

CAARA NEWS



Cape Ann Amateur Radio Association
SEPTEMBER 2019 Edition



PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

by Hank- W4RIG.

As we come to the end of our fiscal year and prepare for our Annual Member's meeting please review the 2019 annual report and most recent treasurer's report and proposal for the new budget year in the member's area on the CAARA website. We hope to have a good turnout for the meeting on Saturday, September 14 at noon at 6 Stanwood Street. Bill Morris and Tony Marks have proposed a lasagna and salad lunch and encourage the member's to bring some items for dessert. We will have brief reports on this past years activities, vote to set the date of future Annual Meetings on the second Saturday in September rather than the second Wednesday and discussion of the annual budget that will be proposed for 2019-2020 - expected to be the same as for this past year. We also have a few positions to consider for election of CAARA Board and officers - any members willing to serve on the Board please contact Tony Marks N1JEI, our Treasurer, serving as nominating chairman at aamarks7@gmail.com, or Hank at W4RIG@arrl.net. Looking forward to seeing you and the other members on September 14 - remember the Board meets at 11:00 AM just prior to the Annual Meeting and members are always invited to attend the Board meetings.

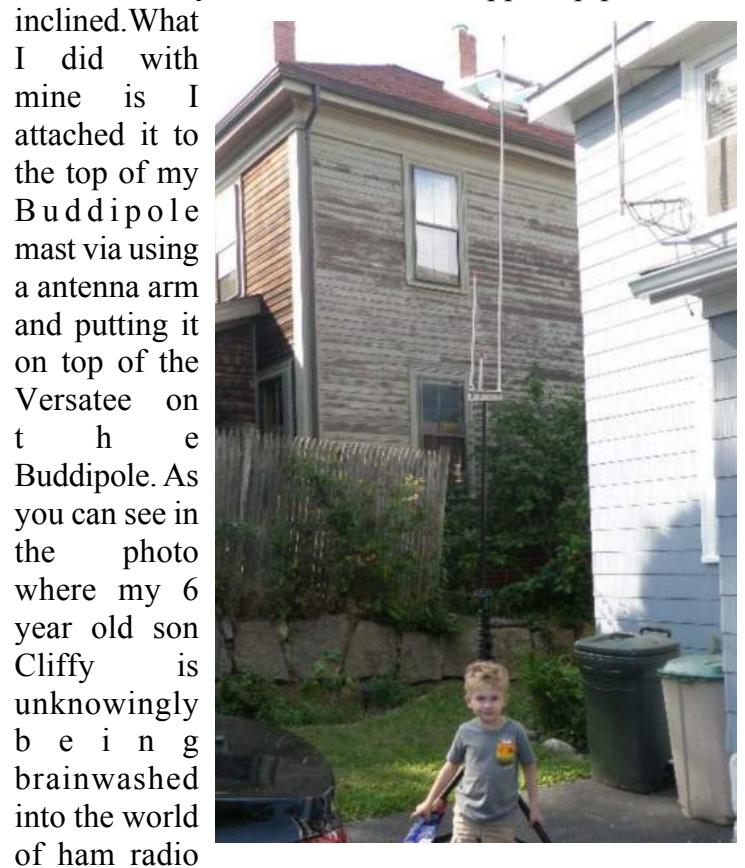
INFORMATION DESK

by Dean-KB1PGH

Well we will start off with a reminder that the ARRL New England Division Convention is coming up on September 6-8 in Boxborough Mass. You can find out all about it at www.hamxposition.org. Next we have a few ARRL contests this September. First off is the VHF contest on Sept 14-16. Then the 10 GHZ and up contest on Sept 21-22 and the EME 2.3 GHZ and up



contest is that very same weekend as well. So it's been a while since I have covered anything on the "Emergency Communications" end of things. So I thought I would show you an idea of a portable VHF and UHF high power "Emcomm" antenna that can be easily deployed in the field. You will need a Arrow Antenna open stub J pole antenna. This J pole antenna is solid aluminum so it will never rust and can handle 1000 watts. It's dual band and covers 2 meters and 400 MHz. It costs \$69 and you can get it at www.arrowantenna.com. You can also make your own with copper pipe if so inclined. What I did with mine is I attached it to the top of my Buddipole mast via using a antenna arm and putting it on top of the Versatec on the Buddipole. As you can see in the photo where my 6 year old son Cliffy is unknowingly being brainwashed into the world of ham radio



by showing off the antenna set up. I can raise the Buddipole mast up to 30 feet. You can check out the Buddipole masts at www.buddipole.com. Of course you can use this set up with any portable masts that you have. This whole set up can fit into a small duffel bag and you can be set up and on the air with a 50 watt dual VHF UHF station in minutes at any disaster site. This set up can also be used at public service events and also



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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.

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Jon Cunningham- K1TP Editor
Dean Burgess- KB1PGH Reporter

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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 a permanent HF station 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. Pre-registration necessary. Contact the head of our VE team Rick Maybury-WZ1B if you have any questions about monthly testing.

Monthly member meetings are held on the second Saturday of each month at noon.

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.

for crossbanding. Moving on, if you are shopping around for ham radio equipment there are a couple of other ham stores that you may not have thought of. There is R and L Electronics at www.randl.com and there is the Main Trading Company at www.mtradio.com so give these companies a look for any deals. One last thing. It's peak Hurricane season so make sure you get the chance to go over your emergency supplies. Make sure that you have reliable back up power and working flashlights. Of course check on your first aid kits and back up water and food supplies. If you're looking to find out what else you need you can easily Google 72 hour go kits and 72 hour emergency kits for plenty of ideas and checklists. That's it for now, 73, Dean KB1PGH



REPEATER NOTES:

EMAIL:

On Tuesday, August 20th I was down on Martha's Vineyard, visiting friends, family, and places I used to haunt 'on-island' back in the late 1970s, and showing my Daughter Crystal, KC1DQE the places from my past life. I do miss it there! Some friends and I took a sight-seeing ride out to Aquinnah and Gay Head. I tuned up the Gloucester 13 machine there on my Yaesu FT-8800R Mobil rig w/ a 1/2 wave antenna and 50-Watts but did not have any luck reaching it from there, at about 120-Feet above Sea Level and about 89-Miles away. Later, on our way back to Oak Bluffs we took a side excursion up to Peaked Hill in Chilmark, and from there, at 41.355263° x -70.735236°, at about 300-Feet, 88-Miles from the repeater, next to a cellphone tower that was putting out a bit of QRM, I was able to reach Bill, W1WMM! It was a tad scratchy but 100% readable! That is a new record for my mobile rig to the Gloucester Repeater!

Gardi- KA1BTK

440 NOTES:

The 440 link has been turned off until Brian- WO1VES can get the link device down and setup at the CAARA radio facility. We believe some of the issues were related to the link distance radio link between Gloucester and Stoneham.

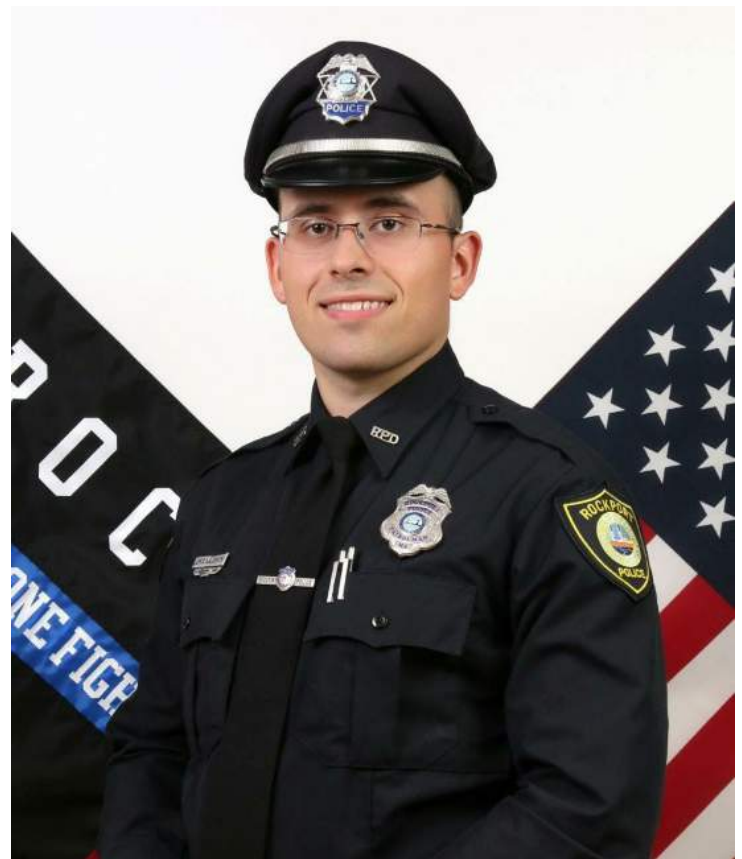
2 METER NOTES:

The 2 meter repeater has been running without any problems. The system consists of a Kenwood repeater and a Henry 100 watt amplifier. The 440 system consists of a Yaesu Fusion repeater and a Henry 100 watt amplifier....new power supplies and new antennas on the tower.

Our 2 and 440 repeater systems are located in the Cell Tower site in the Blackburn Industrial Complex.

I have been involved with the repeater group since I joined the club in 1980 and find it is time to step down as the repeater chairperson **effective September 14, 2019**. I am hoping someone will step up to the plate and learn the procedure for accessing the repeater site and make the necessary quarterly power/swr checks, and maintain the equipment.

I will be available on a limited basis to make the transition go smoothly with a site visit and explanation of the repeater systems. You must be available to make emergency visits to the site if things go wrong, troubleshoot and repair the systems and/or send out for repairs. You will be irresponsible for maintaining and training control ops to monitor the repeaters per FCC regulations.



Remember CAARA member Eddie Waldsmith? He just started his career as a police officer with the Rockport Police Department!

TOOL SHOPPING

by Curtis-AA3JE

It is very difficult to explain to women in general, and SHE WHO MUST BE OBEYED in particular, the phenomenon of tool shopping. This has become an acute problem recently as “DESTINATION FREIGHT” has opened a store in town. You may have read about Chinese theft of intellectual property. This occurs because to sell a thing in China, made abroad, you have to provide the item, it’s schematics, specifications and materials, and amazingly enough, by a process of simultaneous development a year later a Chinese made version appears.

Well, the local outlet has tons of Chinese versions of American tools all too expensive for me to buy, at amazing prices. They also seem to be perpetually going out of business, as they stuff my mailbox with weekly flyers, all titled, “AMAZING CLEARANCE, EVERYTHING MUST GO!”. SHE, who always seemed indifferent to tools, has taken to saving these and passing them to me at breakfast.

“THIS LOOKS NICE”, SHE said one morning.

“The TOOL MASTER 1000 storage chest? Looks OK, but the drawers have undersized ball bearings.”

“DO WE NEED ONE?”

My jaw could be heard dropping to the floor. A new tool chest? Always welcome!

“What do you have in mind?” I replied.

“IT LOOKS LIKE IT MIGHT HOLD CRAFT PAPER,” SHE replied.

Now I cannot imagine her stuffing one more thing into her craft room. When I go into it to re-boot the printer, I need a whip and a chair, plus a native guide.

“Do you think it will fit?” I asked.



“I MAY NEED TO REARRANGE THINGS A LITTLE.”

Wisely, I remained silent. SHE needed a larger room. She has already taken over the living room.

So I was sent off with the flyer, the discount coupon, and instructions to buy the white one.

What happened next is hard to explain, unless you have been there. I entered, and the sale items were mostly in a group toward the front.

Amazing stuff!

½ inch extreme torque wrench
discounted pole saw
huge 72 inch shop fan
3500 watt inverter generator
12,000 pound truck winch
6 ton hydraulic press
new electric chain saw sharpener.

It was heaven. So I checked my coupons, and my wallet, and the cash SHE had given me, and got a cart. Then a bigger cart. Then the biggest cart.

I had a hard time loading it all in the truck, for one trip, but I managed. I got home, and after much work and a trip to get more shelves, I got it all in the garage. I went in to dinner, and got the famous “stink eye”.

“STINK EYE” entered our home with “Daisy”, the terrier, who looks at you with the deadliest expression ever seen on a mammal. SHE promptly learned it. From the dog.

Finally she spoke.

“WHERE IS IT?” she said.

“What, Dear?”

“MY CRAFT CABINET!”

With a shuddering jerk, I realized I had forgotten. Then I realized I had an out.

“They only had the colored ones, Dear. I ordered it. I have to go back when they get it in. Of course I will

only get the precise thing you want. I know how exquisite your tastes are.”

SHE looked dubious, but bought it.

I’ll be late with the health insurance payment, but there is an up side.

I get to go back to the tool store!



Rich- W1FSR has been busy collecting QSL cards on hf.....

Fans pose with the Borg-Warner Trophy at the Rev Indy month of May kickoff party

James Hinchcliffe as DJ at the Rev Indy party

Indianapolis Motor Speedway ARC
Indianapolis, IN Marion County
www.w9ims.org Grid: EM69

W9IMS QSOs with: W1FSR					
DATE	UTC	MHz	RST	Mode	
11 May 2019	2030	14	59	SSB	
May 2019			59	SSB	
May 2019			59	SSB	

Comments: TNX QSO/QSL Ben, W9IND ⁷³ CU NX YR
UX5UO print

HAM RADIO CLUB OF THE YEAR

The Nashua Area Radio Society (NARS) is an ARRL Special Service club in southern New Hampshire with a focus on mentoring and youth outreach to bring new amateurs into the hobby and help them to get on the air. More than 200 club members contribute to activities which include license class training, youth activities, on the air operating activities, and emergency communications training. A 501(c3) non-profit organization, the club has raised more than \$8,000 to enable its Amateur Radio mentoring and outreach activities and programs.



NARS is committed to bringing new people, young and old into the amateur radio. Technician, General and Extra classes are each taught twice yearly and have helped more 210 students earn a license or an upgrade with a success rate exceeding 90 percent. Club Field Day operations provide its members with ample opportunity to develop practical Emergency Communications skills, station building expertise, and develop on-air operating skills. In addition to monthly membership meetings, the club holds a monthly “Tech Night” where members provide hands-on training which helps new and experienced Amateurs to build stations, develop technical skills, and try new activities. Video from these sessions is professionally produced to provide a library of over 50 hours of Amateur Radio demonstrations and training.

NARS holds Amateur Radio Youth Expos at local events including the Boxboro ARRL New England Convention, NEAR-Fest, and local schools and libraries. These Expos feature hands-on displays and a kit building activity along with three GOTA stations to engage interest from young and old in Amateur Radio.

The club has partnered with four local high schools and middle schools to develop and deliver STEM learning programs based upon Amateur Radio. One such project provides 14 hours of member delivered classroom presentations about Amateur Radio and High-Altitude Balloons (HABs). Students in the HAB programs launch a HAB to the edge of space and track it via Amateur Radio. As part of the ARISS program, NARS has also partnered with Hudson Memorial School, a local middle school, to help students to contact Astronaut Serena Aunon-Chancellor on the International Space Station using Amateur Radio.



A LOOK BACK IN CLUB HISTORY

Remember when the second floor of the club was a beehive of activity?

There was a time when hams used the second floor of the clubhouse to fix radios and build kits.

Here Dave (SK) is building a kit and Dick-KR1G is supplying fire control techniques.

Greetings All!

I was happy to attend the HAMVENTION earlier in May 2019 and was invited down to Huntsville, Alabama in August for their friendly Hamfest.

I departed on Thursday, August 15th and flew from Boston to Reagan Airport in Washington, DC where I continued my flight to Huntsville.

Upon arrival, I went to the Homewood Suites Hotel and checked into my room.

After a peaceful night sleep, I was up at 7am for a delicious breakfast compliments of the hotel and got ready for an adventure.

Friday at 9am, I met up with some hams and went to the Space and Rocket Center, AA4CB, K0NEB and another were in toe for this venture. Joe Eisenberg, K0NEB does the kit column for CQ Magazine, and I had previously met him at NearFest and HAMVENTION.

It is a three hour tour if you venture to all the buildings and shops they have there. Friday evening I spent time and had a sandwich in the Hospitality Suite of the Embassy Hotel. It was a short 10 minute walk and it was on the same grounds as the Von Braun Center, where the Hamfest was held.

Saturday Morning I sat down to a delicious breakfast and got ready for the 10 minute walk to the Von Braun Center to buy a ticket and await their 9am opening. I met some hams that I attend HAMVENTION with from the International Order of Krazies who lived near Nashville, TN who came down for the day.

I attended the Young Ham Of The Year (YHOTY) announcement for Dhruv Reeba, KC9ZJX, from Normal, Illinois.

The Von Braun Center is big enough for the vendors and Flea Market to be self-contained in one room and there were a lot of tables and items for sale. The site is all air-conditioned. Temperatures were in low 90's and humidity was +/- 88%.

I followed my friends around the Flea Market and only bought a subscription of CQ Magazine and got information on the DVMEGA CAST VOIP Radio for a future purchase.

Saturday night I went with John, KB2ERJ for a chance to try BBQ ribs, Corn and Salad. I returned to the Hospitality Suite for a few casual conversations with those in the room. Off to bed at 10:30pm.

Sunday Morning, I was up again at 7am and another delicious breakfast.

Another 10 minute walk to the Von Braun Center and another venture around the hamfest. 2pm came and the Grand Prize Winner of an Icom 7610 was a young General Class ham from Brentwood, TN, Ryan Pearson.

I can attest the winner was overwhelmingly congratulated when he and his family went to collect their radio. The father and the older brother were all General Class hams also.

If you would like to see the ceremony, you can click your browser to: w5kub.com and in the archives search for Sunday, August 18, 2019 video.

I returned home on Monday, August 19, 2019.

BILL POULIN, WZ1L

Bill- WZ1L Pictures from Hamfest



Bill- WZ1L Pictures from Hamfes



Bill- WZ1L Pictures from Hamfest

CAARA OVER THE YEARS



CAARA used to be quite active during contests at the clubhouse and a good time was had by all. This event was started by Briggs (SK) and was a fun event and well attended.

Wouldn't it be nice to bring these events back and utilize the building we have renovated and purchased from the city!

W1MAW, K1NKA, and KB1RBR

WINTER FIELD DAY AT CAARA



Allison Williams, N1QEH (L) and Mark Watson, W1MAW (R) log in a voice contact while Mike Burke, K1MB, Bill Poulin, WZ1L, and Briggs Longbothum, AB2NJ, watch Rick Maybury, WZ1B log in a CW contact during Winter Field Day 2009



APRIL MEMBERS MEETING: J-POLE ANTENNAS: THEORY AND ACTUAL CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES



John Graves -WA1JG using a MFJ antenna analyzer on his homemade J Pole made out of a 2 by 4 and some ladder line as Paul Anderson KA1GIJ and Mark Rogers KB1PLC look on.

The picture above was when CAARA used to sponsor a Flea Market and rented a hall to handle the event. We offered food for those that attended and had hams attend from all over New England.

We rented tables and we also sold a lot of excess gear from the club.

Below, a member meeting years ago when we had speakers and activities during the meetings.



A look back at past CAARA Christmas parties when we packed the rented hall with members and wives to enjoy the holiday season. Below: Remember when Dick- KR1G was upstairs fixings stuff every Sunday morning?



PUBLIC SERVICE ROAD RACES

CAARA Public Service Schedule 2019

- ~~1 Fool's Dual March 31, 9:00am 5K Race Start 10:00am Half Marathon O'Maley Middle School 32 Cherry Street Gloucester, MA.~~
- ~~2 Twin Lights Good Harbor Beach April 27, 9:00am Half Marathon Start Thatcher Road Gloucester, MA.~~
- ~~3 Rocky neck Art Assn. 5K Run/walk Team Challenge May Date T.B.D.~~
- ~~4 Fast Half May 11, 9:00am Half Marathon Start Hamilton—Wenham High School 775 Bay Road South Hamilton, MA.~~
- ~~5 YMCA Backshore 5K Thursday, May 16th, 6:00pm, Good Harbor Beach, Gloucester~~
- ~~6 Motif No.1 Day Arts Fest & 5k Fun Run Date T.B.D.~~
- ~~7 Cape Ann Trail Stewards. Dogtown 5 Mile Trail Run 19 May 2019 9:00 AM~~
- ~~8 Twin Lobster June 2, 8:00am 1 Mile Race Start 8:30am Half Marathon Start Gloucester High School 32 Leslie O Johnson Road Gloucester, MA.~~
- ~~9 YMCA Father's Day 5K Sunday, June 16th, 9am, Rockport High School, 24 Jerdens Ln.~~
- ~~10 YMCA St. Peter's Fiesta 5K Thursday, June 27th, 6:00pm, Stage Fort Park, Gloucester~~
- ~~11 Triple Threat August 4, 8:00am 1M Race Start 8:20am 5K Race Start 9:15am Half Marathon Start Rockport High School 24 Jerdens Lane Rockport, MA.~~
- ~~12 Half Marathon by the Sea September 22, 10:00am Half Marathon Start Manchester Essex Memorial Elementary School 43 Lincoln Street Manchester-by-the-Sea, MA~~
- ~~13 The Lone Gull 10K Road Race September. Date T.B.D.~~
- ~~14 Parker River Half Marathon. October 6, 9:00am Half Marathon Start Triton Regional High School 112 Elm Street Byfield, MA 01922~~
- ~~15 Ocean View November 3, 8:30am 5k Race Start 9:30am Half Marathon Start Ipswich High School 134 High Street Ipswich, MA 01938~~
- ~~16 Holiday MerryThon. December 1, 9:00am 5K Road Race Start 10:00am Half MerryThon Start Good Harbor Beach Thatcher Road Gloucester, MA.~~

Why should you participate in race events?

It helps the club financially, we receive a donation for each race. You are using amateur radio to provide a needed public service to ensure the safety and smooth running of a public event in local communities.

I would but I do not have a radio.

No excuse, we have loaner radio's available with a mag mount that will work in your car just by just plugging it into the cigarette lighter socket. We have loaner hand held radios as well!

I don't have transportation.

No excuse, we will pick you up and drop you off at your house.

I do not have the time to spare for a whole race.

Well, you can commit to a time slot, for just two hours. We will bend over backwards to get you to participate.





CAPE ANN AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

6 Stanwood Street
Gloucester, MA 01930

www.caara.net

Repeaters on 145.130
224.900 & 443.700

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3 Open House-5- 10pm	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Open House-5- 10pm	11	12	13	14 BOD Meet- 11am ANNUAL MEETING Noon
15 CAARA NET ON THE 145.130 REPEATER EVERY SUNDAY NIGHT AT 9PM	16	17 Open House-5- 10pm	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 Open House-5- 10pm	25	26	27	28
29	30	Open House-5- 10pm				