



CAARA Newsletter



AN ARRL AFFILIATED CLUB

OCTOBER ISSUE- 2009



President's Corner

by *Curtis AA3JE*

Well we just had the annual meeting, have a new Board Member, and are setting out on a new year at the club. It is going to be pretty exciting. We have a fall hamfest coming up (November 14, Pigeon Cove Circle) and a Christmas Dinner (date and site TBA) and a number of fall and winter contest events.

It has gotten me thinking about amateur radio and the club and where we are going. So far we have found several natural groups, each of which has a champion:

1. Kits and electronic devices
2. Old but good gear and rigs
3. Contests and contesting
4. Rag chewing and the 2 meter repeater
5. 6 Meter, VHF and UHF – going for distance
6. Emergency communications and preparedness
7. Fun, Feasts and Holidays
8. Surfing the Digital Frontier (Internet and digital modes)
9. Testing, Teaching and new hams
10. The Clubhouse- keeping it all together.

The way things have been going, we have succeeded in creating an environment where there is great freedom for any club member to pursue anything that excites their fancy, provided that they hold the door open for anyone else that may wish to try it.

And I guess that this is the message for this month. The club management will try to support any member

in any ham related activity, provided that the member will help others who may be interested in learning and participating.

We are here to teach each other, and that's half the fun. 73, Curt

ANNUAL MEETING

On Wednesday, September 16, 2009 at 8 PM, the Cape Ann Amateur Radio Association held its Annual Meeting which is required by the club's Constitution. We easily reached a quorum with 18 members in attendance. Our President, Curtis Wright AA2JE, spoke of the great progress CAARA has made in the last year on virtually all fronts. We are actually one of the larger ham radio clubs in existence nowadays and we continue to grow. Membership head count is now at 109 and rising.

Our Treasurer, Hank McCarl W4RIG, was also re-elected. Hank reported that our club is in sound financial shape but due primarily to additional tentage purchased in time for Field Day '09, we do need to replenish about a thousand dollars to match where we stood last year at this time.

We have a need for some new (newer) gear for the club and clubhouse but such capital investments are being held off pending fund raising plans and effects.

Tom Andrew, a BOD member, is in the hospital after suffering a fall in the shower a week ago. Tom broke some ribs and his doctor will put him back in the rehab facility to treat a bad arthritic knee, an incompletely healed shoulder from last Winter, and now his ribs although there isn't anything much that can be done for the ribs...they have to heal on their own.

A list of the Board of Directors can be found on page two of this newsletter as well as on the CAARA website.

The Echolink station has moved and is now residing at Stan's- W4HIX QTH. Stan will answer any questions you may have.

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 internet to Jon at k1tp@arrl.net. 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 noncommercial 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-Editor
K1TP

Board of Directors- 2009-10

President: Curtis Wright AA3JE
Vice Pres: Briggs Longbothum AB2NJ
Treasurer: Hank McCarl W4RIG
Clerk: Dean Burgess KB1PGH

Directors:

Jon Cunningham K1TP
William Poulin WZ1L
Charles Downey N1OCT
Thomas Andrew KA1GTA
Richard Copithorne KR1G
Stan Stone W4HIX
James Mondello W1DDX

Welcome to CAARA:

CAARA, an ARRL affiliated club, operates the 2 meter W1GLO repeater on 145.130 MHz with antennas located on the Cingular 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. The W1RK 443.700 repeater with antennas located in Magnolia is owned and operated by club member Ralph Karcher and it too is available for club use.

The Association is one of the few amateur radio clubs that has its own clubhouse. Located at 6 Stanwood Street in Gloucester, it includes a permanent HF station with rotating beam and vertical antenna along with a 2 meter packet station and 2 meter voice and 220 MHz transceivers.

Amateur radio exams are held on the second Sunday of each month at 10:00AM 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 Bob Quinn 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 9:00pm, 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.

BEVERLY AIRPORT VISIT

We had a great time in perfect weather. Lunch al fresco at the Airport Cafe and then a short ride around to the Cherry Hill Industrial Park to the back of the parking lot behind AMPHENOL where we were lined up, along with about 20 others, for a total view of the entire airport and closest to the active runway to watch the AT-6 TEXAN (first to arrive), the B-24 LIBERATOR (second one down), the P-51 MUSTANG (third), and finally the B-17 FLYING FORTRESS. This year the B-25 MITCHELL bomber was at a museum airshow in Virginia we were told.

Mark Watson, W1MAW, and his son, recently back from IRAQ, were guests of honor aboard the B-17 for the short flight up from Hyannisport. Mark reported it was the experience of a lifetime and has some digital video we hope to see on UTUBE sometime soon.

You missed a great afternoon!

Briggs, ab2nj





Jim-W1DDX (l) and Stan-W4HIX (r) enjoy the day at Beverly Airport observing the WWII aircraft land.. Briggs-AB2NJ and John-WA1JG were in attendance as well.



DON'T FORGET ABOUT OUR SUNDAY NIGHT 2 METER NET!!!

Don't forget to check into our club's Sunday night net. Don't forget to use our net as your resource for weekly updates of ongoing club information and activities. You can also use the net as a great amateur information resource if you have any questions regarding ham radio. Another benefit of the net is if you have a piece of ham equipment to sell or if you are looking for

some ham gear too. Plus by checking in you get the added benefit of meeting new fellow amateur radio operators. The Cape Ann Amateur Radio Association net starts at 9 PM local time each and every Sunday night on our club repeater frequency of 145.130 MHz with no PL. Don't forget that even if you are away from home you can still check into our net via Echolink to keep up with all the action at the club. Hope to hear you then. *Dean-KB1PGH*

Club members from the Cape Ann Amateur Radio association and the North Shore Radio association provided many hours of public service for the 76th YMCA Around the Cape road race. 18 members of our combined clubs provided safety and logistical communications for the more than 600 runners who started at O'Maley school and ran 25 K's in a loop that went all around RT 127 thru Rockport. Communications started at 9 AM and lasted until 3 PM. The race net was coordinated by Eric

CQ announces 75th anniversary Worked All Zones award

The November, 1934, issue of *R/9* magazine announced a new operating award for radio amateurs, designed to encourage the growing popularity of contacting stations across the globe, what we know today as DXing.

The award was called **Worked All Zones** and was to be granted for making confirmed contacts with hams in each of the 40 zones into which the world had been divided by *R/9*'s editors.

Today, 75 years later, *R/9* has been succeeded by **CQ** magazine and **WAZ** - Worked All Zones - sponsored by *CQ* since 1945, continues to be one of amateur radio's most prestigious operating awards.

In celebration of the WAZ's 75th anniversary, *CQ* magazine is announcing a limited-term "Diamond Jubilee WAZ" award.

A special certificate will be issued to amateurs who make contacts in all 40 CQ Zones of the World between November 1, 2009 and December 31, 2010. Certificates will be numbered but there will be no endorsements. Confirmations will not be required. However, it is expected that applicants will continue to uphold amateur radio's long-standing tradition of honesty and self-regulation. Standard WAZ application fees will apply.

Complete details on the Diamond Jubilee WAZ Award will be in the October 2009 issue of *CQ*, and are posted on the CQ website, www.cq-amateur-radio.com, with a link from the October issue highlights page.

WAZ is the second-oldest amateur radio operating award still offered today. The only current award that is older is the International Amateur Radio Union's Worked All Continents award. The ARRL's DX Century Club (DXCC) award was introduced in 1936. To date, more than 8,600 basic WAZ awards have been issued.

More information on the WAZ award program is available on the CQ website at www.cq-amateur-radio.com/awards.html

CAD and Astatic re-brand as CAD Audio

Some say what's in a name? A lot if you are CAD Professional Microphones and Astatic Commercial Audio Products, which are re-branding as **CAD Audio**.

While the name CAD Professional Microphones may not be one familiar to radio hams, the Astatic brand has its roots in amateur radio.

The company was established in 1931 by two radio engineers dedicated to the development of a static-free, or “anti static,” microphone.

Over the years the company evolved into Astatic Commercial Audio products. Perhaps its most famous Astatic branded product was the lollipop-looking D-104 crystal microphone that was considered the gold standard for two way radio in the 1950's, 60's and through the mid-1970's. The D-104 was discontinued from production about a decade ago.

FOR SALE by Jim-W1DDX

Comet H-422 Portable HF antenna
Description : 40/20/15/10M ROTABLE DIPOLE
1KW PEP 33.75FT LONG

YOUR HRO PRICE \$299.95
Your Price \$175.00

Twas a crisp morning, with a bright blue sky, just days before the Equinox. Not may more days like this, but this is hunting season.

The fox has been in hiding for weeks and we all waited for this release. We all new that last time too many found the critter and he would be more devious in this event.

To tease us all the fox would transmit during the first $\frac{1}{2}$ hour. He found his hiding place and settled in to his protected area. Although he was talking very loud during his transit to his area, upon getting comfortable his voice became much softer.

The Hunt is On!

His voice was always strong through the megaphone repeater but direct he was hard to hear. Travel behind a hill and all is lost. Take a bearing and then may times would not repeat, that is if you could hear the fox to take a bearing.

As always the Foxs time is limited, although on this event he experienced quite a bit of time of freedom.

The Fox has been captured and is being taking care of. Stay tuned he will soon be released again. After all it is 'Hunting Season.



On September 19, 2009, the MMRA Saturday morning foxhunt was held on the input (146.19) to the Weston 146.79 repeater. The CAARA representation was Briggs, AB2NJ and Dick, WB1W.

Tim KD1KY was the fox and made 3 bonus transmissions before the official 10am start time. The bonus transmissions around 9:40am and 9:45am were made while westbound on Route 9 in Newton. The 9:55am bonus transmission was from the fox hiding location. Starting at 10:00am, 30-second long transmissions were made every 5 minutes.

The fox was located near the end of Riverside Road in Newton, parked in one of the parking slots next to the park. Riverside Road is about 4 miles SE of the repeater site and is

not shown on some maps. It is a short dead-end road, only about 300 feet long, running parallel to and just south of the Mass Pike. It connects to Charles Street to the east, and dead ends near the Charles River. It is about a quarter mile east of Route 128. It can only be reached by car by passing through the Charles Street tunnel underneath the Mass Pike.

Transmissions from Riverside Road were made using only 0.5W into a mag-mount antenna on the car. The two earlier transmissions while traveling on Route 9 were made with higher power (perhaps 20W).

The fox was first found at 12:06pm by Briggs AB2NJ and Dick WB1W.

Next to find the fox was Charles AA1VS at 12:11pm.

And then Alan N1TBN and Mike N1OMJ arrived at 12:12pm.

Jonathan KB1SDS and Jonathan KC6F arrived at 12:25pm.

At 12:30pm the fox announced the location and the hunt ended.

With a CAARA member finding the fox, he will be next to set a date and location for the next hunt. Stayed tuned and join the fun to come soon.



Dick-WV1W and Briggs-AB2NJ on the left side of the photo

NEAR-Fest VI

Friday October 16th and Saturday October 17th

Truly a North American Radio Happening

NEAR-Fest hours of operation are 9:00 AM Friday October 16th 2009 through 3:00 PM Saturday October 17th 2009. Admission tickets are \$10.00 valid for both days. The price is reduced to \$5.00 at 6:00 AM Saturday. Children and young people under 18 years of age do not require an admission ticket.

Advance tickets and passes will be on sale at major New England hamfests and the M.I.T. Flea Market as well as by mail and during the event at the Fairgrounds.

All persons 18 years of age and over entering the Fairgrounds require an admission ticket or pass. All vehicles entering require a Vehicle Pass. Young people under 18 are admitted as our guests. ID and proof of age may be required. However if they wish to be eligible for a door prize they may purchase a ticket. You may purchase additional admission tickets for more chances for winning door prizes.

Tailgating or Inside Parking: passenger automobiles, vans, pick-em up trucks, etc are \$10.00. RVs, Motorhomes, Campers and Trailers are \$20.00 (\$10.00 Tailgating Pass PLUS a \$10.00 Camping/RV Pass). The \$30.00 "camper hookup" fee that was levied by the Fair Association prior to October 2007 has been abolished.

There are no additional sellers fees for individuals wishing to "tailgate" and no limit on selling space (within reason). Commercial flea market vendors fees will be assessed \$10.00 per 10' space. If you are not sure if you are a "commercial vendor" you probably are. Contact our Commercial Exhibitions Manager, John, K1JJS k1jjs@near-fest.com for more details.

There is plenty of free parking just outside the gate. Please consider buying an inside parking pass even if you don't plan on selling because it allows you to park inside the 'Fest and helps support NEAR-Fest's future endeavors.

Due to popular demand we are pleased to offer overnight camping/parking facilities at the Fairgrounds Thursday night. Join us for the pre-hamfest festivities. However this area is not located inside the tailgate area so this does NOT entitle you to early setup & shopping. Thursday night camping is available at \$20.00 regardless of the type of vehicle. The camping area opens at 3:00PM. There is NO overnight parking permitted in the Fairgrounds parking area before 6:00AM Friday morning.

Regarding pets: We discourage bringing your animal buddies but often it isn't an option for some folks and we do understand. Dogs must be on a leash at all times and owners are required to "stoop and scoop" so that any evidence of their presence is removed immediately.

Once again I am asking everyone to leave their old computer CRT monitors and non-electronic goods at home. Remember, you are required to remove all unsold items from the Grounds when you leave. It is our responsibility to return the Grounds to the Fair Association in PRISTINE condition. We take this responsibility VERY SERIOUSLY and we monitor the grounds constantly.

Anyone found trying to conceal or otherwise attempting to get rid of "junk" or garbage will be advised in no uncertain terms of our policy. Repeat offenders run the risk of being seriously embarrassed publically before being unceremoniously ejected from the Fairgrounds permanently. Once you're out you're never back in!

I am sure many club members would like to carpool to save gas and enjoy the fellowship on the drive up. Contact Briggs- AB2NJ for carpool information or mention it during the two meter net held every Sunday evening.

Weird and Wonderful

The following item appears in the 'Weird and Wonderful' section of this week's Wireless Institute of Australia news.

Sometimes older technology can be just as good, or even better, than new innovations.

A good example of that was the demonstration on television that Morse code is quicker than modern SMS texting on a mobile phone.

Now a technology that existed prior to the telegraph has come up trumps, as **Jim Linton VK3PC** explains.

“Paul Julius Reuter would be most pleased indeed on hearing news that a homing pigeon has been able to move data faster than **Telkcom**, South Africa’s leading Internet service provider.

“Reuter used pigeons in the 1850s to transmit financial market information between Berlin and Brussels, and on that was built the Reuters economic service and news agency that continues today.

“The lack of broadband and its high cost is of concern to many within South Africa.

“A company called Unlimited IT enlisted a pigeon named **Winston**, who took just over an hour to fly between two of its offices with a data card strapped to his leg.

“Including the flight time, the downloading of the card took just over two hours, while during the same time only **four per cent** of the same data could be transferred using a Telkom line.

”Internet should become faster and cheaper when a new underwater fibre optic cable links southern and eastern Africa to other networks, just in time for the Soccer World Cup being held in South Africa next year”.

Alpha Radio Products Now RF Concepts:

On September 15, Michael Seedman, AA6DY, announced that his company, RF Concepts <http://www.rfconcepts.com/>, had purchased Boulder, Colorado-based Alpha Radio Products <http://www.alpharadioproducts.com/>. Seedman explained in a press release http://www.rfconcepts.com/dear_alpha_customers.asp that when he contacted

Alpha to purchase a new amplifier, he was “disappointed to learn that I would not receive it for months.” He was told that as each amplifier is made by hand, there was not enough shelf inventory to send a new one right away. Working with Alpha Products president Molly Hardman, WOMOM, “we created a way to capitalize the company in order to put amplifiers in inventory for immediate availability. Customers will no longer have to wait weeks or months to add an Alpha product to their station.” Seedman said that RF Concepts “will focus on shipping our backlog of Alpha amplifiers and building sufficient product to ship from stock. We will honor our existing customer commitments — including warranties, customer and technical support and repairs — and keep our extensive parts inventories to support the more than 10,000 Alpha amplifiers in the market.” Hardman will be staying on as Vice President of Sales for RF Concepts.

Utilize all that the CAARA Club offers! Every Sunday morning the club is open for coffee and donuts, eyeball qso's, operate the club station, build a kit, etc. Check in to the Sunday night 2 meter net and meet new hams in the club. Enjoy the monthly club meeting.

Hi Guys—

The Fall Quarterly YCCC club meeting is scheduled to coincide with the Nutmeg Hamfest in Wallingford, Ct. on Sunday October 11, 8-2pm.

See: <http://www.nutmeghamfest.com/>. I've never been to this hamfest before but I hear it is a good one with great food as well! It is also the ARRL's Connecticut State Convention and draws a big turnout from the NY-NJ-CT area and the big name vendors are always in attendance. Plan now to make the day.

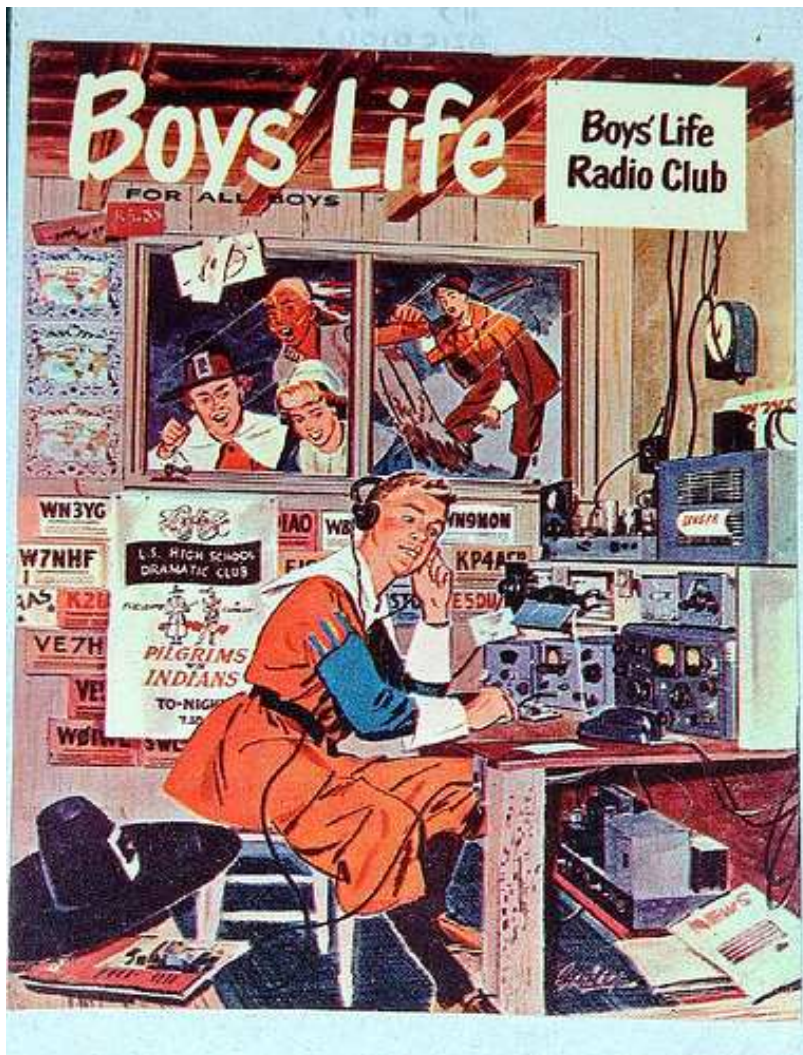
I'd recommend carpooling with a load of friendly hams to split fuel/toll burden and maybe some driving too. It's a big day trip so leave early, do b'fst enroute, and dinner on the way home. And don't forget to leave enough room for the goodies. And then there's NEARfest the following weekend too...!

Briggs-ab2nj

THE GOOD OLD DAYS



This J-38, manufactured by LIONEL TRAIN Co during the common factory “repurposing” of WW2.



I saw this and it reminded me of ham radio in the 50 and 60's when I was a kid.

Eastern MA Monthly Section News

Hello all stations: I hope it has been as pleasant a summer for you as it has been for my wife, Laura, KB1NVK, and me, and that you got some time to enjoy it with family and friends. It has certainly been an interesting summer for all of us weather-wise as it was noticeably cooler and wetter, yet no real change in our thunderstorm season. Our thanks to the SKYWARN team led by Rob, KD1CY, for their superlative efforts during these severe weather outbreaks while bringing great prestige to the amateur radio cause. The hurricane season has also been subdued (at least to this writing), and we hope it will stay that way! From the ham radio perspective, we had a busy and productive season. During Field Day weekend, I saw many great sites where the evidence of preparation and teamwork were very evident. Public service events took place during that time as well, and are all chronicled in detail on our website <http://ema.arrl.org>. We have some daunting challenges ahead of us during this and next year. The first is one that affects our community directly, so I will address it first. The good news is that it seems to be well in hand, thanks to the efforts of our section and ARES staffs. Briefly, the issues surround the need for amateur radio to better serve our government clients (particularly the Commonwealth) in the presence of the paucity of budgetary funds, the streamlining of missions, and the striving for true communication interoperability. Moreover, these government agencies would prefer that we focus on helping them gather information and other intelligence during the "impact" phase of a disaster, rather than recovery operation support. We expect that our non-government organization (served agencies) will also want these services, while looking to us to continue to provide our traditional recovery phase operational support. The other is the pending attack of the H1N1 family of viruses. There is nothing you can do directly to deal with this threat, except taking the health precautions currently recommended. However, in your role as a respected community member be calm and reassuring, discouraging rumor spreading and helping people you talk with to find authentic and reliable information. Recently, Den Connors, KD2S, became a SK. Normally, I would respect our tradition of not publicizing our Section SKs, but his was an historic passing. He truly was a pioneer in our hobby, and is responsible for the major technical leap in our efforts

to support our client agencies. Den Connors, KD2S, the first president of Tucson Amateur Packet Radio (TAPR) of Pepperell, Massachusetts, passed away September 3 from lymphoma. He was 58. Connors, an ARRL Life Member, conducted the first amateur packet radio contact with all-American hardware and software, using the Tucson Amateur Packet Radio Terminal Node Controller (TNC) with Lyle Johnson, WA7GXD (now KK7P). KD2S was one of the early movers and shakers in the New England Packet Radio Association. In addition to his digital contributions, Connors was also an active participant in ARES and RACES, as well as the crew for Region 1 comms for Seabrook and storms. He will be missed. (contributed by KA8SCP) During the summer we had an important technical announcement from David Neal, W2DAN on the BCRA-club list: "I want to let everybody know that there is a new Winlink 2000 Radio Message Server Node (RMS) W2DAN-10 on VHF at 145.010. It is time to dust off (sic) those tnc's (sic) and check out Winlink2000. There are some good lessons online that will help you understand Winlink 2000 at <http://www.winlink.org> and joining the Winlink 2000 Yahoo group." The role of Winlink 2000 in emergency communications is to supplement existing methodologies to add another tool in the toolkit of the volunteer services deploying emergency communications in their communities." He and Roland, N1JOY, demonstrated a Kam + which was used for APRS, VHF Winlink 2000 Airmail, and HF Winlink 2000 Airmail during FD in the HAMCOW. The Salvation Army Emergency Disaster Services is planning a Field Exercise on Saturday, 26 September at Camp Wonderland in Sharon, MA. This event will focus on disaster operations training for key members of the Command staff and Volunteers. The drill will simulate a specific, large scale disaster response, and work on building response capacity in a number of different areas. The drill will begin with registration at 0830, followed by a Disaster Services Organization role-specific training from 0930 to 1030, with the live exercise beginning at 1030. About 20 hams are urgently needed for assignments as shadows for Salvation Army commanders and managers, specific field operations, and at the food and supply locations. If you are able to participate, or have any questions, please contact n1dhw@arrl.net. The ARRL has been asked to join the Massachusetts State Interoperable Executive Committee (SIEC). ARRL New England Division Director Tom Frenaye, K1KI, recommended

Eastern MA Section Manager Mike Neilsen, W1MPN, as the primary delegate, and Ed Emco, W1KT, Western MA SM, as the alternate delegate. Some additional stories on our website about EMA's Amateur Radio Summer: Members of the Falmouth Amateur Radio Association and Cape Cod ARES participated in an emergency evacuation exercise at the Falmouth Hospital in August, 2009. According to Dan Howard, K1DYO, of Cape Cod ARES, hospital administrators have requested a "list of equipment necessary to establish a permanent station within their building." K1DYO says "the hospital has the necessary funds to cover the cost." The Cape Ann Amateur Radio Association again set up amateur radio operations on Thatchers Island, off Cape Ann during the August 7-9, 2009, weekend. According to CAARA's Briggs Longbothum, AB2NJ, The Fish and Wildlife Service has issued a 'Special Use Permit' for the club's activity at the North Tower. Briggs adds, The Thatchers Island Association has been very supportive of their plans. CAARA planned to stream live video of the operation via UStream from its web site. For more details, visit <http://caara.net>. The Falmouth Amateur Radio Association reports that the Town of Chatham is proposing the construction of a Titanic Memorial Museum centered on the 2012 anniversary of the famous sinking. Bob Courtemanche, N1WAT and Barbara Dougan, KB1GSO attended a recent planning meeting. According to Courtemanche, plans are in the early stages but "would emphasize the importance of radio and have a working radio station on site." It is hoped that the Falmouth ARA ight "play a role in the setup, repair and operations." Another planning meeting is scheduled for October. The Minuteman Repeater Association recently completed an intracub hidden transmitter fox hunt. Additionally, on Saturday, July 18, 2009, they held a joint transmitter fox hunt with the the Quannapowitt Radio Association. For those not familiar with this fun training activity, the fox is a stationary ham radio operator in a vehicle transmitting on a repeater input frequency. Cooperation among the hunters is encouraged, sharing initial direction bearings and signal strength. These observations is necessary to allow some localization (for example the town where the fox in located) so that finding the fox within the time limits is more likely. Home stations are also encouraged to participate and share their readings. This information is also posted at: <http://www.mmra.org/foxhunts>. A practice fox hunt turned

into an actual radio direction finding event on Saturday, July 11, 2009, to combat interference that had silenced the Genesis Amateur Radio Society's repeater in Plymouth for three days. Genesis club members traced the interfering signal to the intersection of Routes 28 and 58 in Wareham, MA, but could not make further progress. GARS member Kevin O'Donnell, K1KOD, contacted Bruce Hayden, N1IX, for assistance. "I said the South Shore Fox Hunters were going to be on a fox hunt Saturday morning and that I would ask the participants to help find the interference after the hunt." Hayden added that "those participating that day were Whitman Amateur Radio Club members." The team of N1IX and KB1REQ found the source in a trailer park; W1GRC volunteered to approach the owner. The interference soon disappeared. N1ZZN reported that the owner said that some visiting kids "must have pushed the transmit lock bar down on his desk mike leaving the transmitter on all the time." An Emergency Communications Workshop was held on Saturday, 8 August 2009 from at the Boston Salvation Army Headquarters at 147 Berkeley Street, Boston, featuring an Introduction to Emergency Communications, in five one-hour training sessions topics. The Workshop was produced by the ARES Section Staff through the efforts of Metro Boston ARES, and the cooperation of the Massachusetts Division of The Salvation Army Boston SATERN team. The annual Traffic Handlers Picnic for EMA was held August 2, 2009 at the Raynham Senior Center picnic area in Raynham, MA. An Amateur Radio special event station in Massachusetts in conjunction with other special event stations from each of the original thirteen colonies was QRV for a "Fourth of July Thirteen Original Colonies" celebration on July 1-5, 2009. The event featured a commemorative certificate issued to amateurs who contacted one or more of the special events stations, including a "clean sweep" endorsement for those who worked all 13 stations, designated K2A through K2M. Details are also available on the Thirteen Colonies web site. The Police Amateur Radio Team of Westford agreed to represent the Massachusetts colony for this event using the call sign "K2H." PART member Charlie Learoyd, K1PUB, rganized the activity. These and other stories can be found on our website. Plus a list of upcoming fleas as well! de W1MPN
Disclaimer: Every attempt is made to include a broad stroke of amateur radio club activities in this SM summary, but not all happenings can be included due

to content and space limitations. All activities are important to EMA members. Please submit publicity copy directly to our website administrator, Phil, K9HI, using the direct link on the website, or if you would like additional help with publicity, please contact your local public affairs representative, or Bob Salow, WA1IDA, Section PIC. _____

ARRL Eastern Massachusetts Section
Manager: Michael P. Neilsen, W1MPN
w1mpn@arrl.org

Free Yagi antenna designs

If you enjoy constructing your own homebrew antennas, especially Yagi beam antennas, then read on.

Derek Hilleard, G4CQM - a professional antenna designer with more than 15 years experience - has now published, *free of charge*, a collection of homebrew/diy vhf, uhf and shf yagi designs for fellow radio amateurs to build for themselves.

You'll find a range of designs for Yagi antennas covering 50MHz, 144MHz, 432MHz and 1296MHz (the 6m, 2m, 70cm and 23cm bands).

You can find Derek's website at:
<http://myweb.tiscali.co.uk/g4cqm/>

FYI...only in the good old US of A Earth Liberation Front Now After Hams

Ham Radio Operators a danger to our children...

What characteristic is shared by an electric blanket, a power line, and a broadcast tower? All three emit electromagnetic radiation.

These invisible electromagnetic fields are known as EMFs. They are generated by currents running through electric wires. Since they are not powerful and destructive like nuclear or X-ray radiation, they were once

thought to be harmless. However, studies have suggested that people exposed to them chronically run a higher risk of certain health problems, including miscarriages, learning disabilities, and

cancer.

Did you know that Ham Radio Operators run 1500 watts of power in your neighborhood exposing your family to dangerous radiation?

Is there a ham radio operator in your neighborhood? You can find out easily by a large antenna in your neighbor yards and doing a search for hams by zip code at <http://www.qrz.com/db/> The reason you need to search for hams in your neighborhood is because they can run their 1500 watt transmitters with a small wire dipole and vertical antennas hidden in trees and flag poles. Unlike CB radio operators who are limited to a very low 4 watt transmitters in your neighborhood hams can do more damage to your children with there 1500 watt transmitters. How much power does your local AM radio station run? On average they only run 1000 watts, but the transmitting antennas are usually in remote unpopulated areas. Ham radio operators run there high powered transmitters right in your neighborhood.

How to put a stop to ham radio operators from polluting your neighborhood: 1. Write your congressman about protecting your children from harmful EMF. 2. Demand that the FCC certify every ham radio operator in your area comply with RF exposure regulations by writing the FCC. <http://www.fcc.gov/eb/AmaCmpl.html> 3. Contact your local city council and mayor to lobby to change Federal law regarding using high powered transmitters in your neighborhood. 4. If you live in a neighborhood with a covenant then contact the HOA and demand that it be changed to exclude licensed ham radio operators from living in the neighborhood, it is not enough to ban large antennas since the ham radio operator will put up a small wire antenna or an antenna in their attic to transmit up to 1500 watts of power. 5. If you find out a ham is in your neighborhood let your neighbors know so they can contact your city council and congress representative to change the law to mandate a lower power usage of ham radio around your family. 6. Ham radio operators lower your property values with there large antennas and the increasing knowledge that high power transmitters effect every family in the neighborhood with harmful EMF radiation.

<http://earth-liberation-front.org/>

Dear Future Master CW Operators:

We will kick off the 2009 Fall CW class on Saturday October 3rd. The class will go from 9:30 – 12:00. The class will run through the end of the a variety of learning techniques to help individuals with different styles. In past classes we have laughed a lot, enjoyed each others' company while taking the process serious enough to get good at this stuff.

- **Be patient with yourself.** Code for some, (me included!....just ask WV1A, K1MB or W1RK), is not easy at first. The pace that people learn the characters, begin to hear the characters and get to the point to process whole words is different for each person. Everyone has the ability, time and practice are the ONLY keys to becoming a successful CW operator.
- **BE CONFIDENT.** You WILL be successful. If you attend class every week and do the practicing during the week, you will become part of the elite CW operators club ☺. Good attitude is 80% of the effort.
- **Help each other.** The learning model will include lots of working with each other. Be patient and supportive of your friends during the class. Makes a big difference.

There will be four levels of achievement with “official certifications” and awards:

- Certified Novice CW Operator – 5 words per minute: **Cape Ann Amateur Radio Association Ham University Certified Novice CW Operator.** A certificate is awarded that is nice enough to be framed.
- Certified CW Operator – 12 words per minute: **Cape Ann Amateur Radio Association Certified Ham University CW Operator.** A t-shirt with the CW symbol and “Cape Ann Amateur Radio Association Certified General CW Operator”.
- Certified Advanced CW Operator – 20 words per minute: **Cape Ann Amateur Radio Association Ham University Certified Advanced CW Operator.** An embroidered collared shirt with the following: **Cape Ann Amateur Radio Association Ham Radio University, Certified Advanced CW Operator.**
- Certified Master CW Operator – 20 words solid copy: The main prize is the coveted blue sandwich cap, with a specially designed embroidered CW patch that says **Cape Ann Amateur Radio Association Ham Radio University** along the outer circle and a picture of the traditional straight key on the inside. In bold letters on the cap is: **CERTIFIED MASTER CW OPERATOR.** In addition, the newly minted Master CW Operator will receive a hooded sweatshirt with “**Cape Ann Amateur Radio Association Ham Radio University**” on the top and underneath :**Certified Master CW Operator**”.
- Special Elmer Award. For those class participants who are especially helpful helping others, as voted by the class members, will receive a t-shirt with: **Cape Ann Amateur Radio Association Ham Radio University**” on the top and underneath “**CW Elmer**”.

Please bring with you to class pens, paper and a practice or electronic keyer if you have one. Donations of practice keys would be welcomed.

Looking forward to seeing you all there!

— — • • • • • — —

• — — — — • • • — — — — — • • •

• • • — • —

Surplus Electronics, Industrial Equipment, Motors, Solar Panels and Cells, Fiber Optics, Instrumentation, Household Accessories - Retro and Modern, and much, much more!

This Old Factory is Packed...Field Trip Anyone?

Our main warehouse was formerly the Samuel Pierce Organ Pipe Manufactory. Back in the late 1800's Sam was building some of the finest pipes and organ parts in the world. His legacy is one we hold dear as we've been holding onto some of his stuff for over 100 years (and some of our own for nearly as long). But since then we've packed every corner of this 3 building complex with some of the greatest stuff in the world. Surplus you won't find anywhere else. You'll find electronics, components, devices instruments, solar cells, solar equipment, photo optical and fiber optics, and yes even a few kitchen sinks. The bottom line is, if we don't have it, you don't need it. So take a peek at our gallery to wet your appetite. But keep in mind, it's only the tip of the iceberg. A huge inventory of items is available at below wholesale prices and is for science kit suppliers, surplus and eBayers who cater to creative minds.

Parker Products is a wholesale surplus distributor of electronics, hardware, components, fiber optics, industrial machines, optical devices and equipment, instrumentation, solar cells, solar panels, industrial equipment, motors, antiques, and unique retro items of all kinds. Our inventory is something you have to see to believe. For over thirty years Harold P. Strand Jr. has been actively scouring the planet for the best deals and has amassed quite possibly the world's most impressive variety of stuff in one place.

We'll get it online as fast as we can, but the only way to get the best deals is to come on in and visit our enormous warehouse in Reading, Massachusetts as soon as you can.

Please call 781-888-0688 to schedule an appointment and to speak to Harold. He's not only the owner of this awesome collection, but an incredible resource of engineering information and ideas.



Update on eQSL and ARRL (LOTW) Awards Status for W1GLO

by Hank W4RIG

As of September 27, 2009 we have 76 Countries and 47 States verified on eQSL We need only Colorado, Maine, and Wyoming for the eQSL WAS Award and only 24 more countries for eDX100

With ARRL (LOTW) we have 69 Countries and 40 States with verified QSL contacts. We need 31 more v e r i f i e d countries on LOTW and

10 States for WAS - Kansas, Maine Mississippi, Montana, North Dakota, Nebraska, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Wyoming - please encourage contacts made as W1GLO from 6 Stanwood to file their contacts with

both eQSL and LOTW - Thanks for your help -

Considering the fact that we really only set these systems up within this past year, we are doing pretty well. The unfortunate thing we can see is that only about 20 % of all contacts will file with eQSL and less than

15 % of our contacts seem to file with LOTW. In addition we get about 5 % that request hard copy cards either directly by mail or through our Bureau. This provides interesting commentary on how many licensed amateurs really do keep proper logs and file them routinely. I am finding that the return rate is very poor for Field Day contact QSL responses (at least for the last three years of our filings (2007 and 2008 logs were filed recently) and contacts made by digital means (mostly PSK 31) are much more reliable in returning QSLs with a response rate approaching 35% with eQSL. Foreign stations are more likely to respond through eQSL or their Bureau. Stations contacting our W1T operations have a significantly higher rate of interest in obtaining return QSLs.

Flea chasing by KR1G

Trying to stay a well balanced ham, we make sure not to let our hobby drive our lives. Not being totally succesfull in that regard myself, and temporarily without a therapist, I had to spend a glorious Sunday morning at the MIT flea.

The first problem is having a bunch of ham buddies with the same affliction, this seems to generate some kind of reaction and together we are more inclined to chase fleas than as individuals.

Secondly it nearing the end of the season, now or never.

Thirdly, It became evident there were several people going or wanting, some never gone, now I had a real mission, so I dug up a van. I checked around Saturday night and confirmed 3 takers, Stan W4HIX, Briggs AB2NJ, Chuck N1OCT We left the club house at 8AM and picked up N1OCT on the way. This got us to MIT just after 9, gate opening, perfect.

This is a recap of the 20 September 0900 MIT Fleamarket held on the third Sunday, monthly, April through October.

What a great glorious day was wasted, I could have mowed the lawn (not).



BRIGGS, STAN, CHUCK AND DICK (me)

I had not gotten there at 9AM before and was surprised even at 9:10 we still had to get in line to enter. We soon split up, I went to the right, I use a zigzag path working my way to the back row before going in the parking garage, yes, this is a fairly good fleamarket even in foul weather.



**CAN YOU SPOT THE CAARA MEMBER?
LUNCH ON ME AT TUCKER FARM TO THE WINNER**

There seems to be an excellent mix of high tech vendors, you've got computer dealers unloading surplus, laptops at all prices, flat screens starting at \$35, I saw a 17" for \$50. Tool guys with all sorts of dohickies. Ham equipment scattered about. Parts people, like Bob McTeague with his collection of connectors, books and components at fair prices. Even several vendors with parts to make/repair old, antique ham equipment. Some consumer stuff. Some industrial stuff, air cylinders, stepper motors, chemistry lab glass and equipment, and robotics parts. Also just ordinary folks bringing there ham and high tech stuff to recirculate.

I can't tell what we all got as two people in the group are married so this might be sensitive information. I picked up about two dozen military pilot light assemblies and connectors for military aircraft restoration, two power connectors for older Kenwood radios, and unbelievably a NIB (new in the box) washing machine motor for my Kenmore washer \$5! I put it right to work. You never know!



Bob McTeague and his great selection of parts, etc.



Toward noon the call came, where are you?, (I told Curt to turn around as he was only 30' away), what about lunch?.....we decided on the on site vendor. We all got the BBQ beef sandwich spec.- \$6, soda and chips included... a decent steak tip sandwich, good deal!

One final sweep, Briggs got a dozen fahnstock clips and we headed back to W1GLO.

I feel if you need computer stuff or a cable/ adaptor, etc., you can't beat this fleamarket. The vendors are mostly regulars so there is quite a bit more trust involved than at a one shot yard sale type event.

There are things we all use from time to time that we can't justify the shipping/handling to order. Here you can see, touch, ask, and take it home. And the things to dream about, or you never knew existed, an education for all ages! The high tech Boston area is fabulously wealthy in many ways and we take it for granted, but the reality is there are only half a dozen or so high tech centers in the world like ours in New England, maybe!





Museum of Radio and Technology: This museum in Huntington, West Virginia has an impressive collection of radio equipment, pictures of which are available on the web.

Video of Rotary Spark Gap transmitter demonstration

<http://picasaweb.google.com/WVRadioMuseum/MuseumOfRadioAndTechnology#slideshow/5360804172369787346>

Slide show of the Museum

<http://picasaweb.google.com/WVRadioMuseum/MuseumOfRadioAndTechnology#slideshow/>

Museum of Radio and Technology

<http://oak.cats.ohiou.edu/~postr/MRT/>