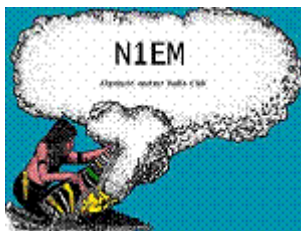


Algonquin Amateur Radio Club

Founded 1976



QRZ – The Newsletter for AARC members

www.n1em.org
January 2008

Meetings!

General club meeting: The next AARC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 10th at 7:30 pm in the Marlborough Middle School's Library (on Thresher Drive). This will be a joint meeting with members of the Minuteman Repeater Association (MMRA). Greg Algieri, WA1JXR will provide a presentation on antenna analyzers and demonstrate their uses in the shack.

MEMA: The next MEMA meeting is scheduled for January 15th at the Marlborough E.O.C. More MEMA information is available at: <http://www.qsl.net/n1em/EOC/EOChome.html>

December holiday banquet

The first date for the 2007 holiday banquet was cancelled because of a now memorable afternoon snowstorm that stranded commuters along the state's highways for hours. Fortunately, the weather was clear on the alternate date and the club was able to hold its annual banquet at Linguine's.

Reminder: February 16th – Flea market

The 2007 Flea Market was a great success. To help ensure another good year we again call on members to help operate the region's first flea market of the year. You don't have to volunteer all day: We can always use extra help during setup the night before and during tear-down in the afternoon. Here are the key times: Thu, Feb 14th: Final planning at AARC general meeting // Fri, Feb 15th: Set-up (6 – 8 pm) // Sat. Feb 16th: Operation and tear-down (6 am – 2 pm).

AARC Donating Amateur Radio Books to Marlborough Public Library

A few months ago, Frank McInnis noticed that many of the amateur radio license study guides and operating books in the Marlborough Public Library were either not available or out of date. To support local hams and other interested readers in the community, the club voted to replace and update the library's

volumes. Our club has now received a set of ARRL publications that we will soon donate to the public library.

Futzing around: Microprocessors for beginners continued...

(T.Ikeda KA1OS)

Arduino

The group responsible for the Arduino describes their system as an "open-source electronics prototyping platform based on easy-to-use hardware and software". Targeted users include teachers, hobbyists, and even artists. The Arduino developers designed their system around Atmel's ATMEGA8 and AT-MEGA168 microcontrollers and created platforms that simplify programming and interfacing. The programming suite is open-source and the language used with the Arduino is derived from Wiring (similar to C++). Unlike the BasicStamp and PicAxe systems described last month, the Arduino programs ultimately compile to machine code for fast execution. The language is also extended with C++ libraries, providing access to huge number of pre-coded functions and lowering much of the learning curve. Thanks to the open-source nature of the project, anyone can buy an inexpensive Atmel chip and load the processor with the Arduino program boot-loader. There are also several sources of low-cost, pre-programmed chips and boards of different flavors. The main drawback of the Arduino is that the systems are limited to the small number of Atmel chips to which the software is ported. Fortunately, the available chips are quite useful and with programs compiled to machine language, the systems are faster, more flexible and more powerful than the BasicStamp or PicAxe lines. Programmers can also control interrupts and access internal chip registers directly, opening a great deal of flexibility to the programmer. With Arduino clones, the start cost is less than \$20.

Main web page: www.arduino.cc

Suppliers:

Sparkfun electronics: www.sparkfun.com

Arduino clones:

Wuldfen (aka: Brian Riley, N1BQ):

<http://wulfden.org/freeduino/freeduino.shtml>

Lady Ada: www.ladyada.net/make/boarduino/index.html

Operating activities...

January: Special event stations

Jan 1-Jan 15, 0000Z-2359Z, Paris, France. ARP Radio-Club de Paris, TM8P. **40th anniversary of the "Ville de Paris"**. 14.275 10.110 7.075 3.775. QSL.

http://arp75.free.fr/PortailARP/img/DVP_regles_rules.jpg

Jan 1-Jan 31, 0000Z-2359Z, All US call areas. Straight Key Century Club, K2A. **Celebrating 2 years and over 3500 members on CW**. 14.050 10.120 7.055 3.550. QSL. www.skccgroup.com

Jan 1-Mar 31, 0000Z-2359Z, Karlovo, Bulgaria. Balkan Contest Club, LZ130LO. **130th Anniversary of the liberation of Bulgaria**. various bands. QSL. www.qrz.com/lz130lo

Jan 5, 1600Z-2000Z, Clinton, IA. Clinton Iowa ARC, WØCS.

Mississippi River Lock and Dam 13 Bald Eagle Watch. 14.265 7.265. Certificate. www.qrz.com/w0cs

Jan 6, 1900Z-2300Z, Columbus, NC. Southern Paradise ARC,

KJ4AWL. **Kid's Day Special Event Station**. HF and VHF. QSL. www.serendipityrancher.com/sparc.htm

Jan 7-Jan 8, 1200Z-0600Z, New Orleans, LA. Ohio State ARC, W8LT & K5LSU. **Ohio State and LSU Tailgating on the Air**. SSB

14.260 7.260 3.960 CW 14.050 7.030 PSK 14.070 7.070. QSL. www.w8lt.org & www.lsu.edu/student_organizations/arlsu
 Jan 12, 1700Z-2359Z, San Diego, CA. USS Midway CV-41 Museum Radio Room, NI6IW. **Commemorating first aircraft landing on USN ship USS Pennsylvania Armored Cruiser #4 in 1911 and start of Operation Desert Storm 1991.** 14.325 7.250 14.060 7.040. QSL. kc2gyv@yahoo.com
 Jan 13, 1500Z-2200Z, Bethpage, NY. Ham Radio University, W2V. **Ham Radio demo at Ham Radio University 2008.** 14.260 7.260. QSL. www.HamRadioUniversity.org
 Jan 19, 1300Z-2300Z, Brooksville, FL. Spring Hill ARC, W4B. **28th Annual Brooksville Raid, Florida's largest Civil War reenactment.** 146.805 18.130 14.260. Certificate. www.kf4ixu.org
 Jan 19-Jan 21, 1500Z-2300Z, Ashton, IA. KB0NMQ Family, KB0NMQ. **Operation Desert Storm/1st Gulf War Remembered.** 18.150 14.280 7.220. QSL. alaskamark@nethtc.net
 Jan 26-Jan 27, 1400Z-2000Z, Wilsona Gardens, CA. BioRem RAC Edwards AFB North Base, AL7LS. **Release date for movie Hot Rods to Hell 27 Jan 1967.** LSB 7.243 7.091 3.952 BBS 14.105. Certificate. www.geocities.com/hrhspecialevent08/index.html
 Jan 26-Feb 9, 0000Z-2359Z, Paris, France. ARP Radio-Club de Paris, TM4A. **40th anniversary of the "Ville de Paris".** 14.275 10.110 7.075 3.775. QSL. http://arp75.free.fr/PortailARP/img/DVP_regles_rules.jpg
 Jan 31-Feb 3, 1700Z-2200Z, Washington, PA. Washington Amateur Communications, W3C. **Washington County Annual Sports Show.** 14.250 7.260. QSL. Ed Oelschlager, N3ZNI, 60 Carl Ave B-2, Eighty Four, PA 15330. n3zni@arrl.net

A selection of contests in January

Jan 5-6

ARRL RTTY Roundup: 1800Z Jan 5- 2400Z Jan 6, see page 97 of Dec 2006 QST or www.arrl.org/contests.

Kids Day: Phone, by the ARRL and the Boring ARC from 1800Z to 2400Z Jan 6, see page 39 of Dec 2007 QST or www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/kd-rules.html.

EUCW 160 Meter Contest: CW, by the Union Francaise des Telegraphistes from 2000Z-2300Z Jan 5 and 0400-0700Z Jan 6. www.uft.net.

Jan 12-17

North American QSO Party: CW, by the National Contest Journal from 1800Z Jan 12-0600Z Jan 13. Frequencies: 160-10-meters. www.ncjweb.com/naqprules.php.

DARC 10-meter Contest: CW/SSB, by the Deutscher ARC from 0900Z-1059Z Jan 13. Frequencies: CW 28.000-28.200 MHz, SSB 28.300-28.700 MHz. www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedcz.htm.

NAQCC Monthly Straight Key Sprint: by the North American QRP CW Club from 0130Z-0330Z Jan 17. Frequencies (MHz): 3.560, 7.040, 14.060. www.arm-tek.net/~yoel.

Midwinter Contest: CW/SSB, by the Dutch YL Committee, CW from 1400Z-1800Z Jan 12, SSB from 1000Z-1400Z Jan 13. Frequencies: 80-10-meters, SSB 3.600-3.650, 7.080-7.090, 14.270-

14.300, 21.270-21.300, 28.470-28.500 MHz. www.qsl.net/pi4ylc/Engels/midwinter%20contest.htm.

Worked All Britain Top Band Phone Contest: from 1900Z-2300Z Jan 12. www.worked-all-britain.co.uk/contest/rules.php.

Hunting Lions in the Air: CW/Phone, by the South African District 410B of the International Association of Lions Clubs from 0000Z Jan 12-2400Z Jan 13. Frequencies: 80-10 meters, work stations once per band regardless of mode. www.sarl.org.za/under "Activities."

070 PSKFest: by the Penn-Ohio DX Society (PODXS) from 0000Z-2359Z Jan 12. Frequencies: 80-10 m. www.podxs.com/html/pskfest.html.

Jan 19-20

ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes: 1900Z Jan 19-0400Z Jan 21, see page 92, Dec 2007 QST or www.arrl.org/contests.

North American QSO Party: Phone, 1800Z Jan 19-0600Z Jan 20 (see Jan 12-13). Logs due Feb 3 to ssbnaqp@ncjweb.com or Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, 4225 Farndale Ave, Studio City, CA 91604.

HA DX Contest: CW, by the Hungarian DX Club from 1200Z Jan 20-1200Z Jan 21. Frequencies: 160-10-meter bands. www.mrasz.hu.

LZ Open Championship: CW, by the LZ Open Contest Club from 0400Z-1200Z Jan 19. Frequencies: 3.5 and 7 MHz. www.linkove.com/lz-open-contest/rules/rules.htm.

UK DX RTTY Contest: by the Scottish-Russian ARS from 1200Z Jan 19-1200Z Jan 20. Frequencies: 80-10-meters. www.ukdx.srars.org.

Jan 26-27

CQ WW 160-Meter Contest: CW, by CQ Magazine from 0000Z Jan 26-2359Z Jan 27 (Phone is Feb 23-24). www.cq-amateur-radio.com.

BARTG RTTY Sprint: by the British Amateur Radio Teletype Group from 1200Z Jan 26-1200Z Jan 27. Frequencies: 80-10-meters. www.bartg.org.uk.

REF French Contest: CW, by the Reseau des Emetteurs Francais from 0600Z Jan 26 - 1800Z Jan 27 (Phone is Feb 23-24). Contact French stations including Corsica and Overseas Territories. Frequencies: 80-10 meters. www.ref-union.org/concours.

UBA Contest: Phone, by the Royal Union of Belgian Amateur Radio from 1300Z Jan 26-1300Z Jan 27 (CW is Feb 23-24). Frequencies: 80-10-meters, according to the IARU band plan. www.uba.be.

Winter Field Day: all modes, by the Society for the Preservation of Amateur Radio (SPAR) from 17000Z Jan 26-1700Z Jan 27. Frequencies: 160-10 meters. www.spar-hams.org.

YLISSB QSO Party: SSB, by the Young Ladies International Single Side Band System from 0000Z Jan 26-2359Z Jan 27 (CW and RTTY Feb 3-4). Frequencies: 160-10 meters. www.ylssystem.org.

Classic Exchange: CW, from 1400Z Jan 26-0800Z Jan 27 (AM/SSB/FM Feb 9). Frequencies (Mc): CW 1.810, 3.545, 7.045, 14.045, 21.135, 28.050, 50.100, 144.100. www.qsl.asti.com/CX.

(Special event and contest information courtesy of the ARRL)

Algonquin Radio Club - P.O. Box 258, Marlborough MA 01752

The Algonquin Amateur Radio Club (AARC) holds meetings on the second Thursday of each month (No meetings in July and August). Meetings are open to all in the community with an interest in Amateur Radio. For directions, contact a club officer or visit our web site at www.n1em.org. Meeting times are listed in this newsletter. The AARC also operates the N1EM repeater on 446.675 MHz, -offset, PL 88.5 Hz. This machine is open to all licensed amateur operators. An informal open net on this repeater is conducted Sundays at 8:00 PM.

We publish QRZ monthly from September through June. The deadline for submissions is the 25th of the preceding month. Text files are preferred and can be mailed to newsletter@n1em.org. For further information about QRZ and the AARC please send inquiries to the address listed above.

Current club officers

President	Ed Fitzgerald (K1DIN)
Vice President	Ron Wood (W1PLW)
Treasurer	Frank McInnis (K1IX)
Secretary	Tim Ikeda (KA1OS)