



Algonquin Amateur Radio Club

# QRZ

The Newsletter for AARC members

November 2020 Issue

- November Meeting (Online)
- Sunday Night Net
- Net Control Operators Needed
- Lantern Battery Challenge
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## President's Corner

Last Saturday night we had a very successful Halloween school watch. Over 20 club members came out to help the city with this event including first-time participants. It was great to see the club back in action with a public service activity even if in a socially-distant way. It was a chilly evening in our cars under a full moon. With a lot of radio activity on the school watch net, we even attracted the attention of some hams monitoring the repeater. Net control Eric kv1j responded with some great publicity for the club and the EOC.

This month AARC will try Zoom for our monthly meeting. Since we first started having virtual meetings in April, Zoom has become established as a stable, reliable option for virtual meetings. Look for an email before the meeting from AARClst with instructions for joining the Zoom meeting.

Our speaker for November will be Rob Macedo (KD1CY) presenting Introduction to the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES).

Also, at our meeting this month, we will introduce a plan for a virtual holiday banquet to allow us to gather socially in spite of the pandemic and rising case counts in the region.

Stay safe and stay well.

73 de Mike w1ku

## AARC Sunday Night Net

Please join us every Sunday Night at 7pm on the 446.675 repeater (PL 88.5 / -5.0mhz Offset). You do not need to be a member of the club and all licensed amateur radio operators are welcome to check-in.

## November Meeting (Online)

The next AARC meeting will be held on November 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm [online](#). Information on joining this virtual meeting will be sent out in advance via email. See President's Corner for additional information.

## SUNDAY NIGHT NET NEEDS OPERATORS

The AARC Sunday Night Net is looking for Net Control Operators. I would like to have 4-8 operators so we can rotate it around. This way I don't have to do everyone Sunday. My work schedule, for the next 6+ months, is going to be 12hrs on many Sundays (almost every other Sunday).

So please sign up. I will have a quick training session and everyone will get a copy of the script (if you haven't received one already).

Thank you

de Joe KA1GDQ

## ARRL Contests

November 7-9 : November Sweepstakes (CW)

[More info](#)

November 21-23 : November Sweepstakes (Phone)

[More info](#)

December 4-6 : 160 Meter Contest

[More info](#)

December 12-13 : 10 Meter Contest

[More info](#)

December 12-13 : Rookie Roundup (CW)

[More info](#)

## Algonquin Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 258, Marlboro, MA 01752

The Algonquin Amateur Radio Club holds meetings the second Thursday of each month at 7:30pm. There is no meeting in July and August. Meetings are held at the 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Charles W. Whitcomb Middle School, 25 Union Ave, Marlboro, MA / Door #1. Anyone with an interest in Amateur Radio is welcome to attend.

The AARC operates the N1EM/R 446.675 PL 88.5 repeater in Marlboro. Access to the repeater is open to all licensed Amateur Radio operators. A controlled net is conducted on the N1EM repeater every Sunday evening at 7pm.

## 2020-21 Club Officers / Appointments

President	Mike Powell	W1KU
Vice President	Skip Youngberg	K1NKR
Secretary	Tim Ikeda	KA1OS
Treasurer	Ken Horton	KA1GFN
Activities	Joe Reynolds	KA1GDQ
Newsletter	Ken Horton	KA1GFN
Website	Sandor Toth	NB1N

## The Lantern Battery Challenge

There is QRP, even “QRPP.” Aficionados get on the air, battery and spare battery in hand and see how many contacts—or how much DX—they can log. But have you ever considered how many QSOs are actually held in a single battery pack?

A few years back, a member (W1XP) of another club (the Nashoba Valley ARC up in the Pepperell-Groton area) decided that finding out would make a good club activity. Thus, the Lantern Battery Challenge. Participants were issued a 12V stack of off-the-shelf 6V lantern batteries. (You know the ones—they’re about two inches square and four or so inches high.)



Each participant was charged with making as many contacts as possible within four months, or until the battery was discharged beyond the point of usefulness. By the way, at the participant’s option the battery only had to power the transmitter portion of whatever station equipment was used.

Well, with virtual meetings, things are pretty quiet in these here parts. I was thinking, maybe an LBC of our own would liven things up. Under the Vice President’s sponsorship, AARC’s LBC will commence at 0000Z on 1 December 2020 and conclude at 2400Z on 31 March 2021. You can join at any time during the “contest” period. Participation is voluntary, with only one stipulation: you get your own battery stack and you let me know that you’re playing in the game. OK, that’s two stipulations. And I’d like to know what you did and how successful you were. Is that another stipulation?

I’ll work up some rules for the effort and post them on AARCList. Maybe we’ll have a party when our LBC is over.

de Skip, K1NKR

## DMR SwapNet

Here is our initial attempt to create an online flea market.

It will be held on the NEDECN DMR network  
TS 2 TG 3181 (New England Wide)

WHEN: SATURDAY NIGHTS at 8 PM for 1 hour  
WHERE: NEDECN "NEW ENGLAND WIDE", 3181  
TALK GROUP  
NET CONTROLS: K1NR, WA1NVC, N1JAF, NE1B

PHOTOS and descriptions of EQUIPMENT will be on  
Groups.IO :  
<https://groups.io/g/NewEnglandDigitalSwapNet>

You can read the For Sale items, and if you join, you can post For Sale items.

de Gene, K1NR

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## VE Exam Sessions

Date : 11/12/2020  
Sponsor: Canton EMA & EMARG  
Location: Mansfield Fish & Game Club, Mansfield  
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed - Please pre-register)  
[More info](#)

Date : 11/14/2020  
Sponsor: BARS  
Location: Parking Lot, Gary's Ice Cream, Chelmsford  
Time: 10:00 AM (No Walk-ins / Call ahead)  
[More info](#)

Date : 11/14/2020  
Sponsor: Braintree EMA  
Location: BEMA Garage, Sunset Lake, Braintree  
Time: See below (No Walk-ins / Call ahead)  
More info: [8:30 AM](#), [9:30 AM](#), [10:30 AM](#)

Date : 11/16/2020  
Sponsor: BCRA VE TEAM  
Location: South Swansea Baptist Church, Swansea  
Time: 5:30 PM (No Walk-ins / Call ahead)  
[More info](#)

Date : 11/18/2020  
Sponsor: MIT Radio Exam Team  
Location: MIT Campus, Room 1-150 MIT, Boston  
Time: 7:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)  
[More info](#)

Date : 11/28/2020  
Sponsor: North Shore RA  
Location: American Legion Building, Winthrop  
Time: 7:30 PM (No Walk-ins / Call ahead)  
[More info](#)