



The SPARC

Volume XII, Number 10; October 2000
Newsletter of the Boston Amateur Radio Club
<http://www.barc.org/barc>
Email: w1bos@arrl.net



A Message from the President

Mark Duff KB1EKN

As President, I would like to thank everybody who has helped the club over the past several months. This includes the various public service events you have participated in and things like the MIT Flea Market where members man a table all day on a Sunday. Having a visual presence at the MIT Flea is a great benefit to all of us. Our ever-faithful net control operators should also be praised! Many other members work behind the scenes and they need to be recognized as well. BARC would not exist without them. This newsletter, for example, is a considerable amount of work. Thanks to Paul Carter and his crew who put it together. [Note: Paul usually has to give me a gentle kick as I am always last to submit!] (Ed.: Not always!)

The September General Meeting was very well attended. Our guest speaker Mike Raisbeck/K1TWF did a great job bringing us up to speed with the ARRL. Stan Laine and Phil Temples also made great presentations. Both are candidates in the upcoming election for EMA Section Manager. If you are an ARRL Member, be sure to vote for the candidate of your choice.

We are always looking for guest speakers for our general meetings. If you could assist me in this area, I would appreciate it very much. If you want to continue to have interesting programs at the general meetings, I must have some assistance. Obtaining speakers in the area of Ham Radio is something that I don't have a lot of experience in. This month's general meeting will feature a show and tell by the members themselves. If you have anything out of the ordinary that may be of interest please bring it in for all to enjoy and learn.

The new format for the recently reactivated Friday Night Net got off to great start on October 6th, the subject being SATERN. Thanks Arthur/N1NHZ for serving as net control! The next Friday Night Net will be on October 13th at 2100hrs. The subject will be weather. With a date like that, we will probably have a storm! Please feel free to check in.

73/KB1EKN

Hams Protect Walkers For The Jimmy Fund

Some two-dozen hams supported communications for the Jimmy Fund Marathon Walk on Sunday, 24 September. The 8000 walkers raised \$3.3 million to fight cancer in children for the Dana

Farber Cancer Institute (DFCI). The route covered the same 26.2 miles as the BAA Boston Marathon, plus a three-mile Family Walk. The Boston Athletic Association (BAA) produced the event for DFCI.

As we have for the past several years, hams provided communications for 13 Support Stations, half- and full-marathon medical facilities, finish area functions and many logistical functions. The assigned hams rose to the occasion, and kept communications running for the BAA, the DFCI and the Red Cross. The nets were ably controlled by N1VSJ, K1EP and WA1IDA. Participating were:

Mike Ardai, N1IST
Arthur Ashley, N1NHZ
Andy Bartlett, N1OSG
Brad Ackerman, N1MNB
Jelena Antonic, KB1FMS
Ernie Behrens, N1EB
Ed Burg, N1VSJ
Dick Doherty, KA1TUZ
Eric Falkof, K1NUN
Henry Gitter, WN2GTF
Ted Haskell, W1EID
Miro Jurisic, KB1FMP
Paul Katz, N1LRT
Bill McIninch, KA1MOM
Bill Ohm, W1OHM
Kevin Paetzold, K1KWP
Ed Parish, K1EP
Stan Pozerski Jr, KD1LE
Bob Salow, WA1IDA
Jon Scarlet, NQ1U
Yonah Schmeidler, KB1CTI
Marty Schofield, N1WCP
Pete Simoneau, KD1QS

EMA Section Manager Election in Progress

(Editor's Note: That this article is written by one of the candidates does not constitute or imply an endorsement of any candidate by the Boston Amateur Radio Club, or the *SPARC*. This article is informational only.)

If you're an ARRL member, you have hopefully, by now, received an election ballot for the EMA Section Manager position in the

mail. The two candidates for the SM position are: Stan Laine, WA1ECF, of Sandwich, and Phil Temples, K9HI, of Watertown.

I encourage everyone to please take a moment to read our statements, and then return your marked ballot in the specially provided return envelope. If you belong to a radio club, please encourage your fellow club members who are League members to do likewise.

(I'm told that at least one EMA ARRL member received the position statement, but no ballot. I would be curious to know if others find missing ballots.)

I will be happy to answer any questions about my position, plans and goals should you wish to contact me. I can be reached evenings and weekends at (617) 926-5986, or via email at k9hi@arrl.org.

73,
Phil Temples, K9HI

BERT Needs More Hams

Arthur Ashley, N1NHZ, is looking for one or more hams in the Boston area that could help him with the Boston Emergency Response Team. He is currently the director and would especially like to have a deputy director. This is a fine opportunity for those interested in emergency preparedness. If you can help, please contact Arthur at 617.661.2988, or his e-mail at n1nhz@arrl.net

BARC Holiday Dinner

Please reserve Wednesday, December 21 for the BARC holiday buffet dinner and awards presentation. This year, we're doing what worked so well last year; a Chinese buffet in Brighton called Tin-Tin (they have some American dishes also.) The formal announcement and reservation form will be enclosed in next month's SPARC. Aside from the food and fun, BARC's Ham of the Year award will be presented at the party. Get out your pen and your checkbook and get ready for some real holiday cheer!

BARC Monthly Breakfast

Every month, BARC has a social breakfast on the second Sunday of the month, which is November 12 next month. We'll be meeting at the Old Country Buffet at the Watertown Mall at 8:30am. They are *very* good, offering an extensive breakfast buffet, costing \$6.35 per person.

We just intend to get together, socialize and eat, without having any formal club events or business. Family and friends of club members are welcome also. If you are not a BARC member, you too are invited to meet with us and see what we're all about.

The Old Country Buffet is in the Watertown Mall, on Arsenal St. in Watertown. From Memorial Drive continue on Greenough Boulevard to the Watertown exit, and then turn right onto Arsenal

St. There is plenty of mall parking. The #70 T bus from Central Square Cambridge to Watertown Square stops right at the Watertown Mall. Hope to see all of you there – and bring your appetite!

October General Meeting

This month's general meeting will be held at the Boston Back Bay Salvation Army Building, at 7:30 PM, Thursday October 19. This month, BARC members will "show n' tell" their recent projects and activities.

BARC General meetings are held at the Boston Back Bay Salvation Army Building, corner of Berkeley St. and Columbus Ave. near Copley Square, in the second floor auditorium.

Parking is available; the entrance to the parking lot is from Columbus Ave. (across the street from the firehouse). It is also T accessible; the nearest T stations are Back Bay on the Orange and Purple lines (exit the rear of the station by the busway and walk down Columbus) and Copley or Arlington on the Green line (use the Berkeley Street exit). A map appears on page 7 of the newsletter.

Future General Meeting Dates

(Third Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.)

16 November 2000
21 December 2000 (Holiday Dinner)
18 January 2001
15 February 2001
15 March 2001

BARC Runs Friday Night Nets

The Boston Amateur Radio Club runs special interest nets every Friday evening at 9p.m. on the 145.23 machine. The net will switch to a new format in October. Each Friday of the month, the net will be devoted to a specific activity/interest.

1st Friday - SATERN (Salvation Army Team Emergency Response Net);

2nd Friday - Weather Net;

3rd Friday - ARES net;

4th Friday - Tech Net;

5th Friday - All or some of the above.

All BARC members and other members of the Boston area Amateur Radio community are welcome to check in and participate.

Boston Amateur Radio Club Business Meeting

5 October 2000

Recorded by Guy Bzibziak, KB1CRY, BARC Secretary

Present Were:

Arthur Ashley, N1NHZ, Membership Services, ERT Leader

Guy Bzibziak, KB1CRY, Secretary

Paul Carter, N1TMF, SPARC Editor

Bob Cassell, N1ENS

Mike Coffey, KB1EZL

Dick Doherty, KA1TUZ, Vice-President

Mark Duff, KB1EKN, President

Ed Hennessy, N1PBA

Dan Malloy, KA1RDX

Paul Olivieri, N1ZKR

Bob Salow, WA1IDA, Public Service

The meeting was called to order at approximately 1848hrs.

Everyone is reminded that the October VE Session is being held 16 October, due to the Columbus Day holiday.

We are in need of more volunteers to man (and drive) the Salvation Army canteen truck. People interested are encouraged to contact Dick Doherty, KA1TUZ.

Reports were received from the various committees regarding various ongoing concerns of the club, such as emergency response, and education.

Problems with the Web pages have been fixed.

The next Public Service event in which the club participates is the Chancellor Challenge [8 October]- a 100-kilometer race around the Charles River Basin will be held. The Jimmy Fund walk and the WGBH Ice Cream Fun Fest were successful. People interested in volunteering for public service events, please contact Bob Salow, WA1IDA.

Classes for No-Code Techs will start January 2001 with a newly revised and updated curriculum. Contact Mark Duff, KB1EKN, or Mike Ar dai, N1IST, if you are interested in volunteering to help conduct these classes. Details for attending the classes will be published soon.

The club's portable emergency station is still progressing, with the club's purchase of a compact Astron switching power supply to put in the base of the VHF & UHF Box. Besides the purchase of the power supply, it was also voted to buy hardware for the box (D-handles, and so forth). Design issues are being resolved, and it has progressed to the finishing stage of assembly. Contact Mike Coffey, KB1EZL to learn more.

The Simulated Emergency Training exercise this November 4th. This year's scenario will be concerned with an earthquake striking the area. Arthur Ashley, N1NHZ, is preparing the Boston

Emergency Response Team (BERT) for this drill. Contact Arthur to offer your assistance. More details will be given soon.

The October General Meeting is going to be a round-table format with demonstrations of various aspects of the radio art and public safety.

It was voted to leave the annual dues rate unchanged from last year.

Jamboree On the Air (JOTA) 2000 is coming October 21 & 22 this year. Further information is available on the ARRL's web page.

A suggestion has been made that the Club standardize around a simplex frequency: 147.42 MHz and 147.45MHz, as well as other frequencies have been suggested. Check your BARC-List email, and participate in the discussion. This is handy for close-range radio work, without tying up the repeater.

The annual BARC Holiday Dinner will be held on December 21st this year. This is also the time that the Club honors the "Ham of the Year" that the membership votes on soon. Further details as to place and cost will be announced soon.

The Friday Night Nets at 2100hrs has switched to a new format in October:

1st Friday @ 2100 - SATERN (Salvation Army Team Emergency Response Net);

2nd Friday @ 2100 - Weather Net;

3rd Friday @ 2100 - ARES net;

4th Friday @ 2100 - Tech Net;

5th Friday @ 2100 - All or Some of the Above.

Thanks to Paul Carter, N1TMF, for conducting a successful "pre-season" Tech Net last Friday, September 29th. (Ed.: I did jump the gun there!)

Speakers for future meetings are needed! If you have a topic you wish to see presented at a future meeting, or that you wish to present, please contact Dick Doherty, KA1TUZ.

The meeting adjourned at 2100 Hrs.

The Boston Amateur Radio Club holds its monthly Business meeting on the first Thursday of each month. The next one will be on Thursday, November 2 in the food court of the Cambridgeside Galleria Mall in Cambridge. We meet at 6:30pm in the lower level, down by the windows facing the lagoon.

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

Editor's Notes

Obstacles and Annoyances

My apologies for not writing a column the last few months; and for those who appreciated its absence, my apologies for writing one this month. Frankly, I've been rather radio-inactive for this time, and have had little to say. This long, technology driven boom is really taxing the energies and spare time of us tech-types. Of course, when the bust comes (and it always does,) we'll be wishing for the hectic schedule of "the good old days!"

A few impediments to some of my favorite activities have griped on me. I love VHF/UHF hilltopping. One of the best locations near Boston for this is Mount Wachusett. It is an easy and beautiful drive, and from atop Wachusett, a good part of New England is line of sight. Well, for at least part of this year, for reasons I do not know, the access road to the summit was closed. I know, I should just hike up the summit. But backpacking radio gear, power sources and antennas up mountain trails...well, I'm not as young as I used to be!

I also used to like 70cm FM simplex. It was not something that many people did, so there was a bit of challenge to stir up contacts. And when it worked, it was a thrill. Once, for example, from Corey Hill in Brookline, using a HT, I worked a guy on top of Mt. Wachusett (there you go!) – solid copy too. The pager craze, however, really puts a crimp on 70cm in Metro Boston. The rasping and squawking of overpowered, wide signal pager transmitters make the band as unpleasant as the current bloat of SUVs make the roads.

The MIT Flea – don't forget the MIT flea! If you haven't been in the last couple of months, you should know that we lost use of the garage. Last month, sellers were divided among three disconnected parking lots. Although we were blessed by good weather, the flea will be a horrorshow on stormy days without use of the garage. I don't think it wise to print the reasons for this, but in general, I am told that it is the result of somewhat tawdry politics. I urge anyone who wants to know how things really work in progressive Cambridge to hear the full story from one of our "in the know" members.

I know I'm just griping here, without making any positive suggestions of any type. Venting however is sometimes good for oneself. I feel better already. I thank members for indulging me in this, and I promise a real column next month. Oh, and "have a nice day."

I'm grateful to all that sent contributions and suggestions for improvement - keep those cards and letters coming in. I can be reached by email at pvc@pvetronics.com, snail mail at 11 Commonwealth Court Apt#15, Brighton, MA 02135, and most if not all BARC club nets and general meetings.

Future Business Meeting Dates

(First Thursday at 6:30 p.m.)

2 November 2000

7 December 2000

4 January 2001

1 February 2001

1 March 2001

5 April 2001

Upgrades 'R' Us

Without going into details, which are covered elsewhere, the FCC restructuring is likely to result in license upgrades for some of us. If you are one of the lucky (clever?) ones, please keep our database up to date. *Regardless of whether you change call sign*, an upgrade is an upgrade. Please notify the Keeper of the Database, Bob Salow, WA1IDA.

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 long lost members who rejoin, so greet them, too.

Frank Carp	WA1RIY	Upgrade to General
Mike Raisbeck	K1TWF	
Ed Stuart		

In addition, we would like to note here any call sign changes you have made, and honor all members who upgrade. 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.

BARC VE Session

The Boston Amateur Radio Club holds its monthly VE session on the second Monday of each month, *excepting this coming session*. The next session will be at 7pm on Monday, October 16 (*not October 9*) at the Pierce School at 50 School Street in Brookline, Room 110 next to the cafeteria.

There is a free parking garage at the circular driveway. If driving, enter School Street from the Washington street side (opposite 394 Washington,) rather than from Harvard Street. Check:

http://www.barc.org/barc/school_map.gif

for more info. This map also appears on page 7 of this newsletter.

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

Talk in on 145.23(-), PL 88.5.

We give all exams (Novice thru Extra, CW and written), and 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 CSCE's you are claiming, and a photocopy of them
- Valid ID (picture ID preferred)
- A pen and a calculator (if you want to)
- \$6.65 (good for all the tests you take at that session, except for retests).

The needed FCC forms will be provided.

For further information, contact
Bob Wondolowski N1KDA
(508) 865 5822
wondobob@juno.com

Future Exam Dates

(Second Mondays at 7:00 pm)

13 November 2000
11 December 2000
8 January 2001
12 February 2001 (subject to change)
12 March 2001
9 April 2001

I See the Future

15 Oct	MIT Flea
16 Oct	BARC VE Session
2 Nov	BARC Business Meeting
4 Nov	Interstate RC Flea (Londonderry NH)
5 Nov	Framingham ARA Flea
12 Nov	BARC Breakfast
13 Nov	BARC VE Session
16 Nov	BARC General Meeting
18 Nov	Waltham ARA/1200RC Auction (Newton)
7 Dec	BARC Business Meeting
11 Dec	BARC VE Session
21 Dec	BARC Holiday Party
25 Mar 2001	Framingham ARA Flea
15 Apr 2001	MIT Flea

(Rp) = Repeater 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 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 PBBSSs regularly. If needed, contact any club member who has access to these.

BARC Net Preamble

Any further business for the repeater before we begin the Boston Amateur Radio Club Net? This is <<YOUR CALL>>.

Calling the Boston Amateur Radio Club net. This is <<YOUR CALL>>, my name is <<YOUR NAME>> and I am located in <<YOUR TOWN>>. This net meets each Monday evening at 9 PM Eastern Time on the 145.23 Boston repeater, PL 88.5. This net is an informal round table discussion concerning matters of interest to the members of the Boston Amateur Radio Club and the Boston Amateur radio community in general. When checking into the net, please say, "this is" and drop your carrier to check on doubling. Then give your call sign, name and location. All amateurs are welcome to join the net. Any checkins for the Boston Amateur Radio Club net please call now.

Is there any further business for the net before I close?

Hearing nothing, this is <<YOUR CALL>> closing tonight's session of the Boston Amateur Radio Club Net. I would like to thank everyone who participated in the net and those who stood by while I ran the net. The Boston Amateur Radio Club net will return next Monday evening at 9 PM Eastern Time. This is <<YOUR CALL>> returning the repeater to general amateur use. 73.

Several Hundred Boston Area Hams Could Be Reading Your Ad Right Now

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

Rates for display advertising are:

1 col x 2 in. (business card)	\$10 per issue
1 col x 2 in. (business card)	\$50 per 6 consecutive months
1 col x 2 in. (business card)	\$90 per 12 consecutive months
1 col x 4 in. (1/2 col)	\$20 per issue
1 col x 9.5 in. (full col)	\$40 per issue

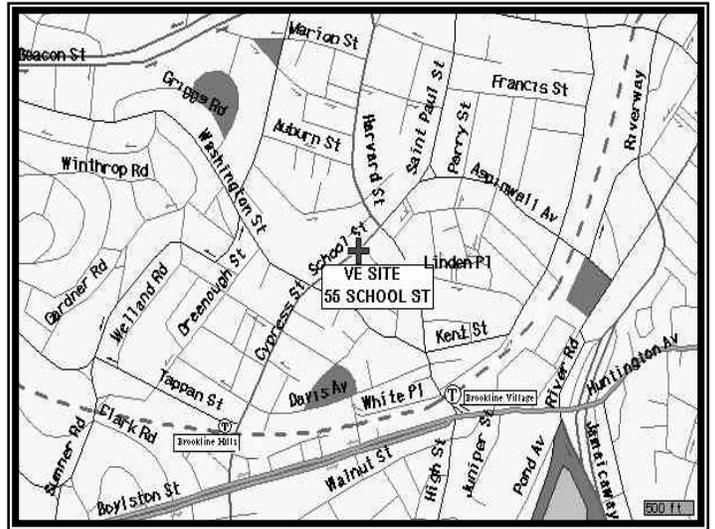
Originals of ads must be presented to the Editor in MS Word or .jpg format to print 1:1. Other composition will be at extra cost. We will be glad to quote other ad sizes and durations.

Members are urged to seek prospective advertisers who are appropriate to our readers.

For additional information, contact Paul Carter at n1tmf@pvctronics.com or 617.232.6982; or Bob Salow at wa1ida@arrl.net or 508.650.9440.



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: Mark Duff, KB1EKN	781.749.7664; emgmt@mediaone.net
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Membership: Arthur Ashley, N1NHZ;	617.661.2988, n1nhz@arrl.net
Public Service: Bob Salow, WA1IDA;	508.650.9440; wa1ida@arrl.net
Newsletter Editor: Paul Carter, N1TMF;	617.232.6982; n1tmf@pvctronics.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

daily 5:30pm	Eastern Mass/Rhode Island Phone Net (NTS)	3.915
daily 7 and 10pm	Eastern Mass/Rhode Island CW Net (NTS)	3.658
daily 8pm	Eastern Mass 2M Traffic Net (NTS)	145.23 (PL 88.5)
daily 8pm	Slow Speed CW Net	28.160
daily 10:30pm	Heavy Hitters' Traffic Net (NTS)	146.64
M 9pm	BARC Club Net	145.23 (PL 88.5)
Tu 8pm	MMRA Club Net	146.61 and all MMRA links
Tu 9pm	EMA Public Safety Net	145.23 (PL 88.5)
Tu 9pm	NETARC Satellite Net WIME (ex K1MON)/NCS	446.575 (PL 88.5)
W 8pm	Wellesley Amateur Radio Society Net	147.03
W 9pm	HHTN Swap Net	146.64
Th 8:30pm	Amsat Net N1OHJ/NCS	146.64
F 9pm	SATERN Net	145.23 (PL 88.5)
Su 9:30am	Yankee SSB Net (6M)	50.275
Su 3:30pm	Youth Net	3.970
Su 7pm	Algonquin Amateur Radio Club Net	53.470 (PL 100.0/71.9), 223.860 (PL 241.8), 446.675 (PL 88.5)
Su 8:30pm	NSRA Net (with Newslines)	145.47
Su 9:30pm	EMA Section ARES Net	146.61 and all MMRA links
(4 th Sun. of Month)		