



The SPARC

Amateur Radio - Communicating Worldwide for A Century
Newsletter of the Boston Amateur Radio Club
"Serving Hams in the Greater Boston Area"

December 2011 - VOLUME 23, NUMBER 12

www.barc.org - w1bos@arrl.net



Message from the President - Linda M. Blair, NA1I

Organization: (noun)

What is it and Why do we want to be part of it?

The Boston Amateur Radio Club (BARC) is an "Organization." What is an "organization?"

"From the dictionary we find that an organization is a social unit of people, systematically structured and managed to meet a need or to pursue collective goals on a continuing basis. All organizations have a management structure that determines relationships between functions and positions, and subdivides and delegates roles, responsibilities, and authority to carry out defined tasks. Organizations are open systems in that they affect and are affected by the environment beyond their boundaries."

"The word itself is derived from the Greek word organon, itself derived from the better-known word ergon - as we know 'organ' - and it means a compartment for a particular job."

There are a variety of types of organizations, but their enumeration is not relevant here. BARC is a "Not-For-Profit" organization. Although many Not-For-Profit organizations are very large with tens of thousands of members (The American Red Cross, The Ford Foundation, etc.) BARC is very small with only a hundred or so members. As such, we are a somewhat close-knit group. We depend upon a small number of members to accomplish multiple tasks in order to keep the organization running. Each task in itself is an important link in a chain. When one link falters, others also fail. This is not conducive to a smooth running organization, especially a small one. We must all do our respective jobs.

Even though we are a small organization, we are multi-faceted. Our primary focus is on Amateur Radio, but Amateur Radio has many different interests included within its definition. Among them are HF radio, VHF/UHF radio, satellite communications, public service, amateur TV, technological development, and message trafficking. We join the organization in order to associate with others and to share knowledge and experiences. In doing so, we both learn and teach. The organization gives us a platform to engage in many different ways in the hobby that we so much enjoy.

But the organization does not run itself. We must have leadership. We must also have members who can and will perform the various necessary support tasks. These can range from organizing and leading public service events to conducting Exam sessions for ham licensing to keeping our repeaters properly functioning. Again we see the chain that must have all links intact.

We also have our social components such as Field Day and our Holiday Party. Other social events are held but these tend to come and to go. These two are our mainstays. Field Day is of course both a social and a communications event. We get to have fun with our radios as well as to socialize with other Club members. After all, BARC has three things to sell: knowledge, activity, and camaraderie. When we become members, we do so because we want some or all of those things.

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January 19, 2012 Meeting.

The January meeting will include a Show and Tell, so bring in your Ham related equipment to share. Don't have anything to share then bring a Question? We May Have the Answer. Not sure how to program your radio, bring it in with the manual and we will help you.

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In order to produce positive experiences for our membership (all of us) our organization must be smooth running with everyone doing his/her assigned tasks. If a link in the chain falters, it is the obligation of leadership to address the matter. Although repairs can be messy, we must look toward the long term and act accordingly.

*Keeping the foregoing in mind, it is vital that we all, as members, do whatever we can to help the organization run smoothly. All types of talents are welcome and useful. We need more active members to lighten the workload for others. We need younger members to become involved and learn. Younger members are the Club's future leadership. Being active today will help ensure there will be a Club for you to lead. If we all do our part, we will continue to have a fine Club with many available resources for us, its members. We will continue to be "a social unit of people, systematically structured and managed to meet a need or to pursue collective goals on a continuing basis." We will continue to be **The Boston Amateur Radio Club**.*

Happy Holidays!

Jiggle the Dates

Due to venue conflicts some BARC meetings in 2012 must be shifted as to date and/or place. Please take note of these; timely reminders will be posted in the newsletter.

19 Jan	Thu	General Meeting	Brookline PD
15 Feb	Wed	General Meeting	Brookline PD
1 Mar	Thu	Business Meeting	Cambridge Side Galleria
14 Mar	Wed	General Meeting	Brookline PD
19 Apr	Thu	General Meeting	Clay Center
17 May	Thu	General Meeting	Brookline PD
7 Jun	Thu	Business Meeting	Brookline PD
21 Jun	Thu	General Meeting	Brookline PD

BARC 70cm Repeater Off

Our 70cm repeater is off the air, effective immediately, and until further notice. The 2M repeater on 145.230 remains operational. We are reviewing and revamping our total repeater support to the Greater Boston ham community.

KB1EKN and KB1ISG Named 2011 BARC Hams of the Year

Mark, KB1EKN and Geri, KB1ISG, were named the BARC Hams of the Year for 2011 by membership vote. The presentation of a plaque was made at the BARC Holiday Party on 7 December. Mark and Geri were unable to attend so Joe N1QD accepted the award in their honor.

Mark and Geri have stepped up making the last 2 Field Days at the Bare Cove Fire Museum successful events that were enjoyed by all. They are also in the background assisting in many other club events. Hearty congratulations and our thanks go to Mark and Geri.

It's Time for Membership Renewal

The BARC Executive Committee decided to have no increase in the dues structure for 2012. The basic full year membership fee for regular members continues at \$25.00. Junior, senior and family memberships are set accordingly. There is also an adjustment for the latter half of the year.

If you have not yet renewed your membership for 2012, a Membership Information form is included with this issue of the newsletter. Be sure to complete the form when submitting your dues as the data is necessary for statistical purposes and to notify you with important information. To assist the Treasurer with his burden, please return it promptly with your dues.

BARC accepts PayPal. If you want to renew your membership online, just go to www.barc.org/membership.html or click on the membership link on our home page. You can use this to pay for membership or make donations with a credit card (even if you do not have a PayPal account), from your PayPal funds, or from your linked bank account. Our PayPal address is w1bos@arri.net.

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BARC Growth

It's a rare month when we fail to add or upgrade a few 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.

Bo Budinger

WA1QYM

Please welcome 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 .

Volunteer Examiners Needed - Hank, K1QK

BARC is in need of more Volunteer Examiners (VEs) for our exam sessions. In some cases we have only the required 3 VEs for our sessions. 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 attend our test sessions. If you can spare one night a month please come to a session.

We can 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. If you would like to become a VE and help with the testing please contact Linda, NA1I or Jim, N1ICN.

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.

The 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 Jim Bradley, KB1JKJ, at 978.663.7114 or <kb1jkj@arrl.net>; or Bob Salow at <wa1ida@arrl.net> or 508.650.9440.

DX Maps of the World

Two DX maps of the world are available from Icom: the *CQ DX Zones of the World* and the *ITU DX Zones of the World*. Go to www.icomamerica.com/en/support/kb/article.aspx?articlenumber=668B54492A

Got a Story? Why not share It! -- Jim Bradley, KB1JKJ

We are always looking for articles for the newsletter. So I have reserved this space for your articles, tips, how-to's, or other ham related information. Send your submissions to the Editor, Jim, KB1JKJ, at <james.bradley4@comcast.net>.

Articles for the January issue must be received by 30 December.

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Minutes of the BARC Business Meeting: December 1, 2011

--Recorded by: Hank Buccigross K1QK

Present were:

Jim Clogher, N1ICN, Treasurer
Joe Flaherty, W1JJF
Hank Buccigross K1QK, Executive Cmte

Linda Blair, NA1I, President
Bob Salow, WA1IDA, Executive Cmte
Mark Duff, KB1EKN

The president opened the meeting at 1905.

Treasurer's Report: Jim, N1ICN, reported our bank balance is: \$2,185.36

Secretary's Report: Jim, KB1JKJ, was absent from the Business meeting.

Membership Services Report:

Linda, NA1I, reported that we had one new member join in December.

Repeater Report:

The 145.230 repeater is working fine The 70 cm machine is not. It will be removed and its future decided upon soon. Meanwhile it is out of service and a notice to that effect will be posted in *The SPARC*.

Echo link needs a home. Linda will contact Phil Temples, K9HI, to see if that home can be his home.

Public Service:

We need to coordinate with the Brain Tumor ride folks if we are to do communications for them. Their next meeting is scheduled for December 13. Hopefully Jim will be able to attend. Neither Bob nor Hank will be able to do so.

Scheduled Events:

- 3 Dec SKYWARN Recognition Day - Mark, KB1EKN will head this activity. (Tom KB1P, Hank, K1QK, and Mark have reviewed the site with an outside consultant. 15 and 20 meters look like the best bands. There is some interference in the middle of 2 meters which is why we have problems using 145.230 during events at Blue Hill Observatory.
- 7 Dec Holiday Party will be at the Stockyard Restaurant again this year.

New Business:

With a few exceptions Business Meetings and General Meetings will be held at Brookline Police Headquarters on the 3rd Thursday of the month. Exceptions will be noted in *The SPARC*. VE Sessions will be held on the same site on the 2nd Monday again with a possible exception here and there.

The need for more VEs was discussed.

General meeting plans for the next 6 months were discussed. Details will be provided in future issues of *The SPARC* and via e-mail to members. The January meeting will be a "show and tell". Members who wish to participate need only to bring a radio-related item and talk about it.

The meeting was adjourned circa 2045.

Ham Websites Galore -- ARRL Contest Update, June 8, 2011

There's an intriguing link on the Kansas Section website, <http://ksarri.org/deeplink/>, with the title "Amateur Nirvana! 500 Websites! All Ham links! Nothing but Ham Radio." It's a great resource for web information about our hobby.

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Weatherproofing Coax Connectors -- ARRL Contest Update, October 12, 2011

The following was extracted from an article on the professional practices of weatherproofing with the intent of focusing on ham protection.

When sealed correctly in the following manner the weatherproofing will last for years and withstand just about any weather. When cut open for service, the mated connected pair will be dry and shiny. This is the broadcast industry standard - others may have different methods that work well for them so the usual caveats apply. Since ham radio is a hobby, there is less financial pressure to make installations bulletproof but if the weatherproofing fails in the dead of winter, you will rue the day you didn't do the job right.

- 1) Arrange the cable so that it can form a drip loop near the connector. Keeping water away from the connector is important. Support the cable at or near the drip loop to reduce flexing at the connector which can cause weatherproofing failure.
- 2) Thoroughly clean the connector body/cable/antenna connector body where the weatherproofing will be applied. Adhesion is greatly degraded by dust or grease.
- 3) Lay down a flat, non-wrinkled single layer of 3/4" Scotch electrical tape extending several inches out on the cable jacket and/or antenna connector and covering the mated connector bodies. This provides a clean surface for the self-fusing butyl tape layer and protects the connectors from the butyl adhesive. Some recommend flipping the initial layer upside-down over the connector to keep adhesive residue off of the connector bodies but in my experience this is a non-issue if quality tape is used, such as Scotch 33+ or 88+.
- 4) Apply a layer of self-fusing butyl tape, stopping an inch from each end of the initial layer. This is the main waterproofing layer, so it is important to keep the butyl warm and thoroughly massage it into a homogenous mass around the connector assembly. In the winter, keep the rolls of tape and butyl inside your jacket or your arm pit until ready for use. It is also important to press it into grooves and attempt to mold the outside surface of the butyl into as smooth a cylinder as possible. If this is not done, the top layer of tape will not lay flat and allow moisture ingress as well as allow the butyl to be exposed to the weather. Make the transition from the cylindrical mass of butyl to the cable as smooth as possible.
- 5) On top of the butyl, wrap several layers of 2" wide electrical tape extending past the bottom layer of tape on both ends of the connector assembly. Use low tension to ensure the tape is wrinkle free and flat against the butyl and cable/antenna body. DO NOT wrap the tape tightly; when the assembly heats up in the sun the tension exerted by the tape will begin to extrude the butyl between the tape layers. The final 6" of outer tape should be applied with very little tension so as not to put shear on the unsupported adhesive. The end of the tape must be cut, not torn, so there is no distortion or residual stress in the tape. Wrap the final turns carefully, DO NOT get dust, dirt, finger oil or other greases on the adhesive. Make sure the end of the tape lands flat and with zero tension. If it pulls up for any reason, the "flag" it forms will catch the wind and eventually compromise the assembly.

Recommended is Andrew #221213 weatherproofing kits which cost less than \$20 each. The kit includes quality Scotch tape and can weatherproof at least six or more 1/2" UHF/N connectors with each kit (they claim 12). Other tower riggers say that the Wireless Solutions WK-U kit also works well. Either kit contains materials which pass MIL-STD-1344A, Method 1002, for weather resistance.

Occasionally "aneurysms" develop in the weatherproofing from trapped air bubbles caused by pressure from the inside of the cable when using UHF-series connectors which are not pressure tight or watertight. This pressure is caused by thermal cycling and air expansion. According to Andrew, placing gel weatherproofing compound in connectors is also not recommended as it can soften the gaskets in connector bodies, as well as be forced under expansion through the tape and contribute to degradation of the weatherproofing.

It is common for ham antenna installations to feature multiple connectors close together where you cannot wrap tape successfully. In those cases, the dual-layer hot-melt-lined heat-shrink is often used. Getting this technique right may take some experimentation. The biggest problem with the use of adhesive-lined heat-shrink in this application is that the polymer used for the melting liner becomes rigid at low temperatures and may release from cable jackets when mechanically stressed by cable movement. The vinyl/butyl tape solution in general will not. In either case, adequately supporting the cable close to the connection will greatly help the longevity of the connection.

Repeaters: 145.230 (-) CTCSS 88.5

Simplex: 147.420

443.550 (-) CTCSS 110.9

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SKYWARN Recognition Day – Jim Bradley, KB1JKJ

Saturday December 3, was SKYWARN Recognition Day. As we have for the past 9 years BARC operated from the Blue Hill Observatory on Great Blue Hill in Milton. The weather was brisk and clear – much different from our first year when we battled a foot of snow and high winds. Several members assisted in set up and tear down so the operation went smoothly. As he has since the first year Mark, KB1EKN, coordinated the event.

This year we tried a different antenna configuration. We put a string of antennas (20M – 15M – 10M) connected end to end running North West from the observatory tower to a large pine tree. Each year the antenna mount on this tree gets higher because of tree growth – we win. We also had a 40M antenna running east from the observatory tower to another large pine tree. We had three radios setup in the observatory. The combination worked well – we had over 170 contacts. Mark, KB1EKN, made a couple of contacts in Argentina and Bill, W1OHM, made a contact with the USS Wisconsin in Pearl Harbor, HI.

After assisting with logging and trying my luck on 10M and 20M, I made my first HF contact on 20M at about 14:45. I was taking over on 20M from Joe, N1QD, who was burning the airwaves. Once I sat down behind the mike the band when silent and all I got was nothing but dead air and static. After about 15 minutes I heard the call sign K4AMT. It took me a few seconds to realize he was replying back to my CQ. I replied back and we exchanged names, weather data and I explained our special event call sign W1BOS/MQE. Later that night we exchanged emails and he is sending my first QSL card. Shortly after the contact we shut down the radios and broke down the antennas.

As always “a good time was had by all”.

SKYWARN Recognition Day Final stats / Thoughts –

Joe Harris, N1QD

Wow! What great conditions this year! This was by far the most productive year I think we've had for SKYWARN Recognition Day. The new antenna system worked great, and having the high bands open didn't hurt either!

Here are our final QSO numbers:

40m -- 15
20m -- 115
15m -- 30
10m -- 12
Total = 172 Qs

Mark mentioned a possible need for filters to keep us out of each other's receivers. I think it would be a good idea to invest in a set. They would be useful whenever we set up multiple TRX in one location (ie Field Day). Dunestar sells single band filters for \$73 each. See: <http://www.dunestar.com/store/Single-Band-Bandpass-Filters-pid-4.html>

Again, thanks for a great SKYWARN Recognition Day!



Mark KB1EKN tuning up on 10M



Hank K1QK operating on 20M, KB1JKJ logging and Bill W1OHM in background.



Joe N1QD running 20M had over 100 contacts



Mark KB1EKN explaining the finer details of HF operations to Hank K1QK and Jim KB1JKJ
Above photos by Bob, WA1IDA

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Carving Out Time for Ham Radio -- Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

On a recent episode of This Week in Tech <www.twit.tv>, Leo Laporte, W6TWT, mentions ham radio, and a guest asks him how much time he is spending on the air. Leo, who just recently got his Tech license says “Zero!” and laughs. This is not uncommon. Lots of people seem to get a ham radio license and then do very little with it. I think one reason for this is that they don’t take into account how much time the hobby really can eat up.

They get their ticket because it seems like a cool thing to do, but then they have to carve out some time to actually be a ham radio operator. Even if you don’t make any of your own gear, setting up a station takes time, and then there is the operating time, of course. Carving time out of busy schedules — and I would guess that Laporte has a pretty busy schedule being the owner of TWiT — is a challenge.

I see things like this all the time. At one ham radio club meeting that I attended, the club vice president asked, “OK, here’s the question of the month. How many of you actually got on the air in the past month.” Less than half of those in attendance raised their hands. Geez, I thought to myself, why do they even bother to come to meetings if they don’t get on the air?

Making time for ham radio

So, if you’re a busy person, how do you make time for ham radio? Well, being the Internet geek that I am, I Googled, “making time for things you love.” I got a lot of links to sites that talked about work-life balance and some new-age blogs, but none of them offered much in the way of concrete advice.

Then, I Googled “make time for hobbies” and right off the bat, I found two good articles — 7 Creative Ways to Make Time For Your Creative Hobby! <www.exploringwomanhood.com/homelife/hobbies/maketime.htm> and 5 Ways to Make Time for Your Hobby <<http://o5.com/5-ways-to-make-time-for-your-hobby/>>. Both articles offered very similar advice. Here are four points that both made:

- 1. Schedule it.** Set aside a specific time during which you’re going to do ham radio. Don’t let that time get pre-empted.
- 2. Designate a place in your home for ham radio.** Having to set up your radios or dig out your tools every time you want to operate or build something is not much fun and wastes a lot of time. Having a “shack” and a workspace designated for your projects will let you spend more time on the fun stuff.
- 3. Partner up.** Arranging to work with another ham will make it harder to blow off ham radio for some other activity. Besides, it’s a lot of fun to do things with other hams. If you’re a newly licensed ham, find an Elmer. There really are plenty around who would be willing to help you.
- 4. Create a project plan.** Setting up an amateur radio station is no small feat. Breaking it down into smaller chunks will make it seem more doable, and you’ll get a feeling of accomplishment when you meet your in-between goals.

There’s so much to learn and do in Amateur Radio that it can seem quite overwhelming. I think that’s one reason why so many Techs never really get into the hobby and why some experienced hams drift away. I think if you follow the advice above, though, you’ll not only find the time to pursue Amateur Radio, but get a lot more out of it.

Emergency or Entertainment? -- Wayne Barringer, KB6UJW

Lots of volunteer radio organizations are in crisis. Numbers keep on a downward trend. Participation is either falling or intermittent. And, most importantly, local emergency managers can be seen with raised eyebrows when they stand in front of meetings seeing all those gray and bald crowds.

There is a long-standing belief that public service events can be used for training purposes. Learning how to use your own equipment ranks as one of the top five reasons for participating. However, for many radio operators the only thing they learn is “release to listen”... oops, that is not right... it’s press to talk.” Seriously, many (but certainly not all) public service events have insufficient numbers of hams participating. In many cases, not all positions can be filled. So, coordinators have to compromise their original plans and settle for those they have.

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A public service event (PSE) *is* and *should be* used for training and for increasing operational awareness of plans, policies and procedures. After all, PSE participation is a more common field deployment than any other that we have available. How could we *avoid* using them as training opportunities?

In truth, lots of “experienced” (senior) radio operators feel they are already emergency communicators. They don’t “need” any “more training” because they already “know” what to do. And if you doubt them, all you have to do is follow them over to their “shack” and just take a look at all of that equipment!

Emergency communications is less about equipment than about policy and procedures. True, equipment is important. “Bad” equipment is never a good thing... ever! And people who don’t know how to use their selected radio will always be a liability! I believe Emcomm is only 20% about equipment and 80% about policies and procedures that will make us successful during a disaster or other type of emergency mobilization.

How many PSE activities include changing frequencies to make sure a radio operator can successfully change from one frequency to another? How many PSE operations include a “travel net” (TN) to impress upon new (and experienced) radio operators that “safety” is *PRIORITY #1* and they may need to be contacted if their route is closed or there is a change in their assignment? What better opportunity than a Public Service Event to reinforce a policy that every radio operator must maintain contact with Net Control when in transit?

How many times do you call a station and no one answers? A PSE can be an excellent opportunity to increase attentiveness, especially when a surprise “roll call” is conducted to make sure everyone is listening.

Policies and procedures are just for training. Increasing operational familiarity is used every opportunity as a “training segment” to learn what “should” and “will” be done in an emergency. Otherwise, a PSE is just providing free communications!

As an emergency communicator, I truly want to have fun. Laughing and having a good time is always enjoyable. But how often do you have an opportunity to demonstrate why all that training is necessary? Every PSE is an opportunity to test, evaluate and improve!

Yes, a PSE can *and should* be fun. But, if a PSE contains absolutely no educational value, that’s one PSE I want to avoid! What do you think?

National Terrorism Advisory System

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has announced the National Terrorism Advisory System (NTAS) - a robust terrorism advisory system that provides timely information to the public about credible terrorist threat’s and replaces the former color-coded alert system.

The new system has only 2 levels and replaces the previous 5 color levels

- **“Elevated Threat”** - Warns of a credible terrorist threat against the United States
- **“Imminent Threat”** - Warns of a credible, specific, and impending terrorist threat against the United States

An NTAS Alert would be issued to the public if the government were to receive information about a specific or credible terrorist threat. Under NTAS, DHS will coordinate with other federal entities to issue detailed alerts to the public when the federal government receives information about a credible terrorist threat.

Depending on the nature of the threat, alerts may be sent to law enforcement, distributed to affected areas of the private sector, or issued more broadly to the public through both official and social media channels.

DHS encourages citizens to follow NTAS Alerts for information about threats and take an active role in security by reporting suspicious activity to local law enforcement authorities through the **If You See Something, Say Something** public awareness campaign.

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I See the Future

7 Dec	BARC Holiday Party (<i>General meeting omitted</i>)
12 Dec	BARC VE Session (<i>by reservation only</i>)
9 Jan	BARC VE Session (<i>by reservation only</i>)
19 Jan	BARC General Meeting
13 Feb	BARC VE Session (<i>by reservation only</i>)
15 Feb	General Meeting (Brookline PD)
1 Mar	Business Meeting (<i>CambridgeSide Galleria</i>)
12 Mar	BARC VE Session (<i>by reservation only</i>)
14 Mar	General Meeting (Brookline PD)
9 Apr	BARC VE Session (<i>by reservation only</i>)
19 Apr	General Meeting (<i>Clay Center</i>)
14 May	BARC VE Session (<i>by reservation only</i>)
17 May	General Meeting (Brookline PD)

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.

No Dues Increase for 2012

The BARC Executive Committee decided to have no increase in the dues structure for 2012. The basic full year membership fee for regular members continues at \$25.00. Junior, senior and family memberships are set accordingly. There is also an adjustment for the latter half of the year.

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. For 2012, we have already been tasked with several events, and more may be expected. Feel free to contact Bob Salow, WA1IDA, at 508.650.9440 or <wa1ida@arrl.net>.

- SKYWARN Recognition Day – 3 December – (Blue Hill Observatory, Milton)
- BAA 5K & 1 Mile Races – 15 April – (Boston)
- Run of the Charles – 29 April – (Charles River, Needham to Boston)
- MS Boston Walk – 1 April – (Boston)
- MS Journey of Hope Walk – 12 May – (Natick)
- Brain Tumor Bike Rides – 20 May – (Waltham to Concord)
- BAA 10K Race – TBA – (Boston)
- BAA Half Marathon – 7 October – Boston

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.



Repeaters: 145.230 (-) CTCSS 88.5

Simplex: 147.420

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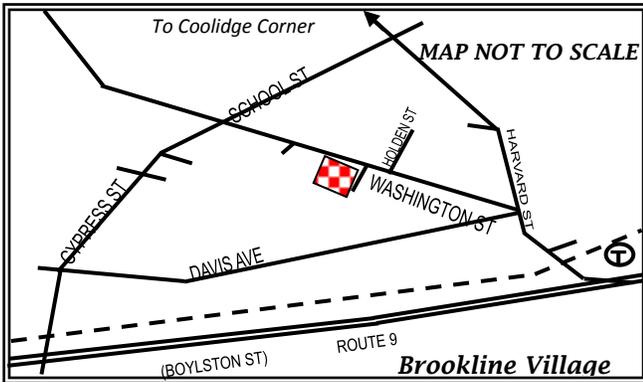
Quarterly Business Meetings -- Bob Salow, WA1DA

We have 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 March 2012** at the CambridgeSide Galleria. 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 President Linda Blair, NA1I.

Directions to the Brookline Police Headquarters, 350 Washington Street, Brookline MA





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 Brookline Police Headquarters, 350 Washington St in the Community Room across from information desk. A map is shown below

We give all exams (Technician, General, and Extra). Testing is by reservation only. Please bring the following with you:

- Your current license and a photocopy for the ARRL, if you are upgrading
- Any CSCEs you are claiming, and a photocopy of them
- Valid 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, 617.364.4658 n1icn@arrl.net
Linda Blair, NA1I, 617.500.4406 na1i@arrl.net

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The SPARC

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 Linda Blair, NA1I, at <na1i@arrl.net>.

BARC Officers and Staff

President: Linda Blair, NA1I
617.500.4406; na1i@arrl.net

Vice President: Jim Bradley, KB1JKJ;
978.663.7114; kb1jkj@arrl.net

Secretary: Jim Bradley, KB1JKJ;
978.663.7114; kb1jkj@arrl.net

Treasurer: Jim Clogher, N1ICN,
617.364.4658; n1icn@arrl.net

Volunteer Exams:
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617.500.4406; na1i@arrl.net

Public Service: Bob Salow, WA1IDA
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Newsletter Editor: Jim Bradley, KB1JKJ
978.663.7114; kb1jkj@arrl.net

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 also an associate member of the Courage HandiHams 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 Newsline)	145.470

Repeaters: 145.230 (-) CTCSS 88.5

Simplex: 147.420

443.550 (-) CTCSS 110.9



Boston Amateur Radio Club

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION - 2012

Members: if you have already renewed for this year, please use this form to sign up a friend.

Please do not omit any items below

New

Renewal



Full name _____ Call sign _____

Name used on the air _____ Evening phone(_____) _____

Address _____ Daytime phone(_____) _____

_____ Cell phone (_____) _____

City/Town _____ State _____ ZIP (9 digits) _____

E-mail address _____

LICENSE CLASS ___ Novice ___ Technician ___ General ___ Advanced ___ Extra ___ Former ham ___ Not yet a ham	ARRL MEMBERSHIP ___ Life ___ Annual ___ Not a member	The BARC membership list is for club use only , including publishing the roster to our members only . Do you wish to restrict such limited distribution: <input type="checkbox"/> OMIT ADDRESS <input type="checkbox"/> OMIT EVENING PHONE	IMPORTANT: To save the club significant costs and effort, the club now publishes its newsletter only online. You will be notified monthly by email to link to a web page where the earliest posting will be available. Our newsletter, <i>The SPARC</i> , is the source of local and general ham radio news and official club information. It is therefore essential that for this fast and cost saving plan, that you indicate above your best email address .
	EMCOMM? 1 2 3		
Are you an ARRL certified VE? YES NO	Have you taken ICS-700? YES NO		

Membership Category	Full year 2012 if paid between Nov 11 to 31 July 12	Half year 2012 if paid between 1 Aug 12 to 31 Oct 12
REGULAR MEMBER: Not otherwise qualified below <input type="checkbox"/>	\$25.00	\$12.50
JUNIOR MEMBER: Are you under age 18? <input type="checkbox"/>	\$12.50	\$ 6.50
SENIOR MEMBER: Are you over age 64? <input type="checkbox"/>	\$12.50	\$ 6.50
FAMILY MEMBER: [Regular member I live with _____] <input type="checkbox"/> I am the family member to receive club mailings YES NO Note: Each member in the family must complete a separate form.	\$12.50	\$ 6.50

If you are able, please help support the club's activities and repeaters: ■ ■ ■ ■ ► \$

Total \$

Signature _____ Date _____

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> × Welcome to the Boston Amateur Radio Club! Join in the fun of being a ham! × Your cancelled check is your receipt; membership acknowledgement is for the year shown on the newsletter address label. × Make checks payable to: BOSTON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB × Please write your call sign on your check. 	Give to any officer or mail to: BOSTON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB PO Box 15585 Boston MA 02215-0011
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Dues \$ _____ Addl \$ _____ Recd by _____ Date _____

DB by _____ Memb Nr _____ Date _____ Loc _____

Gratuitus est per