Hz

Simplex: 147.42

When Disaster Strikes... No, It's *Before* Disaster Strikes

-- Wayne Barringer, KB6UJW

The time you have to prepare may be less than what you need. Your best option is to prepare in advance. Hurricanes, floods, fires, and others may offer sufficient advance warning and provide time for precautionary or preventive action. However, earthquakes or tornadoes usually strike with little or no advance warning.

If you have planned ahead and are more prepared, you have a lot more options than someone who has not planned and is not ready.

Ask yourself... will you be able to:

Get out of your home or work quickly? Review your area and know the location of all exits and stairwells. Don't use the elevator in the event of fire. Does your family have a plan on how to exit and go to a safe place outside? Schedule a practice session during the summer. Remember, practice doesn't make perfect - perfect practice makes perfect!!

During this month:

Check the water level in batteries of all vehicles. Summer heat increases wear and tear and can be the cause of starting problems. Check your first aid kits in the house, garage and vehicles, replenish any missing items.

Join or Renew - ARRL and BARC Get Benefits

The ARRL club commission program allows ARRL Affiliated Clubs to retain a portion of the ARRL dues from each new member or renewal that the club submits.

Under the ARRL Club Commission Membership Recruitment Program, clubs retain \$15 for each *new* membership and \$2 for each *renewal* submitted (regular and senior memberships only). A new member is defined as any individual who has never been a member of ARRL or any individual who has not retained a membership for two or more calendar years prior to the application submission.

The details and forms can be found on the web at the ARRL Club Companion page:

<www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/benefits.html#commission>



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

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 Salvation Army Boston HQ building in Boston. This is the same location as our General meetings. The address is 147 Berkeley St, Boston, 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 Ave. (across the street from the firehouse). A map is shown on page 7.

Note this change of location from prior venues.

If inclement weather or other problems occur, the exam session for that month may be canceled. Monitor the 145.230 repeater for advice.

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)
- **\$15.00** (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 \$15 fee.

The needed FCC forms will be provided.

For further information, contact:

Jim Clogher, N1ICN, 617.364.4658 n1icn@arrl.net

Tom Bertolino, KB1P, 781.395.5538 kb1p@arrl.net

Future Exam Dates

(Second Mondays at 7:00 pm)

14 September 2009

12 October 2009)

9 November 2009

14 December 2009

Status of the 70 cm BARC Repeater

The new 70 cm repeater has been having a severe problem with receiving. A likely culprit is a nearby saturating signal that gets through the input filters. Earlier tests at an off site location indicated excellent performance from the repeater. Our crack team is working on the solution.

Only in America do we leave cars worth thousands of dollars in the driveway and put our useless junk in the garage.

Do illiterate people get the full effect of Alphabet Soup?

Dijon vu - the same mustard as before.

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Salvation Army Disaster Field Exercise

-- Frank Murphy, N1DHW

The Salvation Army Emergency Disaster Services has planned a Field Exercise on **Saturday, 26 September** at Camp Wonderland in Sharon, MA. This event will focus on disaster operations training for key members of the Command staff and Volunteers. Ham radio support has been and continues to be a vital part of this exercise. The drill will simulate a specific, large-scale disaster response, and work on building response capacity in a number of different areas.

The drill will begin with registration at 0830, followed by a Disaster Services Organization role-specific training from 0930 to 1030, with the live exercise beginning at 1030. Lunch will be served from canteen kitchens as part of the drill. A brief time for assessment is planned before the event is completed at 1545pm.

Communications will be managed from the Communications van as in a disaster situation. About 20 hams will be needed as shadows for Salvation Army commanders and managers, specific field operations, and at the food and supply locations.

If you are able to participate, or have any questions, please contact me at n1dhw@arrl.net.

Looking Ahead At Public Service

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. Feel free to contact Tom Bertolino, KB1P, if you have any questions - kb1p@arrl.net or 781.608.6186.

- *Salvation Army Field Exercise* - **26 September 2009** - Camp Wonderland, Sharon
- *BAA Half Marathon* - **11 October 2009** - Boston
- *SKYWARN Recognition Day* - **5 December 2009** - Blue Hill Observatory - Milton

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.

Emergency Communications Workshop

-- Rob Macedo, KD1CY

An ARES Emergency Communications Workshop will be held on Saturday October 3, 2009 from 0900 to 1600 at the Acushnet Emergency Management Agency. See essential information at this link: <http://ares.ema.arrl.org/node/461>.

Have Breakfast With BARC

BARC holds a social breakfast on the **third** Sunday of each month at the Old Country Buffet in the Watertown Mall. Breakfast is served from 0800 to 1030 (although we rarely stay beyond 1000).

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!

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I See the Future

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 13 Sep | SEMARA Flea (Dartmouth) |
| 14 Sep | BARC VE Session (<i>Note new location</i>) |
| 17 Sep | BARC General Meeting |
| 19 Sep | RIFMRS Flea (Forestdale RI) |
| 20 Sep | BARC Breakfast |
| 20 Sep | MIT Flea |
| 26 Sep | Salvation Army Disaster Exercise (Rp) |
| 11 Oct | BAA Half Marathon (Rp) |
| 12 Oct | BARC VE Session |
| 15 Oct | BARC General Meeting |
| 16-17 Oct | NEAR-Fest Flea (Deerfield NH) |
| 17 Oct | NE Antique RC Flea (Manchester NH) |
| 18 Oct | BARC Breakfast |
| 18 Oct | MIT Flea |
| 2 Nov | HCRA Auction (Feeding Hills) |
| 7 Nov | IRS Flea (Londonderry NH) |
| 7 Nov | FARA Flea (Bourne) |
| 3 Dec | BARC Business Meeting |

(Rp) = BARC repeater(s) may 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 more information, the "Ham-Electronic Flea Market" and the "PSLIST" lists can be consulted.

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Minutes of the BARC Business Meeting

3 September 2009; Recorded by Jim Bradley, KB1JKJ, Secretary.

The meeting was called to order at 1915.

Present were:

Tom Bertolino	KB1P	President
Frank Murphy	N1DHW	
Jim Bradley	KB1JKJ	Secretary
Mike Ardai	N1IST	
Jim Clogher	N1ICN	Treasurer
Bob Salow	WA1IDA	
Arthur Ashley	N1NHZ	
Linda Blair	KB1RBP	
Joe Harris	N1QD	
Hank Buccigross	K1QK	
Mark Duff	KB1EKN	Vice President

Tom Bertolino KB1P, as the new President, named the following members to the Executive Committee: Frank Murphy, N1DHW; Bob Salow, WA1IDA; Hank Buccigross, K1QK and Arthur Ashley, N1NHZ. More appointments may follow.

Jim, N1ICN, Treasurer, reported that the club bank balance was \$3644.67.

Mike, N1IST, said that he has had no complaints about the 2 meter repeater, 145.230, and everything seems to be working okay. On the 444.050 side, the receiver still has significant saturation and is not usable.

There was no report from membership.

Bob, WA1IDA, mentioned upcoming public service events: BAA Half Marathon and SKYWARN. Frank, N1DHW, discussed the Salvation Army's upcoming drill on September 26. We will need about 20 hams. It was noted that we should support this event as a way to support the Salvation Army for the use of their building for meetings and their continued support of the club.

Field Day/Cookout was held at the Bare Cove Fire Museum in Hingham. Thanks to Mark, KB1EKN, for securing the location and initial setup. Everyone agreed that this was one of the best Field Days. Having members of the Northeastern Club was a plus. Mark suggested that we consider running 24 hours or until midnight and restart Sunday morning next year. The club donated a barbeque grill to the Fire Museum.

Tom, KB1P, stressed the reassignment of Bob's critical tasks; Tom will take over as Keeper of the Database, and Public Service Coordinator. Jim, KB1JKJ, will manage *The SPARC* newsletter with Paul, N1TMF, as Editor.

BARC will present an Amateur Radio Technician Class seminar for selected Salvation Army staff and volunteers on October 10 and November 21. The exam will be given Nov 21 following a short review.

New business:

Tom, KB1P, reported that he had a call from the daughter of Dick, KA1TUZ, (SK) stating that Dick had donated his equipment to

BARC in his will. Tom picked up the equipment and brought the collection to Mark's house in Hingham for sorting and disposition. The club agreed to sell the equipment at an upcoming MIT Flea Market.

There was discussion on the location for our General meetings and VE sessions. We can use the Salvation Army HQ building until December 2009 for both. At that time The Salvation Army will vacate this building and find a space for us in one of their other facilities.

Eric, K1NUN, asks for support in setting up an Amateur Radio shack at the Zola Center in Newton. This could be 1 to 3 hours on a Saturday in September.

There was agreement to hold our Holiday Party at the Stockyard Restaurant in Brighton. A suitable date would be on Thursday, December 3, pending further investigation.

Jim, N1ICN, asked for an appropriation to purchase accounting supplies for the upcoming year. A motion was made and passed.

The meeting adjourned at 2120.

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This is where the real business of BARC is conducted. If you have any suggestions, questions or comments, this is where to bring them. Members are encouraged to join us at this meeting.

The next Boston Amateur Radio Club Business meeting will be held Thursday, December, 3 (Quarterly on the first Thursday of the month), starting at 7:00 pm. Meetings are held at the Salvation Army headquarters building, 147 Columbus Ave, at the corner of Berkeley St.

To provide continuity of club business between the formal Business meetings we have a virtual Business meeting via an email reflector. 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.

Still For Sale

I have been asked to liquidate some of the radio estate of our late member, Jim Bloom, KB1MZE. While this equipment is used, he apparently kept it in good condition. However, it is to be sold "as is."

- Astron power supply, Model RS20A - \$20.
- Heathkit multiband shortwave receiver, Model GR-78 - \$70.
- APC UPS power supply, Model SU700NET - \$30.

More items will be available later. Contact Bob Salow, WA1IDA, at walida@arrrl.net or call 508.650.9440.

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.

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Passing the Tech Test

-- Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

I teach One-Day Tech classes. At the start of each class, I go over the following to help focus students on what to keep in mind when taking the test. It occurs to me that these are good tips no matter who is taking the test, so if you know someone who will be testing soon, please feel free to pass along this advice.

Technical Topics

The Tech test is not very technical, but there are three technical topics that you need to know: Ohm's law, how to calculate power, and the relationship between frequency and wavelength.

Ohm's Law

The basic formula for Ohm's Law is voltage (E) equals current (I) times resistance (R), or $E = I \times R$. On the test, there are several questions where they give you two of the values and ask you to calculate the third. If you're asked to calculate the current, you use the formula, $I = E / R$. If you need to calculate the resistance, use the formula $R = E / I$.

How to Calculate Power

The formula for calculating power is power (P) equals voltage (E) times current (I), or $P = E \times I$. To calculate the current drawn, when given the power being consumed and the voltage applied to the circuit, use the formula $I = P / E$.

Relationship Between Frequency and Wavelength

There are several questions that require you to calculate the wavelength of a signal or some fraction of the wavelength. The reason for this is that antennas are often a fraction of a wavelength. The formula that describes the relationship between frequency and wavelength is wavelength in meters equals $300 / \text{frequency in MHz}$.

One question asks for the approximate length of a quarter-wavelength vertical antenna for 146 MHz. To figure that out, you first calculate the wavelength: $\text{wavelength} = 300/146$, which is 2.05 meters, or about 80 inches. One quarter of 80 inches is 20 inches, and the antenna will actually be a little bit shorter than that because radio travels more slowly in wire than it does in free space. The closest correct answer to this question is 19 inches. That's all there is to the technical part of the test!

Safety

There are lots of questions on the test about operating safely and being safe when working on antennas. My advice when answering these questions is to always choose the most conservative answer. The two exceptions are when asked what is the lowest voltage and current that can hurt you. For these questions, the correct answer is the second lowest choice.

Emergencies

There are lots of questions about what to do in emergencies. There are two things to keep in mind when answering these questions:

You should do whatever you can to help someone who is in an emergency situation. You can even break the rules to help someone in an emergency situation. This includes operating on

frequencies you are normally not allowed to operate on and communicating with other stations in other radio services.

Miscellaneous Tips

Here are a couple of other miscellaneous tips:

The answer is D. If one of the answers to a question is, "D, All of these answers are correct," chances are that is the correct answer. There are 18 questions with this option, and of those 18 questions, there are only two questions - T3B06 and T5B03 - where that is not the correct answer.

Long-Answer Rule. Where one answer is a lot longer than the other options, chances are that this is the correct answer. I haven't done an exhaustive study of this, but when one answer is very long, take a good, hard look at it.

That's all I have. Good luck on the test!

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When not helping people pass the Tech test and become good Amateur Radio operators, Dan likes to work CW on the HF bands and collect QSL cards from stations whose call signs spell words.

To see what else he's up to, go to <[www.kb6nu.com](http://www.kb6nu.com)>.

## Business Can Advertise Here

The SPARC accepts commercial advertisements. We encourage promotion of products and services which would be of interest to our members. Members are urged to seek prospective advertisers who are appropriate to our readers.

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                  |

For layout requirements contact Paul Carter at [n1tmf@pvctronics.com](mailto:n1tmf@pvctronics.com) or 617.232.6982; or Bob Salow at [wa1ida@arrl.net](mailto:wa1ida@arrl.net) or 508.650.9440.

## 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.

Brian McNamee KB1SGO

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: [wa1ida@arrl.net](mailto:wa1ida@arrl.net).

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When a clock is hungry, it goes back four seconds.

Nothing is foolproof to a sufficiently talented fool.

## Stuart's First QSO

-- Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

One of the great things about Field Day are the stories. Every year I add a story or two to my repertoire. This year is no exception.

My best story from Field Day 2009 starts about 1:30 pm on Saturday. I was at my post at the public information table/GOTA station. We had been ready to roll for at least a half hour, so a group of us were just sitting around chewing the fat when 13 year old Stuart and his mother walked up to the table.

Her son was a little on the shy side, so his mother explained that Stuart had seen a listing of our Field Day site on the Internet and had asked her to bring him out to see us. She mentioned that Stuart had been listening to ham radio operators on his little Yaesu handheld scanner for several years and was very excited to actually meet some ham radio operators and see ham radio in action.

Not only that, she said that he had taught himself Morse code. A kid after my own heart! I quickly volunteered to give them a tour of our Field Day site. First, I showed him our VHF/UHF station, and he seemed really impressed with the five single-band radios.

Next, I took him into the 40 meter phone station. I asked how fast he could copy Morse code, and he said 30 words per minute. I cranked the receiver down into the CW portion of the band, and sure enough, he could copy anything that I tuned in.

At this point, it was still only 1:45 pm, so I told him, "Let's go over to one of the CW stations, and we'll see if we can make a contact." We marched over to the CW #2 station, and after getting clearance from the station captain, I tuned around for a clear frequency, then called CQ. Immediately, N5VV, replied.

At this point, Stuart was so excited, he was shaking a little bit. Since the contest was just about ready to start, I kept the contact short, but that didn't matter. Stuart had finally gotten to see ham radio in action.

Stuart's mother then inquired about taking the test. I explained that our Volunteer Examiners give the test every second Saturday of the month and gave her the URL of our website. She said that Stuart had been studying and was ready to take the test.

Unfortunately, they had to leave at that point. I told Stuart's mother that we'd be there through 2 pm Sunday and to come back any time. She said that they'd definitely be back the next day.

### Stuart Makes His First Contact

Stuart and his mother returned about 1:30 pm on Sunday. He wanted to see the VHF/UHF station again, so that was our first stop. He took a couple of photos of the setup, and then I suggested we go over to the GOTA station. When we first got there, someone was at the mike, but shortly afterwards, they got up, and Stuart and I took the controls.

When we first sat down, I made a few contacts using my call to show him how to use the paddle. I demonstrated that holding the levers down produces a series of dits or dahs, and that by tapping

the other lever while holding down the first, you can produce a dit between dahs or a dah between dits.

Then, I asked him if he'd like to try it. He said yes, so just to see how it would go, I tuned above 7100 kHz. There was no activity there, so I set the keyer speed to 15 wpm and told him to send my call sign a few times. He reached over with his left hand and sent it perfectly. Now, remember, this is someone who'd never touched a paddle of any kind before. Not only that, he even sent the K (dah-di-dah) iambically! That is to say that he held the dah paddle while tapping the dit paddle to slip in a dit between the two dahs.

Then, I asked if he'd like to make some contacts. He said yes, so we switched seats, and I said, "OK, tune around a little and find a strong station calling CQ." We found K2ZR, and I coached him a little on how to reply. "Now, remember," I said, "we're going to use the W8PGW call sign." When I gave him the nod to send, he reached over with his *right* hand and sent W8PGW perfectly! When K2ZR replied with our call and the exchange, I coached Stuart to reply with "4A MI." Not only did he do that, but he slipped in an "R" to denote that we'd copied the exchange. When K2ZR replied with a "TU," I showed him how to log the contact.

That's all the coaching I needed to do. After the first contact, I said, "OK. Now, tune around for another station calling CQ, and we'll make another contact." He was off to the races. Because his arms weren't long enough to reach the computer from where he was seated, as soon as he made a contact, he jumped over to the computer to type it into the log.

When we started, the keyer speed was set to 15 wpm. After a couple of contacts, I asked if he might want to send faster. When he said OK, I bumped it up to 18 wpm. After a few QSOs with only a couple of mistakes, he asked if we could go faster, so I set it at 20 wpm. Again, only a couple of mistakes, so we bumped it up to 22 wpm. There, he started making more mistakes, but let me repeat, he never touched any kind of key before in his life. I have no doubt that with a little practice, he could easily do 30 wpm.

Overall, he made 12 contacts in the 21 minutes he operated the station. Not a bad rate for someone who'd never sent a character of Morse code in his life.

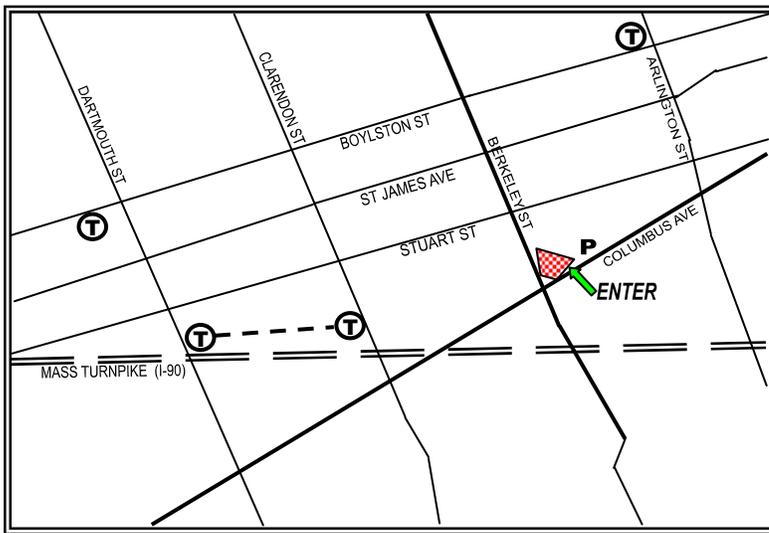
Unfortunately, Stuart was not able to take the test at our July VE session as he was at Boy Scout camp. Come the second week of August, though, he'll be a ham. He even has a vanity call sign picked out for himself. Listen for him - on the CW bands, of course.

## Orange Caps for Public Service Events

BARC has a supply of the bright orange caps for use at emergency or public service events. They are adjustable to fit all but the very largest heads, and proclaim, "Emergency Communications."

The price is \$5.00, and they are available at club meetings, or contact Jim, N1ICN, or Bob, WA1IDA.

A conclusion is the point at which you got tired of thinking.



BARC General and Business meetings and the VE Sessions are held at:  
 The Salvation Army HQ building, corner of Berkeley St and Columbus Ave in Boston.  
 Free parking in the adjacent lot – enter from Columbus Ave.

### **BARC Officers and Staff**

|                       |                        |              |                            |
|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| President             | Tom Bertolino, KB1P    | 781.608.6186 | kb1p@arrrl.net             |
| Vice President        | Mark Duff, KB1EKN      | 781.749.7664 | emgmt@comcast.net          |
| Secretary             | Jim Bradley, KB1JKJ    | 978.663.7114 | james.bradley4@comcast.net |
| Treasurer             | Jim Clogher, N1ICN     | 617.364.4658 | n1icn@arrrl.net            |
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| Membership Services   | Charlie Goumas, KB1RCN | 617.776.6249 | coasterrider@rcn.com       |
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| Programs & Activities | Phil Temples, K9HI     | 617.744.9780 | phil@temples.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 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**

|                          |                                           |                                                                                             |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Daily 5:30 pm</b>     | Eastern Mass/Rhode Island Phone Net (NTS) | 3.915                                                                                       |
| <b>Daily 7 and 10 pm</b> | Eastern Mass/Rhode Island CW Net (NTS)    | 3.658                                                                                       |
| <b>Daily 8 pm</b>        | Eastern Mass 2M Traffic Net (NTS)         | 145.230 (PL 88.5)                                                                           |
| <b>Daily 8 pm</b>        | Slow Speed CW Net                         | 28.160                                                                                      |
| <b>Daily 10:00 pm</b>    | Heavy Hitters Traffic Net (NTS)           | MMRA-linked repeaters:<br>146.610, 146.670, 146.715, 146.820, and all 222 and 440 repeaters |
| <b>First Mon 8:30 pm</b> | EMA Section ARES Net                      | 146.610 and all MMRA links                                                                  |
| <b>Mon 9 pm</b>          | BARC Club Net                             | 145.230 (PL 88.5)                                                                           |
| <b>Tue 8 pm</b>          | MMRA Club Net                             | 146.610 and all MMRA links                                                                  |
| <b>Wed 8 pm</b>          | Wellesley Amateur Radio Society Net       | 147.030; 444.600 (PL 88.5)                                                                  |
| <b>Wed 9 pm</b>          | HHTN Swap Net                             | 146.640                                                                                     |
| <b>Thu 8:30 pm</b>       | AMSAT Net                                 | 146.640                                                                                     |
| <b>Sat 9 am</b>          | Northeast SATERN Net                      | 7.265                                                                                       |
| <b>Sun 9:30 am</b>       | Yankee SSB Net                            | 50.275                                                                                      |
| <b>Sun 8 pm</b>          | Algonquin Amateur Radio Club Net          | 446.675 (PL 88.5)                                                                           |
| <b>Sun 8:30 pm</b>       | NSRA Net (with Newsline)                  | 145.470                                                                                     |

Repeaters: 145.23 (-) PL 88.5 444.050 MHz (+) 110.9 Hz

Simplex: 147.42