



- 2018/19 Club Year
- Hazardous Waste Day
- Museum Ship Weekend
- Labor Day Parade
- WRTC

Upcoming 2018/19 Club Year

Welcome to the new club year. Many activities are being explored. The club would like to be involved with STEM or STEAM in the local school systems, classes for new hams, and other activities. The club needs members to step forward to assist with these projects. Please attend the September meeting to assist the officers in planning these exciting activities. Remember to check into the club net on Sunday evenings. See all at the meeting.

de Ann, KA1PON

MMRA VE Exams

MMRA hosts VE sessions around the third Saturday (subject to changes) of each month. Exams are generally held at the Marlboro Public Library at 9:00 AM. Please contact Bill Wade (617.699.3670) for the latest exam session information. This is an accredited ARRL/VEC Program.

- September 8, 2018 at the Boxboro-ARRL Convention
Note Date & Location Change
- October 20, 2018
- November 17, 2018
- December 15, 2018

Additional or updated information available via the following link to the MMRA website.

<http://www.mmra.org/exam.html>

September Meeting

The next AARC meeting will be held on September 13th at 7:30pm in the library of the 1st Lt. Charles W. Whitcomb Middle School, 25 Union Ave, Marlboro, MA / Door #1 at rear of building.

The purpose of the September meeting will be to discuss the club's plans for 2018/19. Topics will include presentations, events, as well as other ideas or interests for the upcoming year.

Household Hazardous Waste Day - September 29

Please join us as we support the biannual joint Hudson-Marlborough Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day on September 29th.

Our support is a combined effort by our Algonquin Amateur Radio Club and the Marlborough Emergency Management Team. Using our radio communications skills, we manage the traffic flow and validate residency for the approximately 400 cars that come to the event. We use both our N1EM repeater and the Emergency Management's UHF radios.

We setup at 8 AM and the event runs from 9 AM to 1 PM. The event is next to the Marlborough Resident Drop-Off Facility, located at 860 Boston Post Road East in Marlborough, behind the Half Way Café near Home Depot.

I will send out an email reminder before the event.

Event Flyer from the Marlborough City web -

https://www.marlborough-ma.gov/sites/marlboroughma/files/uploads/household_hazardous_waste_fall_2018.pdf

73, de Eric KV1J
Marlborough EMA Communications Officer

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 1st 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 7:30pm.

Club Officers / Appointments

President	Ann Weldon	KA1PON
Vice President	Jim Babish	K1UUM
Secretary	Tim Ikeda	KA1OS
Treasurer	Peter Hoover	K1PLH
Activities	Ed Fitzgerald	K1DIN
Newsletter	Ken Horton	KA1GFN
Website	Sandor Toth	NB1N

MUSEUM SHIPS WEEKEND 2018

June 2 - 3, 2018

USS Joseph P Kennedy NB1CR



From the Battleship New Jersey Amateur Radio Station, we thank you for your participation in the 2018 International Museum Ships Weekend.

The operators listed below have demonstrated their skills in the art of radio communications.

Ed K1DIN
Joe KA1GDQ
Frank K1IX
Rich W1IBN
David W1SHK
Nels K1UR
Julie KB1YTT



2018 Museum Ships Operating Event

For the eighth year in a row AARC once again operated from Battleship cove in Fall River, MA. on the weekend of June 2nd & 3rd, 2018, in the International Museum Ships operating event. This on air operating event is coordinated by the club group aboard the Battleship New Jersey, call sign NJ2BB. In recent years this event has grown to consist of over 100 Museum Ships and ship memorials worldwide. While operating out of the ships Radio room aboard the Destroyer Joseph P. Kennedy Jr. (DD-850), call sign, NB1CR, AARC had the pleasure to put the ship on the air in SSB mode for this event.

Six club member operators and one guest took part. K1DIN, W1IBN, K1IX, K1UR, W1SHL, KA1GDQ and on Sunday, guest operator Julie KB1YTT also participated. Operating on three bands 40m, 20m & 17m we made 416 contacts which included contacts with 19 other Museum ships. With the terrible band conditions that currently exist 20m & 40m were our "money" bands with almost no activity on 17m. It's not a contest but it can seem like it at times when you get a mini pileup going after being spotted and we did a lot of self spotting when things got slow. But for the most part it is pretty relaxed operating.

Also operating in the Museum ships event was a group from the Massasoit ARC operating aboard the Battleship Massachusetts. They did not cause any interference problems for us, but apparently we did give them some issues.

The club operators would like to extend special thanks to Joe, KA1GDQ for his generous donation of Dunkin coffee and donuts to the group.

de Frank, K1IX

ANOTHER YEAR OF ALGONQUIN ARC PUBLIC SERVICE

"When all other communications fail, there is HAM RADIO!"

Continuing its long tradition, the Algonquin Amateur Radio Club (AARC) will provide safety communication, parade progress reports, and a ready emergency communication back up system for the 67th Marlborough Labor Day Parade. Many of the Ham operators are part of Marlborough Emergency Management and have qualified in courses ranging from sheltering and first aid to the procedures for governmental emergency operations. (All Ham operators are officially part of Homeland Security by Congressional Act.)

The Observation Team consists of fourteen experienced, radio equipped, Ham volunteers stationed throughout the route in contact with each other through a stationary Net Control (Eric Williams, KV1J) (who is also in radio contact with Marlborough Police Dispatch) and an auxiliary Net Control (Pete Hoover, K1PLH) located near the parade end. The AARC repeater on Sligo Hill provides complete radio coverage of the route, but, in case of difficulty or emergency, volunteers have three other methods of maintaining contact with Net Control, police dispatch, and with each other.

The Algonquin Amateur Radio Club has provided a team of Ham observers spanning the administrations of several Parade Directors including the recently deceased George Whapham (being honored this year for his parade service), Ed Thurber (still participating as parade manager), and Leanne Cordischi (the present Parade Director). The late Quin Spear (K1ZFH) of Marlborough was the AARC Observation Director for many, years. His assistant Ed Fitzgerald (K1DIN) is presently directing the team.

Prior to the Parade, the Algonquin Observation Team Director attends the meeting of the relevant City Department directors, including the Parade Director, Police, Fire, and local EMT services so that everyone with responsibility for some part of the Parade is aware of the Team presence and so that the Team understands problems which may impact the parade and procedures which will be followed in case of emergency.

The AARC Parade Observation Team is always looking for new volunteers to apprentice with our experienced observers. Please contact an officer. Visit our website for contact information.

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ANOTHER YEAR OF ALGONQUIN ARC PUBLIC SERVICE (Continued)

This year's AARC Team, in addition to those mentioned above, include:

James	Babish	K1UUM
Gene	Balinski	K1NR
Barry	Brozenske	K3BUZ
Dennis	Egan	W1UE
Steve	Hoffman	N1WCD
Ron	Lahti	N1CNG
Rick	Landau	W1IBN
Chip	Read	N2IOF
Joe	Reynolds	KA1GDQ
Alex	Sayegh	KB1JYZ
John	Synder	N1DNX
Tom	Turner	KB1OQA
Ann	Weldon	KA1PON

de Ed, K1DIN

World Radio Team Championships (WRTC)

The World Radio Team Championships in 2014 were held in the Boston area. I, and many others in the area, were active participants in putting on the event. For my part, I ran the warehouse that held the antenna and site equipment; I think several of the AARC members were also involved. From that exposure, I became interested in qualifying for the WRTC 2018, which was to be held in Germany. My qualification, however, came up short, as I finished 4th in my qualification area- and only the top 3 received automatic Team Leader positions for WRTC 2018. I then applied for, and was selected for, a referee position at the championships.

All competitors had to pay for their own transportation to Lutherstadt Wittenberg, Germany (about 60 miles south of Berlin). Hotel and meal expenses were covered by the event, but each competitor, referee, or committee member had to cover their own ancillary expenses. I booked my plane flight through Delta- for you airport junkies, BOS to JFK to AMS to TXL; my return took me from VIL to KBP to JFK. VIL is Vilnius, Lithuania, and KBP is Kiev, Ukraine.

The first leg of the trip was nearly a disaster; the shuttle I was to take from BOS to JFK had mechanical problems, and didn't fly for my trip. Here I was, already at the airport, looking at an overnight flight with connections, and I couldn't even get out of the airport! After dicking around with Delta for a few minutes, I was rebooked on another flight. I was now going BOS to AMS to TXL. Instead of sitting in BOS for 2 hours and JFK for 3 hours, I got to sit in BOS for 6 hours and then take off on a direct to AMS! What could have been a disaster before the trip

ever got started was averted! An additional perk- I got to watch the entire semifinal World Cup game. My departure on Tuesday July 10 finally happened.

The plane flight was rather uneventful (we like uneventful plane flights). We even arrived at AMS 15 minutes early, and cruising through European customs was a breeze. We only had an hour to sit around this airport before boarding the next plane that would take us to TXL and Berlin. A quick Dutch pastry and cup of coffee, and we were again off!

The flight to Berlin was only 1.5 hours, so it seemed like we were there in no time. Since we were in another European state, no customs/immigration was needed this time. I was most overjoyed when my luggage showed in Berlin, right on schedule! We had been told to look for a man in the lobby with a WRTC sign, and he was quickly located. The queue for the shuttle bus to Lutherstadt Wittenberg was already forming, when the bad news was delivered: there was a major accident northbound on the German highway that morning, and the shuttle bus was stuck in traffic. We sat around this airport for about 3 hours, waiting for the shuttle bus; when it finally arrived, we had a chance to see just how bad the highway was tied up. The backup- which now consisted of cars and trucks, all with their engine off, with drivers out of the vehicles and shooting the breeze while standing on the highway- was probably 25 miles long.

About an hour later, we pulled into the Luther Hotel in Lutherstadt Wittenberg. This town is mostly famous as the location where Martin Luther presented his "95 Theses" for the first time, and essentially started the Protestant religion movement. The hotel was in the center of town, right off the square, and was an ideal spot for this. I registered, got my room, and went down and had my first beer of the trip!

A word on German beer- I think I now understand how Germans can drink beer all day. The German beer I had- and I had several varieties- were all about 2-2.5% alcohol. I would drink 2 beers, and not even have the start of a buzz. Contrary to popular beliefs, Germans don't drink "warm" beer- unless you want to say that 55F is "warm". I found it a bit too warm for my tastes. It was good beer, don't get me wrong, but I prefer a little more alcohol in my beer, and a little less temperature.

Food: Wednesday night, we had "German Cold Cuts" for dinner. That translates to "Wurst and Head Cheese". I have to say, I'm not a big fan of German food. Too much wurst, fried potatoes, and cabbage (sauerkraut). Even the spatzle, without a sauce, is too

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World Radio Team Championships (Continued)

heavy for me. One thing I will remember is the taste of the tomatoes and cucumbers. EVERY meal featured a fresh plate of tomatoes and cucumbers, sometimes with a little EVOO/salt/pepper, sometimes with a little balsamic. The tomatoes and cukes I had in Europe were all tastier than anything I can find in the US; in a quest for fruits and vegetables that transport well and have shelf life, I'm afraid that taste has taken a back seat and been bred out. Breakfast was served as a buffet each morning, with all the US favorites: scrambled eggs, fried potatoes, sausage, bacon, and a wide variety of breads with a wide variety of jams and jellies.

Air Conditioning. The Hotel did not have any A/C in the guest rooms; there was also no blower that one could turn on at night. Daytime temps were in the mid-80s, night time in the mid-60s, but if one didn't open the window the air wouldn't move. Since the hotel was at capacity, every room was taken, so the 2nd floor room I was assigned, when the window was open, was right above the beer garden, where a number of ops would talk until 2am! I'm one of those early bird risers- in bed by 9pm, up by 5am- but with the loss of overnight sleep on the plane and the 6 hour time difference to Germany, I was completely out of it by 8pm Wednesday night. I stayed up as late as I could, catching up with guys that I haven't seen in awhile, and meeting new guys that only know me by my callsign, but eventually I had to succumb to sleep.

Weather: Temperatures were in the mid-60s at night, mid-80s during the day. This part of Germany has had a drought; we had a little rain Wednesday night, and it was the first rain that they had had in 5 months. Fortunately for us, we did not have any more rain through departure day.

de Dennis, WIUE