



The SPARC

Amateur Radio - Communicating Worldwide for A Century

Newsletter of the Boston Amateur Radio Club

Serving Hams in the Greater Boston Area

January 2018 - VOLUME 30, NUMBER 1

www.barc.org - w1bos@arrl.net



President's Message – Joe Harris, N1QD



Welcome to 2018, I certainly hope that all of you had a great New Year! My winter break between Christmas and New Year's was spent hiding from the extreme cold, so here's looking forward to better weather. There are some great speakers booked for our upcoming meetings, and as I write this I'm looking forward to seeing several of you at the club's Holiday Dinner. Highlights of the spring will include talks from Harris WA1GXC presenting on ship communications, and Chuck W1HIS giving a presentation on RFI. In addition, look for an announcement in the February SPARC about a special field trip in the works for the March meeting!

Unfortunately, I also have to report that the club's Ham of the Year award is taking a year off due to a discouraging lack of vote submissions. This may be a case of there being the same core group of volunteers doing the same work year after year, so no one stood out for recognition. Or, if this program is just not something that the members are interested in continuing, it may be time to discuss ending it altogether.

So, both good news and bad to kick off the year. I certainly hope that the program in store for the club this spring brings out good turnouts to the meetings. Personally, I'm going to keep thinking of warmer thoughts and look forward to the spring!

Joe Harris, N1QD

In this Issue of The SPARC

- Review: Emergency Medicine course
- 2018 meeting schedule
- Register for the Marathon!
- Puerto Rico presentation



BARC Holiday Party

Sunday, January 14, 12:00 noon

The BARC Holiday Party will be held Sunday, January 14, 2018, at 12:00 noon at the Stockyard Restaurant in Allston. You'll find the reservation form at the end of this issue of *The SPARC*. Note that there will be no General Meetings in December and January.

Repeaters: 145.230 (-) CTCSS 88.5 in/100.0 out

Simplex: 147.420

449.175 (-) DMR CC1

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BARC's Online Discussion Group – Joe Harris, N1QD



BARC has an online forum at Yahoo groups. The Yahoo group serves as a sounding board for members to post their suggestions and comments, and is intended to foster discussion. The group can also be used to share photographs from club events! Come visit us at: <http://groups.yahoo.com/bostonARC>.

Review: Great Courses: Emergency Medicine – Joe Chapman, NV1W

Those of us who volunteer at public service events, especially the Boston Marathon, often find ourselves at the edges of emergency medical assistance. I've always kept my CPR certification up to date for the Marathon, not because I'm likely to be the only person available to deal with cardiac arrest at the Finish Line of the Marathon, but on the vague theory that knowing more makes one a better volunteer.

It was in that spirit that I ordered a DVD of *Medical School for Everyone: Emergency Medicine* from The Great Courses. The course consists of 24 half-hour lectures presented as though you were a medical student training in an emergency department. One lecture, of special interest to public service volunteers, covers what EMTs do at the site of an accident.

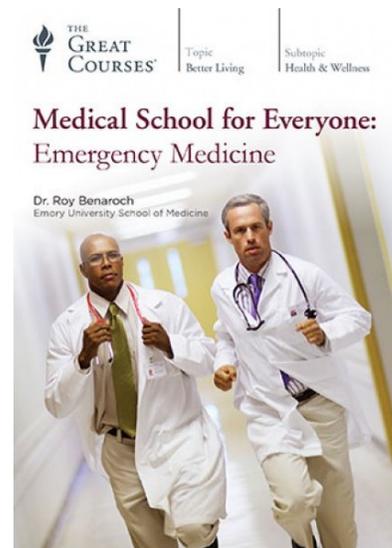
The lectures are fast-paced and engaging. I found myself looking forward to each one and went through the entire course pretty quickly. I didn't even take a break to go golfing on Wednesday afternoon! It's aimed at the educated layperson; it assumes you know what the liver does and roughly where it's located, but that you might have forgotten which side the large lobe is on.

I can't say enough about the lecturer, Dr Roy Benaroch. The Great Courses folks boast about how great their lecturers are, and it's 100% deserved in this case. He's an excellent speaker, engaging and informative, and he's a natural in front of a camera.

If you're expecting something on the order of *ER* on TV you'll be disappointed. There are no dramatizations, copious fountains of fake blood, or people running around yelling, "Stat!". (As anyone who actually works in an emergency department will tell you, television and movie portrayals are none too accurate to begin with.) The lectures are mostly, well, *lectures*, punctuated by occasional still photographs. I think there's one video clip of a kid with whooping cough, just long enough to convince you that you really don't want to get that disease.

Once you order something from The Great Courses, they'll give your mailbox a workout with all the mailings. One thing that's annoying is the list price for courses is absurdly high so they can advertise dramatic reductions when a sale rolls around, though every course does go on sale at least once a year. I've found the customer service to be excellent; they ship promptly and they'll replace bad DVDs cheerfully and forever. If you do buy the physical media, you also get access to everything on-line, though there's also a cheaper download-only option.

Roy Benaroch, MD, Medical School for Everyone: Emergency Medicine. The Teaching Company, 1-800-832-2412, <https://www.thegreatcourses.com/>. DVD list price \$269.95, but subject to frequent large discounts (see text).



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Member News – Joe Chapman, NV1W

I neglected to note last month that **Harris Pitnof, WA1GXC**, has joined the club. Harry is already well-known to many in the club, and has joined us at Field Day and on SKYWARN Recognition Day. We'll hear a presentation from him on Maritime CW later in the spring.

We also welcome **Ryan Carroll** (not yet licensed) of Somerville.

Presentation on Puerto Rico at the Clay Center – Bob Phinney, K5TEC

The Clay Center Amateur Radio Club (CC-ARC) would like to invite all BARC members to join us for a special evening with Mike Corey, KI1U, the ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager, who led a team of fifty emergency communications responders to Puerto Rico in October after Hurricane Maria devastated the island. Save the date: Tuesday, January 16, 6:30–8:00 pm. You are welcome to publicize this in your meetings and newsletter. RSVP: K5TEC@ne1ar.org.

It's time to register to volunteer at the Boston Marathon – Matthew Forman, K6MCF

Volunteer registration is open for the 2018 Boston Marathon! [Sign up today on the BAA's web site](#). You don't need to specify any group name or passcode. Just make sure you request at least one ham radio assignment in your preferences. Once you get your application confirmation number, you're all set.

If you're a returning volunteer, you'll be asked to provide your BAA Volunteer Loyalty Number. You should've received that in a separate e-mail from the BAA today. There's also a tool to look it up on the BAA volunteer site. If you still have trouble finding it, [e-mail us](#) and we can help you out.

Don't delay! Volunteer registration closes in early February. Help us get the word out by forwarding this e-mail to your club and other hams who might like to volunteer. Most volunteers first learn about the event through word of mouth. If you know new amateurs who might like to join us, make sure to let them know about it. Even just a quick mention at your club meeting can be a big help.

Again, If you have any questions about volunteer registration, or the 2018 Marathon generally, please [get in touch](#) anytime. Volunteering at the Marathon is a big job, and we appreciate the time and effort everyone puts into it. We're happy to do what we can to make your work more comfortable or effective.

Again, we look forward to seeing everyone again soon.

No January General Meeting – Joe Harris, N1QD

Please be aware that the Holiday Party takes the place of the January meeting.

20 Years Ago in *The SPARC* – Joe Chapman, NV1W

The January, 1998, general meeting was held at the Volpe Center in Cambridge; the speaker was Lew Collins, who talked about RF safety — Arthur Ashley, N1NHZ, and Terry Koen, N1IWF were the 1997 Hams of the Year — An ARES, RACES, and SKYWARN training class was announced — A balloon with a 2-meter CW beacon was launched in Plymouth — The Sputnik PS2/RS-17 mini-satellite was officially declared dead — *And elsewhere, California restaurants and bars went smoke-free and Monica Lewinsky was in the news.*

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Membership Renewals for 2018 – Joe Chapman, NV1W

BARC memberships work on a calendar year basis, so most people will need to renew on January 1 for the coming year. The regular tariff is \$25.00, \$12.50 for seniors 65 and over, and \$12.50 for additional family members living in the same house. Early renewals—made on or before January 31—may take a 20% discount (i.e., regular memberships \$20/senior and family \$10). Additional donations for the Repeater Fund are welcome and greatly appreciated.

Renewals may be made using PayPal on the club website, <http://www.barc.org>, via postal mail to Boston Amateur Radio Club, P. O. Box 15585, Boston, MA 02215, or by giving a check to any club officer.

BARC Meeting Calendar for 2018

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings will take place at the Brookline Police Headquarters.

General Meetings

February 15	2018	Thu	7:30 pm — <i>At Eastern Bank, Jamaica Plain</i>
March 15	2018	Thu	7:30 pm — <i>At Eastern Bank, Jamaica Plain</i>
April 19	2018	Thu	7:30 pm — <i>At Clay Center Observatory, Brookline</i>
May 17	2018	Thu	7:30 pm
June 21	2018	Thu	7:30 pm
September 20	2018	Thu	7:30 pm
October 18	2018	Thu	7:30 pm
November 15	2018	Thu	7:30 pm

Business Meetings

March 1	2018	Thu	7:30 pm — <i>At Eastern Bank, Jamaica Plain</i>
June 7	2018	Thu	7:30 pm
September 6	2018	Thu	7:30 pm
December 6	2018	Thu	7:30 pm

VE Sessions

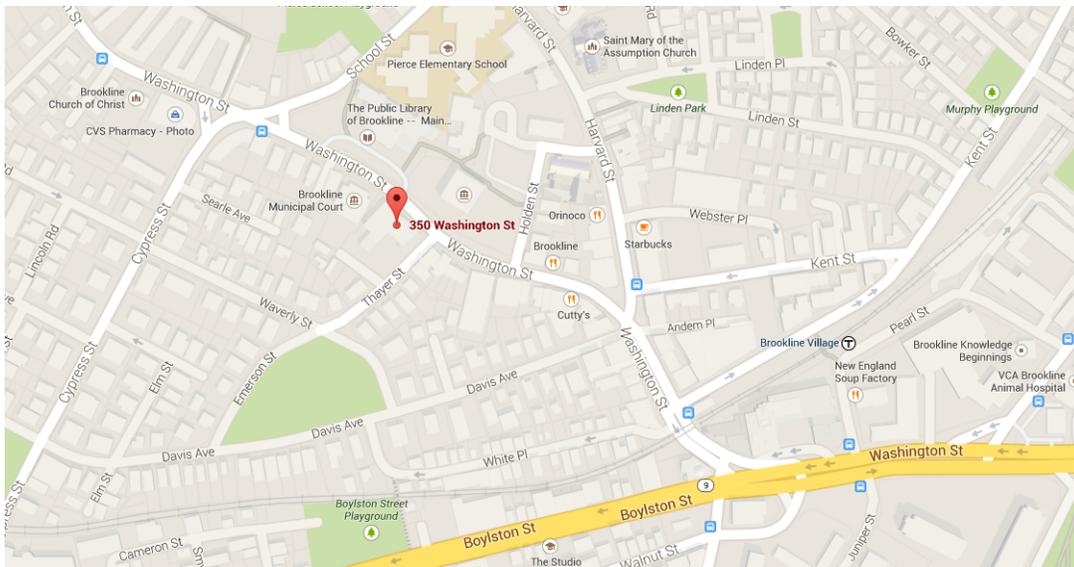
January 15	2018	Mon	7:30 pm — <i>Note change from 2nd Monday</i>
April 9	2018	Mon	7:30 pm
July 9	2018	Mon	7:30 pm
October 8	2018	Mon	7:30 pm

See Yourself in Print! (well, PDF) – Joe Chapman, NV1W

We are always looking for articles for the newsletter. I have reserved this space for your articles, reviews, tips, how-tos, hints, kinks, photos, schematics, or other ham related information. Photos of you operating or your shack are especially welcome. Send your submissions to the Editor, Joe, NV1W, at nv1w@arrl.net. Articles for the February issue must be received by February 3.

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Area Map for Brookline Police Headquarters, 350 Washington St., Brookline



BARC Net Preamble

The control operator for the BARC Net is Joe, W1JJF. He rarely misses a net, but when he does any ham can take up the position and run the net. To assist you in opening and closing the net The BARC Net Preamble is printed below. Do not be afraid to step up and take the challenge.

Is there 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 145.230 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 check-in's for the Boston Amateur Radio Club Net please call now.

[Compile the list of the check-ins and proceed with the net.]

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.

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I See the Future

14 January	BARC Holiday Party, The Stockyard, Allston, 12:00 noon
15 January	BARC VE Session, Brookline Police Headquarters, 7:30 p.m. ▲
16 January	Clay Center ARC meeting (KI1U on Puerto Rico), Clay Center Observatory, Brookline, 6:30 p.m.
20 January	Whitman ARC WinterFest, Whitman
20 January	Basic ARES Training Workshop, Walpole
21–23 January	ARRL January VHF Contest
3 February	Deadline for articles for the February SPARC
4 February	North American Sprint, CW
12–16 February	ARRL School Club Roundup
15 February	BARC General Meeting, Eastern Bank, Jamaica Plain, 7:30 p.m. ▲
17–18 February	ARRL International DX Contest, CW
24–25 February	North American QSO Party, RTTY

▲ Note change from usual date and/or location

(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.

For an up-to-date calendar of events, including web links, visit <http://www.barc.org/calendar>.

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 **March 1, 2018** at Brookline Police Headquarters in Brookline. 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 Harris, N1QD.



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**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



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 × 2 in. (business card)	\$15 per issue
1 col × 2 in. (business card)	\$75 per 6 consecutive months
1 col × 2 in. (business card)	\$125 per 12 consecutive months
1 col × 4 in. (½ column)	\$30 per issue
1 col × 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 Chapman, NV1W, at 617.267.6349 or nv1w@arrl.net.

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 next exam session will be on Monday, January 15, 2018.** Generally, sessions are held at Brookline Police Headquarters, 350 Washington St. in the Community Room (across from the information desk).

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 picture ID or two valid non-picture IDs
- 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, or Linda Blair, NA1I, na1i@arrl.net.

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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 Joe Chapman, NV1W, nv1w@arrl.net.

BARC Officers and Staff

President: Joe Harris, N1QD

781.844.8684; n1qd@n1qd.org

Vice President: Mark Duff, KB1EKN

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Treasurer: Jim Clogher, N1ICN,

781.901.3545; n1icn@arrl.net

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Linda Blair, NA1I, na1i@arrl.net

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617.500.4406; na1i@arrl.net

Newsletter Editor: Joe Chapman, NV1W

617.267.6349; nv1w@arrl.net

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 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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The banner features a teal background with white and red text and graphics. On the left, the Ad Council logo is visible. The main text reads: "Hands-Only™ CPR" followed by a red circle with the number "1" and a red smartphone icon. To the right of the phone is the text "Call 911". Further right is a red circle with the number "2" and a red graphic of hands being pushed together. To the right of this is the text "Push hard and fast in the center of the chest." and "Learn more at handsonlycpr.org". On the far right is the American Heart Association logo with the tagline "Learn and Live".

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Greater Boston Net Directory

Daily 7 pm	MARI (Mass/Rhode Island CW Net) (NTS)	3.565
Daily 8 pm	Eastern Mass 2M Traffic Net (NTS)	145.230 (PL 88.5 in/100.0 out)
Daily 8 pm	Slow Speed CW Net	28.160
First Mon 8:30 pm	EMA Section ARES Net	146.610 and all MMRA links
Mon 8 pm	New England DMR Net	DMR New England Talk Group (TG 3181)
Mon 9 pm	BARC Club Net	145.230 (PL 88.5 in/100.0 out)
Sun Mon Wed Fri 10 pm	Heavy Hitters Traffic Net (NTS)	MMRA-linked repeaters: 146.610, 146.670, 146.715, 146.820, and all 222 and 440 repeaters
Tue Thu Sat 6 pm	MA RI Phone Net (NTS)	3.978
Tue 7:30 pm	Clay Center ARC Net	446.325 (PL 146.2)
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	Waltham Wranglers Swap Net	146.640 (PL 136.5)
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 Newline)	145.470 (PL 136.5)
Sun 9 pm	CAARAnet	145.130 (PL 107.2)



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