



The SPARC

Amateur Radio - Communicating Worldwide for A Century

Newsletter of the Boston Amateur Radio Club

Serving Hams in the Greater Boston Area

March 2018 - VOLUME 30, NUMBER 3

www.barc.org - w1bos@arrl.net



President's Message – Joe Harris, N1QD



Winter progresses, and so does my K2 build. As of this writing, I have added the SSB, noise blanker, and audio filter modules. These modules are much smaller than any of the three boards that comprise the main K2 transceiver, and each one can be completed in one or two building sessions. The 100 watt PA and antenna tuner remain; it looks now like this project will be spilling into the spring. I hope to be able to bring this setup to Field Day and make a few QSOs with a rig I built myself!

This upcoming Thursday, BARC takes a field trip to the Massport Fire Department HQ at Logan Airport in East Boston. The registration deadline has passed, but I look forward to seeing several of you (as well as members of other area radio clubs) on the 15th. The prospect of Santarpio's pizza has me excited, as well!

Finally, as we move into spring it is time to start thinking about officer nominations and the upcoming June election. The club typically selects a nominating committee in April. The committee presents a slate of officers at the May general meeting, and the elections are held at the June meeting. I have decided to not seek a fourth term as president; I am hopeful that another club member will step forward to take the reins. If you are interested in running for a club office, feel free to reach out to me via email and I will happily answer any questions you may have.

Joe Harris, N1QD

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BARC Field Trip · Thursday, March 15, 6:45 p.m.

The next BARC General Meeting will be a Field Trip to MassPort Fire Rescue Headquarters with pizza at Santarpio's. Reservations are required and the deadline has passed.

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>.

Member News – Joe Chapman, NV1W

We welcome **Nora Nagle, KB1OHB**, back to the club after a few years away.

Scott Gaudet, KO4W and wife Tracy have welcomed a new daughter, Mattie Josephine Gaudet. Congratulations also to grandparents **Mark Duff, MB1EKN**, and **Geri Duff, KB1ISG**, and uncle **Joe Harris, N1QD**.

Brookline Ham **Larry Bacow, KA1FZQ**, (not a BARC member) has been named 29th President of Harvard University.

March General Meeting: Field Trip! – Blake Haskell, K1BTH

Reservations are required for this event and the deadline has passed.

Topic: The Current State of Public Safety Radio Interoperability and a Tour of the Massachusetts Port Authority (“MassPort”) Fire Department.

The March 2018 meeting of the Boston Amateur Radio Club will be held at MassPort Fire Rescue Headquarters, 261 Harborside Drive, East Boston, Massachusetts on Thursday March 15, 2018. There is a slight change in the meeting time. A tour of MassPort Fire Department apparatus will commence at 6:45 p.m. followed by Santarpio's pizza at 7:15 p.m. followed by the General Meeting at 8:00 p.m. Attendance for this event is limited to 25 BARC members.

We will have two speakers at this meeting. They are: Steve Staffier, K1SMS, Communications and Interoperability Manager for Massport and MassPort Fire Rescue Deputy Chief Robert Barnes. Steve will talk about Communications Interoperability and Deputy Barnes has an interesting presentation about MassPort Fire Rescue that he will give.

There is parking available at MassPort Fire Headquarters, 261 Harborside Drive, East Boston, Massachusetts. The Fire Department is located past the Hyatt Hotel. Please park in the marked spaces.

Since we're literally in the neighborhood, we will have Santarpio's Pizza for dinner. A suggested donation of \$7.50 per person is requested.

This should be an interesting meeting and we hope to see you there.

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

The March, 1998, general meeting featured a presentation on terrorism emergency preparedness by Colonel David Gavigan of the Massachusetts National Guard — BARC meetings were moved to the Salvation Army Headquarters in the Back Bay — BARC announced a Technician license class for the Spring — Nominations were solicited for ARRL awards — A new book on learning CW using the Koch method was reviewed — *And elsewhere, the film Titanic won an Oscar and data from the Galileo spacecraft suggested Jupiter's moon Europa has a liquid ocean under a thick sheet of ice.*

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Delivering NTS Messages – John Marcus III, W1JWM

The goal of this guide is to give you some inspiration and guidance for the words to use when delivering a radiogram by phone. If you're feeling nervous, just stick to the scripts below. Once you feel more comfortable, go ahead and add your own personal touches.

Remember, even the most experienced NTS operator had to make his or her first call at one point. If you're looking for coaching or practice making mock phone calls, be sure to reach out to John, W1JWM for help!

Leaving Voicemails

Not everyone can answer the phone when you call. Therefore, leave a nice voicemail and invite them to call you back. Here is a sequence of three voicemails you can leave over the course of five days. Leave a day space in-between your voicemails to give your recipient a chance to call you back.

Pro-tip: The first few messages you deliver, be sure to print or type out your message with your information so you don't need to fill-in-the-blank on the fly.

Voicemail 1, Calendar Day 1:

Hi «**RECIPIENT**»,

My name is «**YOUR NAME**» and I'm a ham radio operator with a radiogram for you from «**SENDER**» in «**SENDER CITY**», «**SENDER STATE**».

Please give me a call back at «**YOUR PHONE**» at your earliest convenience. Thank you very much.

Voicemail 2, Calendar Day 3:

Hi «**RECIPIENT**»,

You have a radiogram from «**SENDER**» in «**SENDER CITY**», «**SENDER STATE**» waiting for you. My name is «**YOUR NAME**» and I'm a ham radio operator ready to deliver the message.

Please give me a call at «**YOUR PHONE**». Thank you very much.

Voicemail 3, Calendar Day 5:

Hi «**RECIPIENT**»,

I'm sorry we were not able to connect. My name is «**YOUR NAME**» I have a radio message from «**SENDER**» in «**SENDER CITY**», «**SENDER STATE**» that I will send by [standard mail OR email] to you. If you have any further questions, please call me at «**YOUR PHONE**». Thank you very much and have a great day.

Connecting with the Recipient

Great work, you connected with someone on the phone! Now is your time to shine. Below is an example script you can use to deliver your message clearly and easily.

Super Pro-tip: Type out your message ahead of time by filling in the blanks on the below template. Then make sure you have it on your phone. You can send it to yourself in an email or save it to Google Drive, DropBox or various other cloud services. That way, when a recipient calls you back you can just open up your email or file and read it back.

Connect 1:

Hi, is «**RECIPIENT**» available? (*Wait for an answer...*)

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Hi, «**RECIPIENT**». My name is «**YOUR NAME**» and I'm a ham radio operator calling to deliver a radiogram from «**SENDER**» in «**SENDER CITY**», «**SENDER STATE**». Do you have a moment to receive [his/her] radiogram?

(If Answer = No) No worries, what might be a better time to connect?

(If Answer = Yes) Great! Let me know when you're ready to receive the message. *(Deliver Message)*

Did you need me to repeat any part of the message?

(If Answer = Yes) Sure thing, let me try again. *(Repeat the message)*

(If Answer = No) Great, thanks for your time and have a good day.

That's it, you did it! Now record your activity and report back to your section traffic manager or assistant STM.

Other Tips for Delivering Traffic

Practice makes perfect: Delivering messages is simple and fun when you get to practice a few times. Be sure to practice with friends or family or even in the mirror (it works!) if you're looking to get better at delivering messages on the phone.

Don't rush the call, but don't linger-on: Many times when delivering messages to other hams, the recipient will want to rag-chew about the radiogram and how it got to them. This is just like any other CQ and a great opportunity to get other people involved in our favorite hobby. Other times, the recipient just wants to get their message and get on with their day. Be respectful of time and don't worry if the exchange is short. Your goal is to deliver the message clearly and accurately.

Happy message handling!

[John, W1JWM, developed sales teams for over a decade and has made thousands of calls to deliver messages to absolute strangers in his day job. He provides free coaching and "mock" or practice calls to amateurs looking for practice delivering traffic. New traffic handlers are encouraged to reach out to him on the EM2MTN and at <http://www.jwmarcus.com>.]

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 grace period for renewals ends on March 31, 2018. 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. 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

March 15	2018	Thu	6:45 pm — <i>Field trip to Massport</i>
April 19	2018	Thu	7:30 pm — <i>RFI with Chuck, W1HIS; at Clay Center Observatory, Brookline</i>
May 17	2018	Thu	7:30 pm — <i>Maritime Morse with Harry, WA1GXC</i>
June 21	2018	Thu	7:30 pm — <i>Elections and Field Day</i>
September 20	2018	Thu	7:30 pm
October 18	2018	Thu	7:30 pm
November 15	2018	Thu	7:30 pm

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Business Meetings

June 7	2018	Thu	7:30 pm
September 6	2018	Thu	7:30 pm
December 6	2018	Thu	7:30 pm

VE Sessions

April 9	2018	Mon	7:30 pm
July 9	2018	Mon	7:30 pm
October 8	2018	Mon	7:30 pm

Quarterly Business Meetings – Bob Salow, WA1IDA

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 **June 7, 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.

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 April issue must be received by April 7.

Thanks to Geri, KB1ISG, for photos. (Thanks also to J. P., KB1TIC, for photos, which will appear in a future issue.)

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.]

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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.

I See the Future

11 March	North American Sprint, RTTY
15 March	BARC General Meeting/Field Trip, MassPort, East Boston, 6:45 p.m. ▲
24–25 March	CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB
31 March	End of the grace period for 2018 renewals
7 April	Deadline for articles for the April SPARC
8 April	North American SSB Sprint Contest
8 April	Framingham ARA Sprint Flea Market
9 April	BARC VE Session, Brookline Police Headquarters, Brookline, 7:30 p.m.
15 April	ARRL Rookie Roundup, SSB
15 April	Flea at MIT, Cambridge
19 April	BARC General Meeting, Clay Center, Brookline, 7:30 p.m. ▲

▲ **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>.



**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



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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, April 9, 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.

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.

Hands-Only™ CPR  **1**  **Call 911** **2**  **Push hard and fast in the center of the chest.** **American Heart Association**  **Learn more at handsonlycpr.org** **Learn and Live**

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BARC Officers and Staff

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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 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 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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