

CAARA NEWS



Cape Ann Amateur Radio Association
July 2017 Edition



PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

by Jon- K1TP



We enjoyed several activities sponsored by CAARA this month which were lot's of fun. We had a few YMCA road races to provide communication for, Field Day of course, but a Cub Scout event demonstrating ham radio during a camp out in Rockport was canceled due to bad weather.

We have several road races left to do and I personally invite you to take part in a race. It is easy, just sit in your car or an easy chair with a two meter radio and watch the runners go by. If someone looks like they need assistance, call the net control and report it in. We have a core of about 8 volunteers but it would be nice to give these guys a race off once in a while....How about it? We provide the training and can loan you a programmed radio if you do not have one.

We have received some great equipment donations in the last month: West Mountain battery box with power pole connectors and charger, a marine battery, tuners, Drake TR4 and matching speaker/power supply, Kenwood 820 and VFO, keyers, power supplies, portable 10-40 meter TW antenna, and more. We keep what we feel we can use and then test and Ebay the surplus items. Follow our Ebay auctions by connecting to CAARA.NET and find the link to current auctions. If you have old gear and accessories that you do not need, let us know. You can write them off to the club and we help each other.

Our two meter Sunday Net at PM on Sunday evenings is going well, please check in on occasion and let us know how you are doing and also keep up on your CAARA activities.

Rick- WZ1B and crew is still busy with monthly VE sessions on Sunday mornings and the successful Tech in a Day course.

We are in need of a few tools to maintain the outside of the club: rakes, shovels, weedwhacker, etc. If you have anything you could donate, please contact me by email at jpcrockport@gmail.com

INFORMATION DESK

By Dean- KB1PGH



First the reminder to all club members that there will be no regular members meeting scheduled for July and August as we take our usual summer break. The next members meeting will be coming up in early September which will be the clubs Annual meeting. More details to come in the August and September editions of the newsletter. Last month I covered the topic of why your ham radio or antenna may not be broken but the ionosphere is broken. I think I will continue that theme of why you think your radio or antenna may be broken because you don't hear any stations when you turn your radio on. holds especially true for all the new techies out there. I also have first hand experience with this too. Now before you buy your new rig and antenna please remember a couple of things. Especially if you live near the city or any commercial land. Don't forget that your HF rig can be desensitized or even be rendered almost useless due to the massive amount of EMI and RFI out there. I'm talking out the electromagnetic interference and radio frequency interference that exists in today's modern society. You think that your rig may be "Deaf" but that's probably not the case. Today's HF rigs are more then sensitive enough, maybe even too sensitive. If your getting a noise level on your rig it could be a variety of things either inside or outside your home. First start by going through your house shutting off each circuit breaker at a time. You'll be amazed at all the EMI that all of your household electronics emit. Everything down to touch lamps and those wall warts. Plus all those LED lights and washer and dryer motors. Now if that does not work take a look at outside. You have power lines and

(Cont P3)

CAARA Newsletter
Cape Ann Amateur Radio Association
6 Stanwood Street
Gloucester, MA 01930

CAARA Newsletter is a monthly publication of the Cape Ann Amateur Radio Association (CAARA).

It is the policy of the editor to publish all material submitted by the membership provided such material is in good taste, relevant to amateur radio and of interest to CAARA members, and space is available. Material is accepted on a first come, first serve basis. Articles and other materials may be submitted by email to Jon at JPCROCKPORT@GMAIL.COM. If possible, material should be in Word format. Material may also be submitted as hard copy to Jon- K1TP or any Club Officer.

All material published in the CAARA Newsletter may be reproduced for non-commercial use provided such use credits both the CAARA and the author of the article. Copyrighted material will not be accepted without accompanying written permission to publish.

The opinions expressed in the CAARA Newsletter are solely those of the editor or other contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of either the Board of Directors or membership of CAARA.

Jon Cunningham- K1TP Editor
Dean Burgess- KB1PGH Reporter

Board of Directors- 2016/17

President: Jon Cunningham K1TP
Vice Pres: Larry Beaulieu AJ1Z
Treasurer: Stefan De Simone K1SCD
Clerk: Dean Burgess KB1PGX

Directors:

Bob Spanks WA1UCG
David Linsky- N1CDL
Ross Burton- W1RAB
Jake Heard W1LDL
Hank McCarl W4RIG
Chris Winczewski- K1TAT

Welcome to CAARA:

CAARA, an ARRL affiliated club, operates the 2 meter W1GLO repeater on 145.130 MHz with antennas located on the ATT cell tower in the Blackburn Industrial Complex in Gloucester Massachusetts. It has an average effective radius of 60 miles, and serves Eastern Massachusetts, Cape Cod, Rhode Island, Southern New Hampshire, and maritime mobile stations.

CAARA also operates the W1GLO repeater on 224.900 located at the CAARA clubhouse.

The former W1RK 443.700 repeater is now on the ATT cell tower in the Blackburn Industrial Complex with greatly enhanced performance.

The Association is one of the few amateur radio clubs that has its own clubhouse. Located at 6 Stanwood Street in Gloucester, it includes numerous permanent HF stations with beam, vertical/wire antennas along with an operating 2 meter packet station as well as 2/440 meter voice and 220 MHz Transceivers.

Amateur radio exams are held on the second Sunday of each month at 10:00 AM at the CAARA clubhouse. Anyone who is considering a new license or an upgrade, is welcome to test with us. There is no pre-registration necessary. Contact the head of our VE team, Rick Maybury if you have any questions about monthly testing.

Monthly member meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 PM except for July and August.

Each Sunday evening at 9:00 PM, the club operates a 2 meter net on 145.130. This is an open and informal net which disseminates club news and prepares operators for emergency communications work. All are invited to check into the net as club membership is not a requirement.

New! The club is open every Tuesday from 5-8 PM for CAARA members to stop by and socialize, as well as use the extensive collection of ham radio gear.

INFORMATION DESK

By Dean- KB1PGH

those LED street lights that emit noise, not to mention any industry that might be around you/I myself cannot operate HF from home due to power lines and street lights and all my neighbors with their electronics and all the commercial industry around me. I am forced to operate HF portable but that's OK. So good luck trying to operate HF from home in the EMI filled world we live in. Don't forget that Hf rigs have a noise blander on them that might help solve your issue and that you may be able to use ferrite beads and coils to help mitigate EMI in your shack. Plus make sure your rig is actually grounded through the AC socket. You would be amazed that sometimes your home wiring may be the issue. Moving on, If you did not know by now Radio Shack has had a second bankruptcy and both stores in Beverly and Gloucester have now closed so rest in piece Radio Shack. In other interesting news. According to the ARRL the FCC has decided to make it legal now for all CB ers to work DX. They have decided to eliminate the long standing but never enforced 155.3 mile distance rule for making contacts. No date has been given yet for when this will go into effect. That's it for now and we'll see you in August.



I told you Dean, if you buy something from HRO, you do not have to hide it from me. I am going to find it anyway's!

INSPIRE-2 Ground Controllers Turn to Amateur Radio, Rescue Stalled Satellite

Amateur Radio came to the rescue of the **INSPIRE-2** CubeSat, built by the University of Sydney in collaboration with the Australian National University, and the University of New South Wales. According to Wireless Institute of Australia (WIA), the CubeSat is designed to “explore the lower thermosphere, for re-entry research and in-orbit demonstration of technologies and miniaturized sensors” and is part of the QB-50 constellation of research CubeSats. Its operational frequency was coordinated by **IARU** to be in the satellite segment of the 70-centimeter Amateur Radio band.

After its deployment from the International Space Station (ISS) in late May, INSPIRE-2 showed no signs of life. The engineering group on the ground tested various scenarios on the INSPIRE-2 engineering model, concluding that the spacecraft's battery had depleted due to the CubeSat's extended stay on board the ISS prior to orbit. The ground controllers theorized that the satellite was trapped in an endless loop, but still listening while trying to deploy its antenna, making reception of signals from Earth difficult.

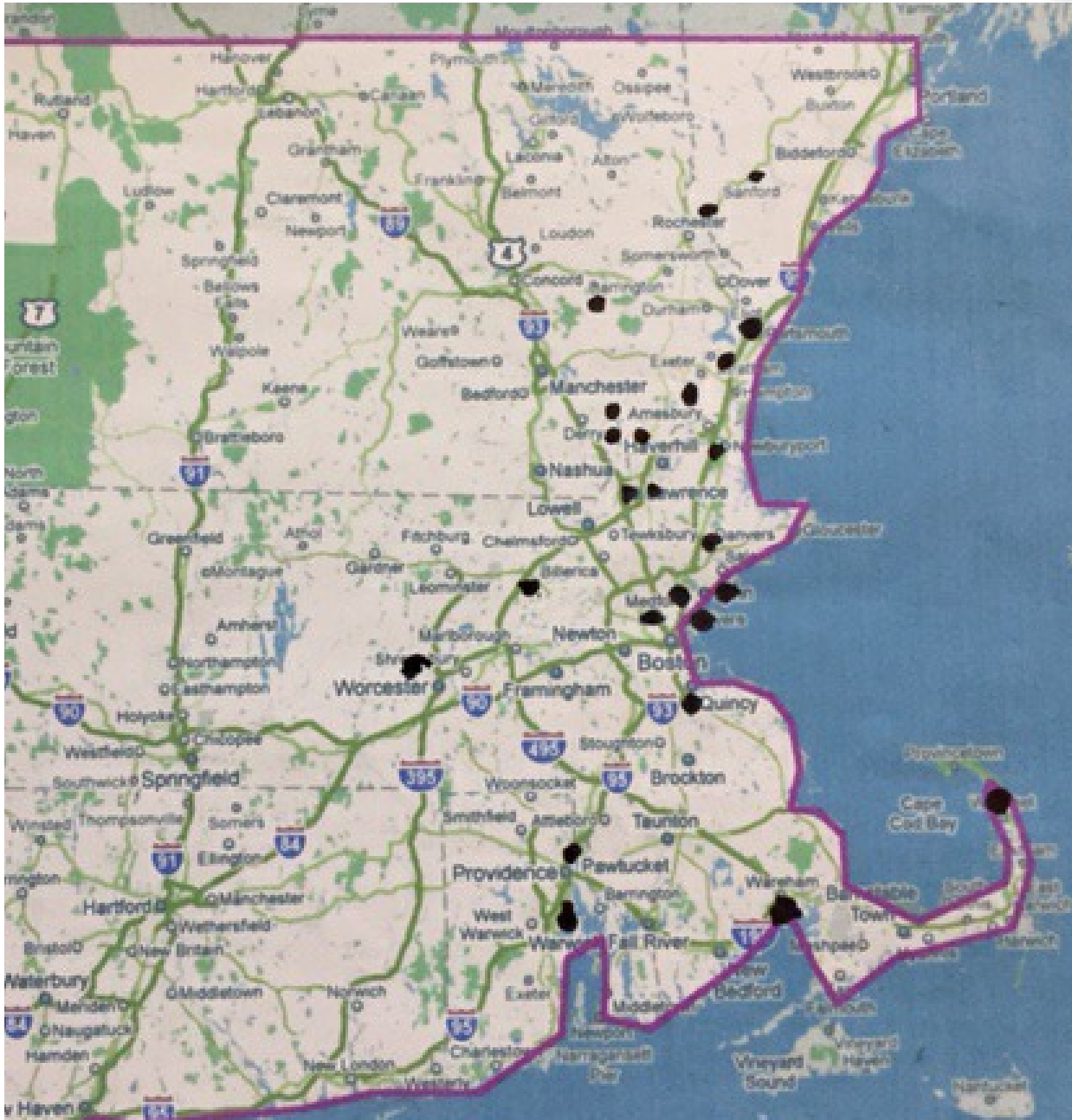
The ground team devised a set of commands that, if received, would instruct the satellite to wait until its battery was charged before attempting to deploy its antenna. UNSW and ANU ground stations transmitted the recovery command without success, however, eventually deciding that more power was needed to overcome the lack of receiver sensitivity caused by the still-stowed antenna.

PI9CAM at the CAMRAS Foundation Dwingeloo Astronomic Observatory in Leiden, the Netherlands, responded to a call to the moonbounce community and offered to transmit a high power signal using a 25-meter dish that's normally used for radio astronomy but also for EME.

Success of the approach was confirmed on June 11, and Dimitrios Tsifakis, VK1SV, who is part of the ANU team, subsequently was able to send commands to the satellite from the ANU Earth station for the first time. The satellite had come back to life!

WIA called it, “a wonderful example of successful collaboration between radio amateurs and the academic community.”

2 Meter Coverage



This map was compiled by Bill- W1WMM over a period of time and was created to show what our repeater coverage is like. It shows a pretty considerable swath of coverage on the North Shore as well as southern New Hampshire. The 145.130 machine has a pl of 107.2 and consists of a Kenwood vhf repeater with a new Henry 100 watt amplifier. The Stationmaster antenna was replaced last year and it all resides comfortably at the ATT Cellular tower site at the Blackburn Industrial Park.

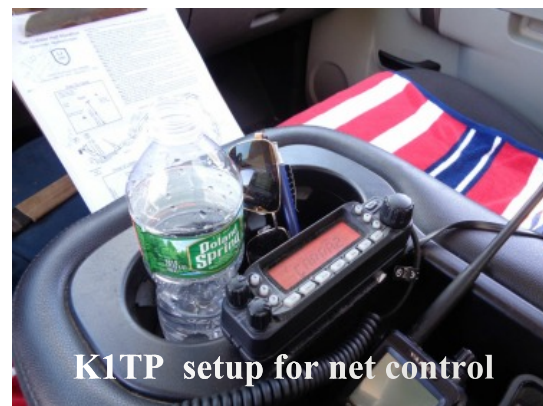
The 440 repeater also resides there with a lower antenna position on the tower. The repeater is a new Yaesu Fusion FM/Digital repeater with a Henry 75 watt amplifier.

The site offers us emergency power backup and a climate controlled equipment room with fairly easy access to make repairs and adjustments. *Jon- K1TP Repeater Chairperson*

YukanRun

CAARA Public Service

By Bob- WA1UCG



K1TP setup for net control

CAARA supplied communications for the Sunday, June 4 YukanRun Twin Lobster Half Marathon which was based at Gloucester High School. Thanks to all who donated their Sunday morning to provide public service and also a needed donation to our treasury.

Net control was Jon- K1TP, Trail Car was Curtis- AA3JE, Incident Command was Bill- W1WMM, stationed at strategic mile markers were Ron- N1RJB, Charlie- KV1BAZ, Hank- W4RIG, and Matt- KC1AEI. Matt also helped the shorthanded race staff and handed out water!



And they are off....



YMCA Father's Day 5K



Course Position Assignments:

**Start/Finish: First Aid: REMS (BLS) /Comms: 5K
Net Control and 10K Net Control,**

CHRIS WINCZEWSKI - K1TAT

**NET CONTROL 10 K FREQ: 443.700 pl: 107.2 and JODY BARDEN NET CONTROL 5K FREQ:
145.130 pl: 107.2**

**5K Lead Vehicle: (Comms only): Assigned by CAARA
MATT KNOWLES - KC1AEJ**

**10K Lead Vehicle: (Comms only): Assigned by CAARA
CURTIS WRIGHT AA3JE**

**5K Water Stop: First Aid: Sam Andrews (First Aider)/ Comms: Assigned by CAARA
HANK McCARL W4RIG MARIAN WAY / OLD GARDEN**

10K Water Stop 1: First Aid/Comms: Angela Morley KC1DAB (First Aider)

**10K Water Stop 2: First Aid: Nigel Thorpe (EMT)/Comms: Assigned by CAARA
JON CUNNINGHAM K1TP - EDEN ROAD JUST BEFORE SOUTH STREET**

**10K Water Stop 3: First Aid: Matt Dyer (EMT)/Comms: Assigned by CAARA
HANK McCARL W4RIG MARIAN WAY / OLD GARDEN**

**5K Tail Vehicle: First Aid/Comms: Michael Carroll KC3MAC (First Aider)
JEFF FOWLER - KA1TMA**

**10K Tail Vehicle: First Aid/Comms: Gabriel Ricker KB1OKU (EMT)
BILL MORRIS - W1WMM**

Another Easy Job

By Curtis- AA3JE

The secret of serenity in retirement is to plan properly. If you budget and allocate your time well, you are never rushed, and never feel the grinding panic that sets in 15 minutes before Ace Hardware closes and locks you out for another day.

So, at 1 o'clock, planning wisely, I decided to replace the dryer vent on the clothes dryer. This is important, as everyone knows, to avoid dryer fires. I had noticed that two of the louvers were missing, and wanted to get it fixed before some critter took up housekeeping in there.

So I examined the job. Four screws, pull vent, put in new vent, congratulate self.

Should take no more than 30 minutes. Max!

So I drive to Ace. They have not one, but five distinct types of dryer vent. Louver type, flapper type, screen type, inside the house type, flapper and screen type.

I made my selection, paid, and drove off with comfortable certainty.

So I pulled the four screws, gave a tug, and the damn thing would not come out!

Investigate interior- hose must be removed. No problem.

Wiggle dryer out of cramped slot with much invective. Discover scientific breakthrough. Source of all lint in the world is discovered. It comes from a breeding site behind dryers! Get vacuum.

Start vacuuming. Plug up vacuum. Get long skinny stick and unplug vacuum. Get squirt cleaner. Apply cleaner, discover paper towels are missing. Go upstairs and find paper towels. Clean.



Remove inner end of vent pipe. Discover foreign matter. Birds have already found dryer vent. Remove other end of dryer vent. Reach down dryer hose. Discover decomposed bird. Get stick again. Take outside and poke crud out of hose. Chase dog who attempts to eat decomposed bird. Recover bird. Dog disappointed.

Take clean hose back inside. Go back outside. Stuff dryer vent into hole. Discover side of house not flat. Go get silicone gunk. Smear liberally. Shove in hole. Screw in.

Discover it is tilted, looks like heck. Unscrew. Straighten. Looks good.

Go inside. Discover dryer cord is just not long enough to squeeze back there. Unplug, get back there. Cram hose on spigot. Discover clamp is outside. Go get clamp. Apply clamp. Discover dryer requires extension.

Look at clock. Ace closes in 15 minutes. Drive to Ace. Buy extension. Drive back home. Realize dinner should have gone in an hour ago. Cram dinner in to pot and start boiling.

Apply extension. Apply hose. Cram dryer back into narrow slot. Turn on. Check outside to see line is clear. Throw tools on workbench. Curse.

Vacuum up residual dead bird. Disassemble brush unit to clear jam, reassemble.

Go up to see how "SHE WHO MUST BE OBEYED" is.

"WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING ALL DAY?" she asked.

"Replacing the dryer vent. The louvers had come off."

"I DIDN'T REALIZE IT AS SUCH A BIG JOB."

Neither did I, honey, neither did I.



Field Day 2017

Field Day worked out quite well for the 25 members and guests who attended the event at the clubhouse. A big thanks to Tony- AB1XK for organizing and running Field Day at the clubhouse. We opened with a cookout on Saturday for lunch around noon with burgers, dogs, fresh corn, potato salad, and cole slaw.

We had our local club member and Senator, Bruce Tarr visit us as well as hams passing thru the Gloucester area who wanted to see what we were all about. The equipment worked flawlessly and we all had a great time.

In a nutshell, we operated 10-75 on SSB on the first floor, 10-75 on the second floor on CW, and digital on 20 meters. I believe we had more contacts on cw than on ssb







Jon- K1TP operating CW



Above photo: Senator Bruce Tarr, a CAARA member, stopped by and presented us with a handsome printed proclamation for our wall collection. Bruce on the left and Ron- N1RJB on the right.



Hank, Jake, Paul, and Tony having a laugh.

ROCKPORT FIELD DAY BY RICH- W1FSR

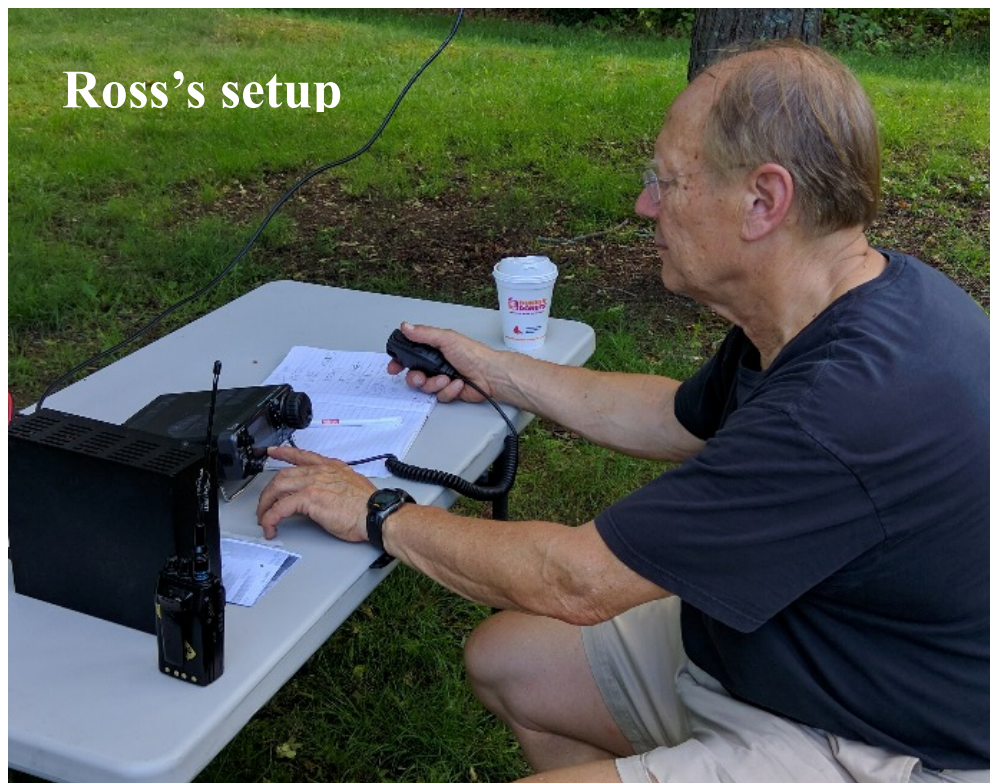
Hospital Hill, a great location for Field Day in Rockport, 180 feet above sea level with a peaceful field to operate in. Ross stopped by and setup a HF station as well as his portable 440 repeater. A good time was had by all. Ross also worked with Dean- KB1PGH who setup Field Day on a small farm in Essex



Rich's setup



Rich



Ross's setup

CAARA activates Essex Mass for ARRL Field Day

CAARA members Ross W1RAB and Dean KB1PGH activated Essex Mass for the ARRL Field day event. This was part of the club being active for field day in 3 out of the 4 Cape Ann communities.

Ross brought his portable 440 repeater and contacts were made and he also used his Icom 7000 and a end fed dipole to make contacts on 40 and 20 meters, Dean KB1PGH used the Icom 7300 and a off center fed 4 band dipole and make several contacts on 40,20,10 and the 6 meter bands. Together we operated for a few hours and made over 40 SSB contacts. The weather was nice and the bands conditions were perfect with many openings on the 10 and 6 meter bands. Total set up and break up times were less than 30 minutes each for this portable operation. This location, combined with CAARA's Field day operations at the clubhouse and Hospital Hill in Rockport concludes the CAARA Emergency Communications group quarterly exercise.



Hamvention Improvements Already in the Works for 2018!

AREA NEWS
By Bill- WZ1L

Even before Hamvention® 2017 had wound down at its new Xenia, Ohio, location, plans were on the drawing board to enhance next year's show. Hamvention 2017 "went reasonably well," spokesperson Mike Kalter, W8CI, allowed, but he acknowledged that there are still a "lot of things to work on" for 2018. Kalter, who lives in Xenia, made the remarks in a [video interview](#) with DX Engineering's Tim Duffy, K3LR, in the wake of the May 19-21 show, which is sponsored by the Dayton Amateur Radio Association ([DARA](#)).

Kalter told Duffy that the staff of the Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center on its own initiative met with him, Hamvention General Chair Ron Cramer, KD8ENJ, and others to say they were already formulating plans for improvements. The food and forum venues at the new location got high marks, Kalter told Duffy, but the flea market suffered badly from the effects of heavy rainfall.

"It rained hard, and it rained a lot," Kalter recounted, adding that the flea market area was not as well drained as organizers had expected. "What exactly we're going to do at this point, I don't know," he conceded. "We felt bad about that."

The exhibitor tents were another issue, with crowded quarters, wind-blown rain getting into booth spaces, and a lack of lighting. Kalter told Duffy that DARA didn't get the tents it wanted, and that more and better tents are high on the list for next year. DARA also has asked the Greene County Commission to purchase another building for the site, and the Commission will be installing air handlers in buildings for 2018.

On-site parking improvements also are in the works, after a massive traffic jam on opening day. "Traffic on Friday morning was pretty rough, for those that got caught in that, but we worked with the officials...and they fixed it overnight," Kalter said.

"We know that we are stewards of a very important event [for Amateur Radio]," Kalter told Duffy. Hamvention "is not just DARA's show," and exhibitors and organizers alike are buying into the concept of "our Hamvention" and contributing to an effort to improve the event. Kalter called Hamvention "a pillar" that helps to keep Amateur Radio alive and "growing and functioning at a much higher level" than anywhere else.

"We're out in front of it," Kalter assured, "and I want to thank all of our volunteers," referring to the 657 individuals who made Hamvention 2017 happen. "Most of what I heard was very positive."

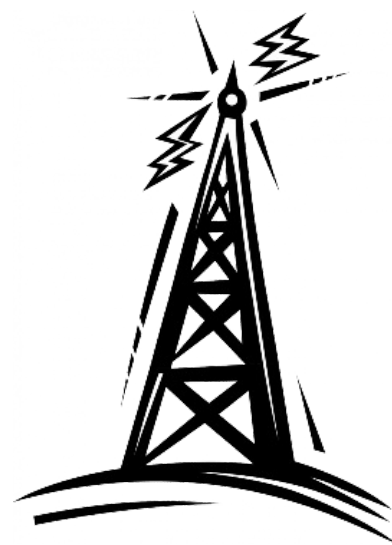
In a **separate interview** with *HamRadioNow*'s Gary Pearce, KN4AQ, Kalter said that while he could offer no firm numbers, attendance was "the biggest I've seen at any Hamvention I've ever been to. It was absolutely wall to wall, from one end to the other."

ARRL BOXBORO CONVENTION 2017

I recently received an email advising that the ARRL Boxboro Convention 2017 Will be held Friday, Saturday and Sunday, September 8, 9 and 10 at the Boxboro Regency Hotel and Conference Center in Boxboro, MA. (**Note: This is the weekend after Labor Day.**)

This is one of New England ARRL's events and it is a good time to gather in the spirit of Amateur Radio. Please mark your calendars to participate in this event.

There are numerous Forums, Clinics, Demonstrations and talks on specific Amateur Radio subjects of which could be technical and non-technical in nature.



The [Cape Ann Amateur Radio Association](#) is holding a technician study course at the convention on Saturday, September 9th, from 9 AM to 5 PM. After the end of the class, there will be a special VE Exam for course attendees. There is a small fee to cover course materials, along with an FCC established \$15 exam fee.

Find more information about the "Tech-in-a-Day" program from the [CAARA website](#).

[Contact Rick Maybury](#), WZ1B, if you have any questions about the "Tech-In-A-Day" study course.

VE Exams

Get an upgrade, or licensed for the first time! There will be two VE exam sessions on Saturday at 11 AM and 1 PM, and one session at 11 AM on Sunday. No preregistration required.

Those wishing to take an exam are required to bring the following:

- Two (2) forms of identification, one with photo

- \$15 exam fee

- Original of any Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE) being claimed

- Original one copy of current FCC issued license (if licensed)

- Copy of any Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE) being claimed

General: Non programmable calculators are allowed; cell phone calculators are NOT allowed.

Scratch paper and writing utensils will be provided. The applicants are required to observe proper decorum, so as not to disturb other applicants.

You need to use your FCC registration number (FRN) on the license application, which can be found on your current FCC license. If you do not have an FRN, your Social Security number can be used. If you wish to obtain an FRN before the exam, you can obtain one through the FCC's [Commission Registration System \(CORES\)](#).

General Admission

General Admission grants access to the [Flea Market](#), [Forums & Classes](#), [Vendors](#), and the [Feature Film](#)! It also grants you an opportunity to win one of our fabulous [Door Prizes](#).

It's just \$15, good for all three days, and **free** for full time students with student ID!

General Admission tickets also available at the door.

Don't want to wait? General Admission tickets are now available at these retail locations:

[Ham Radio Outlet](#) in Salem, NH

Electronics Plus in Littleton, MA

Admission is reduced to \$10 on Sunday at 11 AM (no advanced purchase available), allowing you some extra shots at the final door prizes!

Flea Market Spaces

Flea Market Spaces are \$10 each, good for both Saturday and Sunday.

Each flea market spot measures 9 by 21 feet.

Note: General Admission is required to participate in the flea market!

Special Dinners

There are two special dinners, both with good friends, good talk, and good food.

DXCC/Contest Dinner: Join us Friday night for the DXCC/Contest dinner! Speaker to be announced. Doors will open at 6:30 PM. Tickets are \$40, and attendees will have the choice between chicken, fish, or a vegetarian dish.

Saturday Banquet: Enjoy dinner as our keynote speaker, Paul Stoetzer, N8HM, of the Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation (AMSAT-NA), takes us on a talk that is out of this world. Tickets are \$40.

Seating is limited for each and typically sell out, so it's highly recommended you buy your tickets online as soon as they are available!

Donations

When purchasing your ticket, consider making a donation to FEMARA, Inc., the non-profit organization responsible for running the Boxboro New England Amateur Radio Convention.

Not only does your donation go towards sustaining the Boxboro New England Amateur Radio Convention, more importantly, it supports the FEMARA scholarship fund, which helps students attend a college or trade school of their choice.

FEMARA is a qualified 501(c)(3) organization, so donations to FEMARA are tax deductible!



THE US. ORIGINAL 13 COLONIES SPECIAL EVENT GROUP PRESENTS THE 9TH ANNUAL.

★ 4th Of July Week - The Original 13 Colonies Special Event ★

INDEPENDENCE WEEK 2017

JULY 1ST - JULY 6TH

MAY GOD BLESS AMERICA

LIBERTY OR DEATH



SAMPLE



DONT TREAD ON ME



IN RECOGNITION FOR PARTICIPATING IN THIS 4TH OF

JULY WEEK - 13 COLONIES SPECIAL EVENT, THIS

CERTIFICATE IS AWARDED TO ARS: - KU2US

73'



ALL 13 COLONY STATES
CLEAN SWEEP



WM3PEN



GB13COL



K2A
NY

K2B
VA

K2C
RI

K2D
CT

K2E
DE

K2F
MD

K2G
GA

K2H
MA

K2I
NJ

K2J
NC

K2K
NH

K2L
SC

K2M
PA

13 Colonies is an annual contest held during the 4th Of July Week. Those who participate try to make contact(s) with all 13 Colony Stations, and the 2 Bonus Stations. You do not need to make contact with all 13 to get the certificate. Getting all 13 + the 2 Bonus is known as a Clean Sweep. Use the links to the left for information on each State (Colony), and the Bonus Stations. Good Luck and see you in the pile up's!

The 13 Colonies will have TWO Bonus Stations:

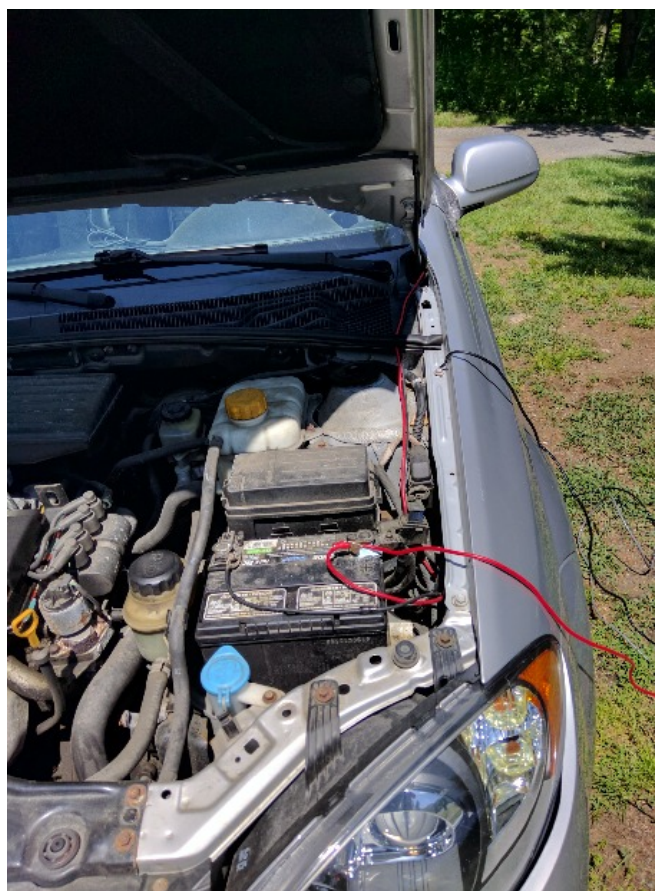
Our old friends " WM3PEN " will participate from Philadelphia, PA, where independence was declared. The 13 Colonies certificate will have a Liberty Bell added for a contact with " WM3PEN ". Visit the " WM3PEN " page for details on this station

Our 2nd Bonus Station, " GB13COL " will operate from Durham, England. For a Contact with " GB13COL ", The 13 Colonies certificate will have an endorsement of the "British Standard". Visit the " GB13COL " page for details on this station.

Volunteers: If you wish to participate as a 13 Colonies operator from your state, please email Ken Villone (KU2US) at dentron1@yahoo.com. He will forward your request to the appropriate state manager for consideration. The only requirement is that you must be a General class or higher and be willing to put in some serious operating time.

Spotting If you work a colony station, you are encouraged to spot it for others. We suggest [DX Summit](#).

The 13 Colonies Special Event is a not for profit event. All donations are used to fund the next years event, and to defray any expenses occurred. All donations are used for operating costs, supplies, equipment, and 13 Colony Group initiatives. Donation is voluntary. If you have difficulty with a donation, tell us on your log sheet, and we will send you the certificate earned-No Questions Asked!.



PORTABLE OPERATION

Rich- W1FSR setup his gear over on Hospital Hill in Rockport on Father's Day and made some contacts with this fine setup.

Rich was getting a little practice in before Field Day and plans to setup here again for Field Day. The club has received permission to use the field that weekend.

Rich just runs his gear right off the car battery and used a mag mount MFJ HF antenna stick.



WHAT IS HAPPENING AT THE CLUBHOUSE?



I checked the security camera the other night, Tuesday, June 20 and I saw quite a crew hanging around and having fun. I counted 9 club members and some guests working on various projects including just shooting the baloney.

I saw this repurposed old computer case turned into a go kit and thought it was a neat idea.

I keep catching that "One Item for CAARA" guy bringing in stuff...like packing material, scissors, etc.



The two photo's above show the condition of the clubhouse yard a week ago.

Ross donated his time and lawnmower chopping down this minefield, you never know whether you will hit a rock or hidden radial wire.

Breaking News: We received a donated lawnmower, how about donating sometime and mowing the lawn....we can train!

Nasty Old Shingles *by Curtis- AA3JE*

When we moved out of the house built in 1875, into one built in 1978, I expected to see some improvement. After all, it was a hundred years newer!

But in 1978, there was a fashion for leaving shingles “Plain”, so that they would weather naturally to a New England “gray”, looking quite nice, and quaint.

And on the North Side and the East side it does.

On the West and South side, it has grown a fine black crop of mildew. Before I retired I was planning to have it re-shingled, but that’s too pricy now.

So, I did what I always do now, I did a reconnaissance. Ever since the now infamous “Truck Bed Paint” disaster, I seek counsel from the wise men of the tribe.

Specifically, Joe’s Paint Store.

“Black nasty mold all over the cedar shingles. Got to get it off. What you got?”

“Want it a little lighter or you want it gone?”

“Gone, please.”

“OK, I got something.” He looked at me suspiciously, “You don’t hug trees, or nutting like that, do you”

“NRA Member, Certified Deplorable, Absolutely no tree hugging.”

He led me out to a building 10 yards away from the store. He put on gloves, a mask, respirator, and inside. He came out with a one gallon jug sealed in a plastic bag.



“IS THAT SAFE?” I shrieked.

“Oh, yeah. You just gotta dilute it, like it says.”

“What if I make a mistake?” Always a wise question when I am involved.

“You gets this on you full strength, you needs skin grafts.”

“Oh.”

I took the jug, and the big jug of neutralizer, and the gloves, and the mask, and the chemical hood, and went home. Indeed, this stuff was able to take the mold off. It did it by removing the outer 1/16 inch of the wood. There were a few spots where I was slow with the neutralizer. I filled them with putty. I pressure washed the stuff off. Turns out pressure washers have a pretty hefty recoil, especially when used on a ladder. Fortunately, I landed on grass.
(Well, mostly grass. There was a little dog poop to break my fall.)

Now he had been very firm that I needed to seal the wood afterward, and sold me some really nice, really expensive, stain. Cedar.

I expected it to have a gentle fragrance of the north woods.

It didn't. It smelled like that part of New Jersey where you turn off the air intakes to the car. It made my eyes burn. I made a note to buy a gas mask.

I had hoped to spray it, but one look at the brown tar like material said that was no good. It would roll on , however, and I tipped the runs with a brush. It dried quickly, glowing, and made the wood look GREAT. So once again, Joe's comes through! There is a slight problem though. The respirator didn't seal well with my beard, and I have had these dammed purple dinosaurs floating around the living room all day.

Oh well, it's just good experience. I paid money for worse in the 1960s.

“IT LOOKS REALLY NICE, HONEY! WHEN CAN YOU DO THE OTHER SIDE?”

“Just as soon as the hallucinations clear up a bit, dear. I need to see which one of the three ladders is the real one.”

(Note in fairness, Joe's really does do a great job, and the stuff is actually pretty safe if you use common sense. Unfortunately, that lets me out.)

Until next month, 73's from the
Newsletter Crew....