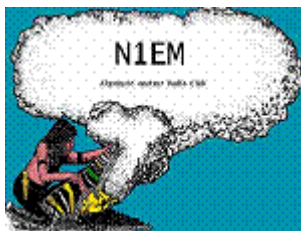


Algonquin Amateur Radio Club

Founded 1976



QRZ – The Newsletter for AARC members

www.n1em.org
May 2008

Meetings!

General club meeting: The next AARC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 8 at 7:30 pm. NOTICE OF MEETING LOCATION CHANGE: The meeting is set for the Marlborough Middle School but could be in an alternate room instead of the library. We will post a notice on the Middle School's entrance to direct members to the appropriate room. Please monitor the AARC email list or the N1EM web page for the latest updates. Topics for this month's meeting include:

- Preparation for Hazmat day and School Watch
- Election results for club officers
- Field Day planning
- QRP follow-up: Review of kits available for building

MEMA: The next MEMA meeting is scheduled for May 20 at the Marlborough E.O.C. More MEMA information is available at: www.qsl.net/n1em/EOC/EOChome.html

- On May 23, there will be an LPEC meeting starting at 9:00 am. Kevin Tully, Region 1, will talk about EOC operations.
- Hazmat day: This month, the town of Marlborough will conduct a hazardous waste collection day for town residents. This event will run from 9 am to noon on May 10 at the Easterly Water Pollution Control Facility. To support communications and direct traffic we will need about five or six volunteers between 8 - 10 am and about four people until noon. Volunteers should contact Don Cusson.
- The EOC recently received a Yaesu FT-7800 radio for 2m & 70cm FM operations.

Member news

Albert Senecal, Sr. (KA1GOA) passed away on April 29 at age 92. Al was a long time club member and had served the Town of Marlborough in many capacities: as a volunteer fireman, as assistant fire chief, and as a member of the Board of Fire Engineers from 1950 to 1959. Al was also elected to the Marlborough School Committee (1948 to 1950), served on the Marlborough Planning Board (1964 to 1967) and was a former

member of the Marlborough Kiwanis & Elks Lodge of Hudson. In lieu of flowers, the family has asked that donations be made to the Alzheimer's Association (311 Arsenal St., Watertown, MA 02472) in memory of Ruth, his beloved wife.

School Watch in May

The AARC conducts School Watch activities over the weekends prior to Marlborough High School's graduation. Please try to reserve a few weekend evenings in May for participating. For more details, contact Ed Fitzgerald (K1DIN).

Regional flea markets

- May 18 **The Flea at MIT** (Cambridge, MA)
May 24 Hartford Hamfest - Natchaug ARC (Vernon, CT).
Tolland Agricul. Center, 24 Hyde Ave. (Route 30)

On the horizon...

Activities and club events coming up in the next quarter:

- May 10 Hazmat day. Volunteers requested.
May School Watch. Details have also been provided on the AARC email reflector. Please set aside some time this month to support this important service provided by the club.
Jun 12 AARC – Kit night at By Request Communications.
Jun 28-29 ARRL Field Day in the Marlborough EOC. Planning for the event starts now.
Aug 22-24 Boxborough Hamfest – The ARRL New England Division Convention (Boxborough MA).

Ham radio news

NEAR-Fest was held under chilly skies on Friday and drenching rain on Saturday (May 2 & 3) but attendance seemed fair. There was good mix of vendors and a large supply of RF test equipment available. Ed Fitzgerald continued his lucky streak by winning a 4:1 Unadilla beam balun in a Friday drawing. Once again a contingent of Canadian hams traveled south to enjoy the (comparatively) nice spring weather and excellent currency exchange rates (\$1 US = \$1.02 CD).

L.B. Cebik (W4RNK) became a Silent Key in late April at age 68. He was perhaps best known for his many insightful books and articles about antenna design and modeling. Over the years Dr. Cebik served as a contributing editor for the ARRL Antenna Book and was creator and course instructor for the Antenna Modeling Course provided by the ARRL. Cebik's website, www.cebik.com will be maintained by antenneX and will be made available offline through a series of CDs.

QRP follow-up

Greg Algieri (W1JXR) provided an introduction to QRP operating at the club's April meeting. As Greg described, the basic criteria for QRP is setting transmitter power under 5W for CW or under 10W PEP for phone. This is not necessarily an overwhelming operating challenge because the difference between the received signal strength of 5W and 100W transmissions is only about two S-units. Furthermore, many QRPers operate in modes like CW or PSK-31 that have inherently higher "power densities". In fact, taking into account the power densities for their respective frequency spectra, 5W in CW is roughly as efficient in establishing communications as 100W is in SSB. Other reasons for operating QRP include the outstand-

ing availability of commercial kits available, the great portability of QRP stations, and the wide-ranging network of hams devoted to running low power modes. Well-designed kits range in price from about \$30 for a CW-mode Rockmite to \$1K-\$2K for an Elecraft K2 with 'all the goodies'. Single band SSB kits are available for less than \$100 and the ARRL featured several low-cost, high-quality SSB designs in the May 2008 issue of QST. PSK-31 rigs and software-defined-radio systems are also gaining strong groups of supporters. Included below is a list of popular QRP calling frequencies. Turn down your power and give it a try!

CW 80m: 3.560, 3.710
40m: 7.040 (older w/ digital QRM), 7.030 (EU & QRP ARCI), 7.060 (EU)
20m: 14.060 (near RTTY)

SSB 80m: 3.985, 3.690 (EU)
40m: 7.285, 7.090 (EU)
20m: 14.285

Operating activities...

Indiana and Nevada are two states with QSO parties this month. There are also several regional QSO parties including one for New England. A special event station commemorating the 401st anniversary of English settlement in Virginia and one celebrating a Revolutionary War tea dumping reenactment will go on the air in May.

May: Special event stations

May 2-May 3, 1000Z-1700Z, Bramshaw, Romsey, England. RSGB, GB2BST. **Over 200 years since Admiralty Shutter telegraph was installed.** 14.200 7.050. QSL. www.qrz.com/gb2bst

May 9-May 25, 1500Z-0300Z, Indianapolis, IN. Indianapolis Motor Speedway ARC, W9IMS. **92nd running of the Indianapolis 500.** 21.340 14.240 7.240 3.840. QSL. www.w9ims.com

May 10, 1400Z-2030Z, Jamestown, VA. Williamsburg Area ARC, K4RC. **401st Anniversary of English Settlement in Virginia.** 18.150 14.250 7.261 3.951. QSL. www.k4rc.net

May 17-May 18, 1300Z-2000Z, Farmingdale, NY. Great South Bay ARC, W2GSB. **Air Power Museum Event and Armed Forces Day.** 20 m 40 m 80 m SSB/CW. QSL. www.gsbarc.org

May 18, 1600Z-2000Z, Sandy Hook, NJ. Roseland ARC, K2A. **Coastal Artillery Day.** 14.270 7.270. QSL. www.qsl.net/k2gq

May 24, 1200Z-2100Z, Chestertown, MD. Kent ARS, K3ARS. **Reenactment of British tea dumped into the Chester River.** 28.340 14.240 7.240 Echolink. QSL. www.k3ars.org

May 24-Jun 7, 0000Z-2359Z, Paris, France. ARP Radio-Club de Paris, TM7S. **40th anniversary of the "Ville de Paris".** 14.275 10.110 7.075 3.775. QSL. Award available for contact with all 5 special event stations. arp75.free.fr/PortailARP/img/DVP_regles_rules.jpg

May 26, 1200Z-2359Z, Nutley, NJ. Robert D. Grant United Labor ARA, N2UL. **Labor remembers those who made the supreme sacrifice for our freedoms.** 28.420 21.360 14.260 449.975/ W2LI. Certificate. RDGULARA c/o WA2VJA, 112 Prospect St, Nutley, NJ 07110-0716.

May 26, 1400Z-2145Z, Baton Rouge, LA. **Baton Rouge and USS Kidd ARCs, W5KID. Memorial Day.** 15 20 40 m Gen bands. QSL. www.lsu.edu/brarc/uss_kidd.htm

May 31, 1500Z-2300Z, Athens, TN. McMinn County ARC, Inc, N4M. **National Moofest.** 14.280 7.238. Certificate. www.mcminnarc.com/n4m/N4M.html

A selection of contests in May

3 May 14Z to 3 May 20Z & 4 May 1400Z to 4 May 2000Z: **IPA Contest.** www.iparc.org

3 May 0001Z to 4 May 2359Z: 10-10 Spring CW & Digital Contests. www.ten-ten.org

3 May 16Z to 4 May 04Z: **Indiana QSO Party.** www.hdxcc.org/inqp

3 May 20Z to 4 May 1959Z: **ARI International DX Contest.** www.qsl.net/contest_ari

3 May 2000Z to 4 May 0500Z & 4 May 1300Z to 4 May 2400Z: **New England QSO Party.** www.neqp.org

3 May 13Z to 4 May 07Z: **7th Area QSO Party.** www.7qp.org

3 May 17Z to 4 May 05Z: **Radio Club of America QSO Party.** www.radioclubofamerica.org

3 May 15Z to 4 May 15Z: **Portuguese Navy Day.** www.nra.pt

9 May 23Z to 10 May 23Z: **Nevada QSO Party.** www.arll.org/NQP

10 May 17Z to 10 May 21Z: **FISTS Spring Sprint.** www.fists.org/sprints.html

10 May 23Z to 11 May 03Z: **50 MHz Spring Sprint.** www.sysadnet.com/vhfsprinrules.htm

17 May 12Z to 18 May 12Z: **EU PSK DX Contest.** www.eu.srars.org

17 May 18Z to 18 May 18Z: **His Majesty King of Spain Contest.** www.ure.es

17 May 1500Z to 18 May 2359Z: **All America Contest.** www.powerline.com.br/cwjf/eng4.htm

24 May 00Z to 25 May 24Z: **CQ WW WPX Contest.** www.cqwpw.com

25 May 2000 local to 2500 May 24 local: **QRP ARCI Hootowl Sprint.** www.qrparci.org/

26 May 20Z to 27 May 00Z: **MI QRP Memorial Day CW Sprint.** www.miqrp.org

(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)