



# ***The SPARC***

***Amateur Radio - Communicating Worldwide for A Century***  
***Newsletter of the Boston Amateur Radio Club***  
**Serving Hams in the Greater Boston Area**  
December 2013- VOLUME 25, NUMBER 12  
[www.barc.org](http://www.barc.org) - [w1bos@arrl.net](mailto:w1bos@arrl.net)



## **Message from the President – Joe Chapman, NV1W**

*As most of you are aware, Eric Falkof, K1NUN, became a silent key, suddenly and unexpectedly, on November 17.*

*Eric was a long-time active member of the club, a past President, and a VE. A ham for 52 years, he was a well-known figure in the amateur radio world, especially here in New England. He was a frequent speaker at club meetings all over the region and worked the Boston Marathon for years. Recently he was volunteering at the Zola Center, where he started a ham radio club, and at the Museum of Science.*

*Linda, NA1I, and I attended Eric's funeral at his temple in Wayland. We heard family, colleagues, and friends—including one from the amateur radio world—pay tribute to a fine, kind and generous man. Hams have the good fortune to have the word "Elmer", a concept the other speakers had to struggle to express.*

*One of my favorite memories of Eric happened a little over a year ago. Linda had convened her roving W5YI VE team for a session up at Harvard. There were no takers that night, so Eric, Bill, W1PL, and I headed over to the Harvard Wireless Club's shack for a tour. After seeing the station, we headed up to the attic. Among the treats were a station license issued by Herbert Hoover (as Secretary of Commerce in the 1920's).*

*Eric of course started bounding around like a nine-year-old thirty minutes after a successful session of trick-or-treating, blowing the dust off things, and offering a continuous stream of commentary. What the thing was, who made it, what other things they made, how many of them he had back at home, what it was worth. Along the way Bill and I learned how to identify mysterious tubes (put them in the freezer for a while, then take them out and breathe on them, and you'll be able to read the legends when the glass fogs up). We also learned how to reform old electrolytics (attach a Variac and bring the voltage up very slowly).*

*I conducted a brief service of remembrance for Eric at a session of the Monday night BARC net, and I understand there will be further on-air commemorations.*

*I've expressed the condolences of the club to his wife Nancy, KB1OCP, with whom we share the shock of losing him so unexpectedly, and so many good memories.*

*Hail, fairwell, and 73, Eric..*

*Joe Chapman, NV1W*

## ***Come Celebrate With Us!*** **BARC Holiday Party, January 12, 2014**

BARC's annual Holiday Party will take place in January this year, after the busy holiday season is behind us. The party returns to The Stockyard this year. We will be having a luncheon at 1PM Sunday, January 12. The cost will be \$25 per person and will include vegetarian options. Look for the sign-up form attached to this issue of *The SPARC*..

## ***The SPARC***

### **Membership Renewal Special for January 2014! – Joe Harris, N1QD**

At the December business meeting, it was decided that the club would run a one-month membership renewal special.

For all renewing members: if your 2014 membership renewal is postmarked or delivered to an officer, you will be able to take a 20% discount to your 2014 dues. Forms will be going out in the mail at the end of December.

### **Signal Reports Wanted for 145.23, W1BOS/R – Joe Harris, N1QD**

As many of you know, the club's VHF repeater antenna was badly damaged last winter as a result of a windy ice storm. We have been operating since the spring with a temporary antenna.

I am pleased to report that the permanent antenna has now been installed! The new antenna is a Laird FG1443.

Signal reports would be greatly appreciated. Please direct your reports, including your location and operating conditions (portable, mobile, base, what antenna used, etc.) to Joe Harris, N1QD, at <n1qd@n1qd.org>.

### **ARRL Centennial: ARRL Granted Use of W1ØØAW for League's Centennial-- The ARRL Letter, December 5, 2013**

The FCC has authorized the Maxim Memorial Station W1AW to also use the call sign W1ØØAW during 2014, the ARRL's centennial year. Contacts made from the Maxim Memorial Station in Newington, from regional Centennial conventions, and during the IARU HF Championship will use W1ØØAW, with portable designators as appropriate. The "W1AW WAS" operations throughout 2014 from each of the 50 states will use W1AW, *not* W1ØØAW. Bulletins and code practice transmissions during 2014 also will still use W1AW.

Contacts with W1ØØAW will be worth 100 points in the ARRL Centennial QSO Party. To help kick off the ARRL Centennial, special W1ØØAW activity will begin at 0500 UTC on January 1, 2014 (midnight in Newington), and will include participation in ARRL's Straight Key Night; one CW station will use Hiram Percy Maxim's straight key. Activity will continue throughout New Year's Day.



## ***The SPARC***

### **Minutes of the December 5 BARC Business Meeting-- Joe Harris, N1QD**

#### Attendees:

Joe Chapman, NV1W – President	Mark Duff, KB1EKN
Linda Blair, NA1I – Vice President	Blake Haskell, K1BTH
Joe Harris, N1QD – Secretary	Bob Salow, WA1IDA
Hank Buccigross, K1QK	Brett Smith, AB1RL
Geri Duff, KB1ISG	

President's Report: NV1W is looking for speakers for Spring General Meetings.

Treasurer's Report: The club's current balance is \$3271.76

Repeater Committee: BARC's UHF repeater is ready to be picked up at the radio shop and reinstalled at the repeater site.

Public Service: The 2014 Spring public service events are in the planning stages. Look for further details in the coming months.

#### Old Business:

- A motion was made to donate \$100 to the Zola Center in memory of Eric Falkof, K1NUN. The motion passed unanimously.
- The holiday party will be taking place on the second or third Sunday in January (*The party is on January 12 – ed.*)
- A discussion was held regarding whether the club should allow the use of W1BOS in an upcoming novel.
- Skywarn recognition Day will take place rain or shine. There will be 1 station on the air. The event will be starting around 8:30AM on Saturday, December 7.

#### New Business:

- A discussion was held centered about ideas for membership retention. A motion was made to have a special for renewing members of a 20% discount if they postmark their renewal forms by the end of January. The motion passed unanimously.

# The SPARC



The banner features a teal background. On the left is the 'Ad Council' logo. Next to it is the 'Hands-Only CPR' logo. A red circle with the number '1' contains a red mobile phone icon, with the text 'Call 911' below it. To the right is another red circle with the number '2' containing a red hand icon, with the text 'Push hard and fast in the center of the chest.' and 'Learn more at [handsonlycpr.org](http://handsonlycpr.org)' below it. On the far right is the American Heart Association logo with the tagline 'Learn and Live'.

## I See the Future

12 Jan BARC Holiday Party (1PM Luncheon)

(Rp) = BARC Repeater likely to be used

As you might expect, there are many more events (public service, hamfests, flea markets, etc.) taking place - some only peripheral to ham radio. For information on these, covering much of the Northeast, the "Ham - Electronic Flea Market" and the "PSLIST" lists tell the story. Of course, if you know of an event that would be of interest to the readers, please let the Editor know.

## Got a Story? Why Not Share It? -- Joe Harris, N1QD

We are always looking for articles for the newsletter. I have reserved this space for your articles, tips, how-to's, or other ham related information. Send your submissions to the Editor, Joe, N1QD, at [n1qd@n1qd.org](mailto:n1qd@n1qd.org).

Articles for the August issue must be received by August 4.

## Businesses Can Advertise Here

The SPARC accepts commercial advertisements. BARC encourages monthly promotion of your products and services which would be of interest to hundreds of our members and others interested in the Amateur Radio Service.

The rates for display advertising are:

1 col 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 Joe Harris, N1QD, at 781.844.8684 or [n1qd@n1qd.org](mailto:n1qd@n1qd.org); or Bob Salow at [wa1ida@arrl.net](mailto:wa1ida@arrl.net) or 508.650.9440.

## The SPARC

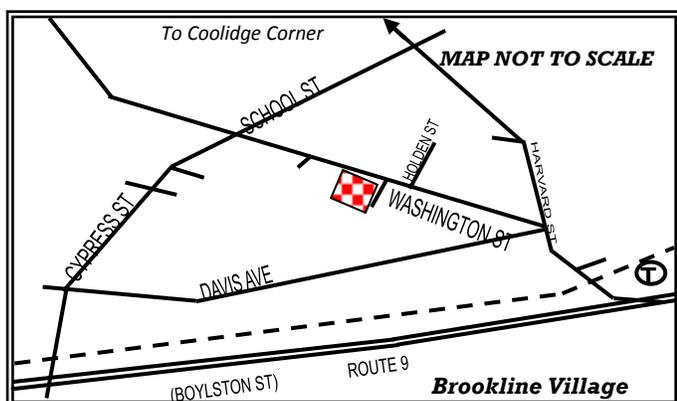
### Quarterly Business Meetings -- Bob Salow, WA1DA

As the Bylaws require, BARC has Business meetings quarterly. Unless circumstances warrant, BARC Business meetings will be held on the first Thursdays of December, March, June, and September. The next such meeting will be on **5 December 2013** at the Brookline Police headquarters. All members are urged to attend and participate in club affairs. This is where club functions are discussed and decided, and your help is needed to guide us.

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

To provide continuity of club business between meetings we also have a virtual business meeting via an email list. Any member interested in the affairs of the club can ask to be on this virtual meeting list – just give your name, call and your email address to President Joe Chapman, NV1W.

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





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

### BARC Volunteer Exam Sessions

The Boston Amateur Radio Club schedule has been revised to suit the needs and interests of the applicants and examiners. **The 2013 exam session schedule is shown elsewhere in this newsletter issue.** Generally, sessions are held at Brookline Police Headquarters, 350 Washington St in the Community Room (across from the information desk). A map is shown above.

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

- Your current license and a photocopy for the ARRL, if you are upgrading
- Any CSEs you are claiming, and a photocopy of them
- Valid ID (picture ID preferred)
- A pen and a calculator (if you want to)
- **\$15.00** (good for all the tests you take at that session, except for retests)

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

To reserve a seat or for further information, contact:  
Jim Clogher, N1ICN, <[n1icn@arrl.net](mailto:n1icn@arrl.net)> or Linda Blair,  
NA1I, <[na1i@arrl.net](mailto:na1i@arrl.net)>.

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Repeater: 145.230 (-) CTCSS 88.5

Simplex: 147.420

**Your Personal Ad Could Have Been Here**

Are you a depressed BARC member because you have a treasure you must turn to cash? Cheer up, Bunky! *The SPARC* will run your (non-business) ad for free. Of course, a 10% donation if you sell it will be cheerfully accepted. Just send your ad to the Editor, Joe Harris, at <n1qd@n1qd.org>.

**BARC Officers and Staff**

- President: Joe Chapman, NV1W  
617.267.6349; nv1w@arrl.net
- Vice President: Linda Blair, NA1I;  
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- Secretary: Joe Harris, N1QD  
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- Treasurer: Jim Clogher, N1ICN,  
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- Membership Services: Linda Blair, NA1I  
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- Newsletter Editor: Joe Harris, N1QD  
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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 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
Sat 9 am	Northeast SATERN Net	7.265
Sun 9:30 am	Yankee SSB Net	50.275
Sun 8 pm	Algonquin Amateur Radio Club Net	446.675 (PL 88.5)
Sun 8:30 pm	NSRA Net (with Newsline)	145.470 (PL 136.5)
Sun 9 pm	CAARAnet	145.130 (PL 107.2)