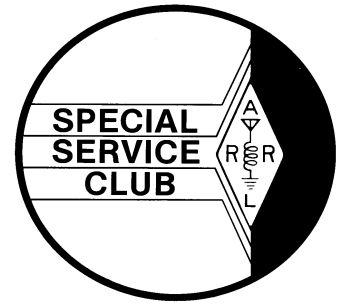




The SPARC

Volume XIII, Number 1; January 2001
Newsletter of the Boston Amateur Radio Club
<http://www.barc.org/barc>
w1bos@arrl.net



A Message from the President

Mark Duff KB1EKN

A sincere "thank you" to everyone who promoted me as Ham of the Year. I will hang the plaque in a prominent location in my office at work and display it proudly. A leader is only as good as the people who support him and I am very fortunate to have great support from you. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the many members and friends of BARC who have donated to the club during the past year. The club treasury remains healthy because of those who go beyond. The fact that KA1TUZ reminds me constantly not to spend excessively is another reason!

We are very fortunate this year to have three members step forward early on to serve on the Field Day Committee. Mike Coffey/KB1EYL has agreed to serve again this year as Chairman and Leo Burke/KA1LN has agreed to serve as Vice-Chairman. Bill Ricker/N1VUX has agreed to assist where he can. This is a very positive move forward for BARC. Although last year's planning for field day began in late April; it was a big success. Just think of what we can accomplish when planning for Field Day 2001 begins the first week of January! Please make every effort to support these three people. I have a great deal of confidence in Mike, Leo, and Bill. Imagine how great a field day we could have if you get involved too.

Over the last several months I have mentioned the various nets that we run. All the nets continue to be popular and well attended. It has been brought to my attention that we now have some interest in running a net using the UHF repeater [447.175/110.9] and also a VHF simplex net [frequency to be determined.] If you have any interest in either of these, please contact me or join us on the Friday Night Swat Net, where I am sure it will be discussed. There is even talk of a Fox Hunt.

Please join with me in wishing Phil Temples/K1HI all the success in the world as he begins serving in his new role as the new Eastern Mass. Section Manager. I am sure Phil will do a splendid job!

Our most sincere sympathy goes out to the family of Jim Hatherly/WA1TBY. Jim's call sign was tapped out one last time at this year's Christmas Party. May he Rest In Peace.

73/KB1EKN

BARC Holds Technician License Class

The Boston Amateur Radio Club is sponsoring a no-code Technician license class at The Salvation Army State Headquarters 147 Berkeley Street, Boston starting on Thursday 8 February 2001. The class will meet from 7:00pm - 9:00pm on Mondays & Thursdays for a total of six sessions:

8 February 2001
12 February 2001
19 February 2001
22 February 2001
26 February 2001
1 March 2001

We will be using the book Now You're Talking, which is available at your local Radio Shack or will be available the first night of class. No pre-registration is necessary.

Congratulations to BARC's Ham of the Year 2000

Our President, Mark Duff KB1EKN was honored by the Boston Amateur Radio Club as 2000's Ham of the Year. He was presented with a plaque at the December Holiday Party. Thanks Mark for all you've done for us!

BARC Prepares for Field Day

Every fourth full weekend in June, Amateur Radio operators in the United States and Canada hold Field Day. This is a combination emergency communications exercise, publicity event, contest and social event in which we set up our stations "in the field" under less than optimal conditions, and try to communicate as best we can.

BARC always has a good Field Day; we set up several tents at Larz Anderson Park in Brookline and operate the entire time. The chairman for Field Day 2001 is Mike Coffey, KB1EYL. The vice chairman is Leo Burke, KA1LN. If this sounds like fun to you, and you would like to participate in any way, please step up and contact one of them.

Rooftop Soldering Almost a Pleasure!

with Solder-It pastes and butane powered tools. Solder connectors, circuit boards, aluminum antenna repairs.... etc.

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Secure on-line orders – you get 10% discount – mention BARC on order form special instructions section or call 800-897-8989

Jim Hatherley WA1TBY – SK

My dad Jim Hatherley WA1TBY lost his fight with Lung Cancer. He went peacefully at home on the morning of December 19. We had beautiful Christmas music playing and my mother, brother David and I were with him holding his hands. It was a very long illness but now he is at peace. I want to thank you for all you did for my dad; you were part of the life he loved. I'm sure he will be CW in heaven.

Thanks for all.
Sue Hatherley-Horton (N1TZY)

CW Forever and Ever

By Jim Hatherley, WA1TBY
written 7/4/85

You must have at times,
thought into the past,
where some things go out
while others last
What comes to my mind is the old Morse code,
That has weathered the storms
from any abode.

To talk with ones fingers
is surely an art,
Of any info you care to impart,
In most conditions
the signals get through,
While the same about phone
is simply not true.

Those dits and dahs
cut through the trash,
Of near by noise
or lightning's crash.
To the sensitive ears
of the hams receiver,
Who records this data
with ardent fever.

He knows he's doing
something unique,
(in such poor conditions,

that's quite a feat)
To roger the message
that came off the air,
These brass pounders
sure do have that flair.

They say Morse ops
are a dying breed,
But don't despair,
there's always that need,
That when conditions get rough
for the new automation,
Be rest assured, there'll be need
for your station.

CW is dying? Believe it never,
This mode will be 'round
forever and ever.
But one thing is sure,
what we really need,
Is to relay our knowledge
to the younger breed.

To carry the torch,
long after we're gone,
To send Morse Code
thru the air like a song.
When at last,
Silent keys pull that lever,
We can rest in peace,
it's CW forever.

BARC's Newest Repeater, and Where to Find us on Simplex.

Michael Ardai, N1IST

Recently, John (WN9T - the licensee of the 145.23 BARC machine) has decided to make his 447.175 UHF repeater an official BARC repeater. This machine is located right next to the .23 repeater and has similar coverage (actually better in some areas.) The repeater has a negative offset and a PL of 110.9 Hz.

Please feel free to use this machine as you would use .23. In the future, we may link it with .23, at least for certain nets.

We have also decided to standardize on 147.42 as the BARC regular simplex frequency. In case of an emergency (or when trying to find people at a hamfest or show), you can expect to find BARC people here.

ARRL Increases VE Fee

Following FCC rules changes, Volunteer Examination Coordinators (VECs) are permitted to raise exam fees to more closely track expenses. The ARRL is raising the exam fee to \$10.00 starting 1 January 2001.

Repeaters: 145.23 (-) PL 88.5 447.175 (-) PL 110.9

Simplex: 147.42

Congratulations to One of Our Mikes

Mike Kass, N1YER, has been awarded a Commonwealth Citation for Outstanding Performance by Governor Cellucci.

Mike is an attorney with the Massachusetts Division of Registration. He has also been a valuable contributor to the health of BARC for many years. Our best wishes to Mike.

BARC Monthly Breakfast

Every month, BARC has a social breakfast on the second Sunday of the month, which is January 14 this 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!

January General Meeting

This month's BARC General meeting is on Thursday, January 18 at 7p.m., *not 7:30 p.m. as before*. This month's speaker will be Tom Kinahan N1CPE, who will speak on APRS.

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 p.m.)

15 February 2001
15 March 2001
19 April 2001
17 May 2001

21 June 2001

19 July 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

4 January 2001

Recorded by Guy Bzibziak, KB1CRY, BARC Secretary

Present were:

Mike Ardai, N1IST

Arthur Ashley, N1NHZ, Membership Services, ERT Leader

Leo Burke, KA1LN

Guy Bzibziak, KB1CRY, Secretary

Paul Carter, N1TMF, SPARC Editor

Bob Cassell, N1ENS

Jim Clogher, N1ICN, Treasurer

Mike Coffey, KB1EZL

Rick DeSisto, N1IWE

Dick Doherty, KA1TUZ, Vice-President

Mark Duff, KB1EKN, President

Ed Hennessy, N1PBA

Mike Kass, N1YER

Dan Malloy, KA1RDX

Jack Mooney, N2HQC

Frank Murphy, N1DHW

Paul Olivieri, N1ZKR

Ed Parish, K1EP

Bill Ricker, N1VUX

Bob Salow, WA1IDA, Public Service

The meeting was called to order at approximately 1840hrs.

WIN A DELUXE MICRO-JET

Details at

WWW.SOLDER-IT.COM

Simply send your QSL card for entry in our ongoing
QSLs On The Web Contest
Box 20100 Cleveland, OH 44120

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

There is a great need for more volunteers to staff (and drive) the Salvation Army canteen truck. There are various hours available. People interested are encouraged to contact Dick Doherty, KA1TUZ.

It was decided to start the general meeting on 18 January 2001 at 7:00pm, instead of 7:30pm, in order to allow people a chance to socialize after the meeting.

There is a possibility of having the Business meetings being held at a different location starting in February.

It was voted to set aside \$100.00 for refreshments in the event that BARC conducts an ARES class this spring. This motion was made by KA1TUZ.

It was also voted to donate \$50.00 in memory of Jim Hatherley, WA1TBY, to his church's steeple fund. This motion was made by WA1IDA.

The repeater has been subject to some random interference of a man-made nature. Those who can contribute their observations of such interference should contact either N11ST or KA1TUZ.

The chairman for Field Day 2001 is Mike Coffey, KB1EZL. The vice chairman is Leo Burke, KA1LN. Contact either to volunteer.

The Tech No-Code Class for people interested in becoming licensed hams starts Thursday 8 February 2001, 7:00pm - 9:00pm. The class will meet on Mondays & Thursdays for a total of six sessions:

8 February 2001
12 February 2001
19 February 2001
22 February 2001
26 February 2001
1 March 2001,

with the exam being given at a time & date to be announced in the class. The text for the course is "Now You're Talking", which will be sold at the class. There is no class on 15 February due to the general meeting.

Repeaters: 145.23 (-) PL 88.5 447.175 (-) PL 110.9

Bob Salow, WA1IDA, reported that the next scheduled public service event is on 1 April 2001, the Multiple Sclerosis Walkathon. This is a qualifying event for hams that wish to volunteer for the Boston Marathon. Contact WA1IDA for further details.

Another run of BARC member badges will be done soon.

It was mentioned that the Spring Foxhunt would be occurring in March or April.

The Friday night "SWAT" [SATERN, Weather, ARES & Technical] net continues to be a success, with the "Tech" portion comprising a major segment each Friday. It has been suggested that a fine-tuning of the format is in order, with the SATERN theme being replaced by "Satellite", inasmuch as SATERN is the lead topic on all Friday night nets.

There has been interest expressed in having a Simplex net on the club's designated simplex frequency (147.42MHz), as well as having a net on the club's UHF repeater (447.175MHz).

Interest was also expressed in having a Special Event Station in the summer, apart from either Field Day or Jamboree on the Air (JOTA).

Further details still need to be worked out on these items.

The meeting adjourned at 2037hrs.

The Boston Amateur Radio Club holds its monthly Business meeting on the first Thursday of each month. The next one will be on Thursday, February 1, 2001 in the food court of the Cambridge 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.

Future Business Meeting Dates

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

1 February 2001
1 March 2001
5 April 2001
3 May 2001
7 June 2001
5 July 2001

Simplex: 147.42

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.

Brad Ackerman	N1MNB	
Jelena Antonic	KB1FMS	
Eric Austin	K1EEA	Upgrade to Extra w/Call change
Rowe Austin	N1GIE	Upgrade to General
Ward Gigante	N1NQO	
Shane Gould	KB1FXK	
Miro Jurisic	KB1FMP	
Jack Mooney	N2HQC	

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: walida@arrl.net.

BARC VE Session

The Boston Amateur Radio Club holds its monthly VE session on the second Monday of each month. The next session will be at 7pm on Monday, February 12, 2001 (*this date may change*) 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)
- **\$10.00** (good for all the tests you take at that session, except for retests).

- Note that code tests are no longer free. Those taking the code test only will also have to pay the \$10 fee. Code and written tests can be taken together at the same session for a single \$10 fee.

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)

12 March 2001

9 April 2001

14 May 2001

11 June 2001

9 July 2001

I See the Future

14 Jan BARC Breakfast

18 Jan BARC General Meeting

1 Feb BARC Business Meeting

8 Feb Technician Course (first meeting)

11 Feb BARC Breakfast

12 Feb VE Exam Session (subject to change)

25 Mar Framingham ARA Flea

1 Apr Multiple Sclerosis Walkathon

15 Apr MIT Flea

16 Apr Boston Marathon

As you might expect, there are many more events (public service, hamfests, flea markets, etc.) taking place - some only peripheral to ham radio. For information on these, covering New England and some of New York, the "Ham - Electronic Flea Market" and the "PSLIST" lists tell the story. They are posted by e-mail to barc-list and on PBBSs regularly. If needed, contact any club member who has access to these.

Consider the Future of Ham Radio

At a speech in June, Dale Hatfield, W0IFO, the retiring head of the FCC's Office of Engineering and Technology predicted a bright future for Amateur Radio but said that amateurs "will be under a certain amount of pressure" to justify their free use of the radio spectrum. As a result, he said, it will be more important than ever that hams actually fulfill their service, good will and educational roles - not just talk about them.

Extract from ARRL Letter, 24 November 2000

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.

Opinions Needed on CW Requirement

The ARRL Board of Directors will review the League's position on the Morse code as an international licensing requirement when it gathers for its annual meeting in January. Because the issue is expected to come up at the IARU Region 2 Conference next October, the ARRL Executive Committee decided at its November 11 meeting in Irving, Texas, to place the issue on the Board's January agenda.

The ARRL's Morse policy was formalized by Board resolution in 1993. It supports the retention in the International Radio Regulations of the provision obliging administrations to require that applicants demonstrate ability to send and receive Morse code before they may operate below 30 MHz. Consistent with that policy, ARRL International Affairs Vice President Rod Stafford, W6ROD, cast the lone dissenting vote earlier this year at the IARU Region 3 Conference in Australia on a motion calling for the eventual elimination of Morse as an ITU requirement for HF operation.

In January, the Board may decide to reaffirm this policy, to modify it, or to seek additional input from members. In the past, a majority of members has supported the policy.

Ham Insurance Improved

Seabury & Smith, the ARRL "All Risk" Ham Radio Equipment Insurance Plan administrator (formerly Albert H. Wohlers and Company) has announced that, effective immediately, the plan will insure antennas, towers and rotators. Coverage for antennas, towers and rotators may be written only as an endorsement - or rider - to an existing policy. As in the existing program, the policy is that all the equipment must be scheduled. Members may not insure antennas, tower, and rotators without also purchasing coverage for their other station equipment.

The cost of coverage is \$1.50 for every \$100 of valuation - the same as that for station equipment. Amateurs with further questions can contact the Seabury & Smith Customer Service Department at 800.503.9230.

-- from ARRL Letter, 17 November 2000

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.

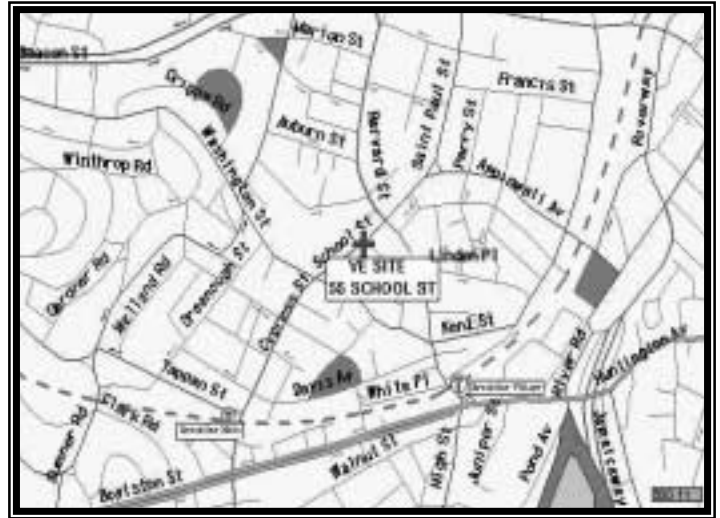
For additional information, contact Paul Carter at n1tmf@pvctronics.com or 617.232.6982; or Bob Salow at walida@arrl.net or 508.650.9440.

In a bookstore I asked the saleswoman, "Where's the self-help section?" She said if she told me, it would defeat the purpose.

Start off every day with a smile and get it over with.



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
Vice President: Dick Doherty; KA1TUZ	617.969.4880; ka1tuz@gis.net
Secretary: Guy Bzibziak, KB1CRY;	781.321.1104; kb1cry@arrl.net
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Vol Exams: Bob Wondolowski, N1KDA;	508.865.5822, wondobob@juno.com
Dick Doherty; KA1TUZ	617.969.4880; ka1tuz@gis.net
Membership: Arthur Ashley, N1NHZ;	617.661.2988, n1nhz@arrl.net
Public Service: Bob Salow, WA1IDA;	508.650.9440; walida@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	SWAT (SATERN, Weather, ARES &Tech) 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 Newsline)	145.47
Su 9:30pm	EMA Section ARES Net	146.61 and all MMRA links
(4 th Sun. of Month)		

Repeaters: 145.23 (-) PL 88.5 447.175 (-) PL 110.9

Simplex: 147.42