



The SPARC

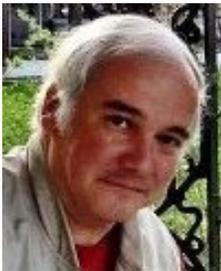
Amateur Radio - Communicating Worldwide for A Century

Newsletter of the Boston Amateur Radio Club
Serving Hams in the Greater Boston Area

November 2018 - VOLUME 30, NUMBER 11
www.barc.org - w1bos@arrl.net



Message from the Editor – Joe Chapman, NV1W



This issue of The SPARC will be somewhat abbreviated due to annoying computer issues and scant material.

I draw your attention to the upcoming General/Business meeting on the 15th. Our speaker will be Bruce Blain, K1BG, who has graciously offered to give his presentation on the history of entry-level licensing. Geezers like me who fondly remember sitting across from a steely-eyed FCC inspector sending CW at 5 wpm at the Custom House for our first licenses are encouraged to show up and act nostalgic.

One of my favorite BARC events, SKYWARN Recognition Day, is coming up in early December. This is an excellent and low-key way to try out operating HF and the Observatory is an interesting place to visit in its own right. The optional hike up the hill is short and not difficult. If the weather is clear, there are stunning views, and if there's a blizzard you'll have a good story.

Happy operating and 73!

In this Issue of The SPARC

- SKYWARN Recognition Day
- Envelope Stuffing
- Meetings and Events



BARC General/Business Meeting, Thursday, November 15, 7:30 p.m.

The next General Meeting will be on Thursday, November 15, at 7:30 p.m. at Brookline Police Headquarters in Brookline. There will be a brief business meeting followed by Bruce Blain, K1BG, speaking on "The History of Entry Level Licensing."

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

Simplex: 147.420

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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>.

BARC to Participate in SKYWARN Recognition Day 2018 – Mark Duff, KB1EKN

On December 1, 2018, and for the 16th consecutive year, BARC will once again participate in SKYWARN Recognition Day. SRD is a joint event support by the ARRL and the National Weather Service where weather stations and weather buffs from across the country contact each other for fun and to promote the SKYWARN Program. Our station, WX1BHO, will be located at the summit of Great Blue Hill in Milton, MA. For several decades, hams have assisted the National Weather Service by providing real-time reports of severe weather and storm conditions. Although the NWS operates a network of 120 Doppler radars to track severe storms, at greater ranges weather radar has a difficult time sampling conditions close to the ground. The information radio operators located near a storm provide plays a key role in aiding forecasters.

Stations will exchange signal reports, location and a brief description of the current weather at their respective locations (“sunny,” “partly cloudy,” “windy,” etc.). BARC will be on the air from approximately 0900 to 1500 local time. The event itself is a great way in a low-key environment to make HF contacts and get your feet wet in the HF Spectrum. In past years we have endured all kinds of weather including warm and cold days, clear and cloudy days, and yes, even a blizzard.



Access to the summit is gained by a 20 minute hike from the base of Great Blue Hill located on Route 138 next to the DCR Trailside Museum or (if you arrive early in the day) by car. Further information is available by contacting Mark Duff, KB1EKN, at emgmt@comcast.net. If you're interested in hiking up the hill, contact Joe Chapman, NV1W, at nv1w@arrl.net.

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

In the November, 1998, issue of *The SPARC*, President Ed Hennessy reported that there's been an increase in inquiries at Radio Shack about amateur radio; BARC was preparing a flyer to place at several stores — The Holiday Dinner was once again at the Happy Haddock in Medford — Peter Ostroskey was to speak on the implementation and operation of 9-1-1 in Massachusetts — A BARC Logan airport tour was scheduled for December — *And elsewhere, Vincent van Gogh's Portrait of the Artist Without Beard sold at auction for a measly \$71.5 million.*

Envelope Stuffing, Thursday, November 15, 6:45 p.m. – Joe Chapman, NV1W

Once again BARC will be mailing out membership renewals with a stamped return envelope to those whose membership expires at the end of this year. There will be a 20% discount offered on dues paid before January 31, 2019.

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We will assemble the envelopes before the November General/Business meeting starting at about 6:45 p.m. Your participation is welcomed and appreciated.

The envelopes will be mailed out in early December, so don't fret if you don't receive yours for a few weeks! Renewals may also be made on www.barc.org using PayPal.

New Members – Joe Chapman, NV1W

A warm welcome to Ed Ridolfi, K1RID, of Newburyport. Ed is primarily a CW operator and (like your editor) operates QRP portable quite a bit.

BARC Meeting Calendar for 2018

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

General Meetings

November 15 2018 Thu 7:30 pm (*Business/General Meeting*) — *History of Entry-Level Licensing*

New Business/General Meetings – Bob Salow, WA1IDA, and Joe Chapman, NV1W

The Bylaws require that BARC hold four Business meetings per year. In an attempt to streamline our meeting schedule, BARC Business meetings will now be held concurrently with the General meetings in March, June, September, and November. We will attempt to keep the business portion of these combined Business/General meetings to a half hour. The next such combined meeting will be on **November 15, 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.

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 Secretary Joe Chapman, NV1W.

BARC Net Preamble

The control operator for the BARC Net is Joe, W1JJE. 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

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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

10–11 November	WAE DX Contest, RTTY
15 November	BARC Envelope Stuffing, Brookline Police Headquarters, Brookline, 6:45 pm
15 November	BARC General/Business Meeting, Brookline Police Headquarters, Brookline, 7:30 pm
17–19 November	ARRL November Sweepstakes, Phone
18 November	Homebrew and Oldtime Equipment Party
24–25 November	ARRL EME — 50 to 1296 MHz
24–25 November	CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW
30 November–2 Dec	ARRL 160 Meter Contest
1 December	SKYWARN Recognition Day, Great Blue Hill Observatory, Milton
8 December	Deadline for articles for the December SPARC
8–9 December	ARRL 10 Meter Contest
16 December	ARRL Rookie Roundup, CW

▲ *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>.

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.

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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 December issue must be received by December 8.

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 14, 2019.** 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 CSCEs 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.



New England Sci-Tech Inc is a new 501(c)(3) STEM education center, amateur radio training center, and maker space located at 16 Tech Circle, Natick. It is home to New England Amateur Radio Inc (NE1AR) and the youth radio club Sci-Tech Amateur Radio Society (STARS). NE Sci-Tech welcomes memberships and donations via www.NESciTech.org or www.NE1AR.org.



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BARC Officers and Staff

President: *(position vacant)*

Vice President: Mark Duff, KB1EKN
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Treasurer: Jim Clogher, N1ICN,
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Public Service Coordinator: Brett Smith, AB1RL
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Membership Services: Linda Blair, NA1I
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Newsletter Editor: Joe Chapman, NV1W
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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 Newsline)	145.470 (PL 136.5)
Sun 9 pm	CAARAnet	145.130 (PL 107.2)



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