The Greater Bridgeport Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

MAY 2017

MARCH MEETING INFO
The April meeting of GBARC was held at the Bridgeport EOC on April 4, 2017 and was run by President Ed N1KGN.
The following were in attendance
Connie KB1UJX
Woody KC1ATE
Mark KB1TGV
Larry W1LAG
Kevin N1KGM
Don KB1UZQ
Jeff KB1MZL
Dave KB1LTW
Larry AB1JC
Ken NE1CU
Mike K1MJM
Gary WE1M
The following items were discussed
Secretary’s Report
Treasurer’s Report
GBARC Pizza Night
Balloon Launches
Technician Class
Summer Field Day
Donations
Repeater Update(s)
Special Event Station
Repairs to Club Rig
Thursday Night Net
Swap N Shop

WELCOME NEW MEMBER
Congratulations to new member Jeff KB1MZL, whose membership was approved at the April meeting. Jeff is now a member with all of the rights, privileges and responsibilities of full GBARC membership. Welcome Jeff.
TECHNICIAN CLASS UPDATE
GBARC Technician class at the University of Bridgeport is due to complete within the next few weeks. Instructors are Larry AB1JC, Larry W1LAG, Ken NE1CU and Gary WE1M. The CT Regional Test Center will take care of the VE testing.
Contact Gary WE1M at WE1M.RADIO@GMAIL.COM if you are interested in taking the next Technician course or interested in assisting in teaching the next Technician course. Below are pictures from the current class.

BALLOON LAUNCHES
GBARC member Larry AB1JC and GBARC member & Discovery Museum Liaison Dave KB1YYJ are in charge of both high altitude balloons. More info next issue!
GBARC PIZZA NIGHT
GBARC Pizza Nite is coming Tuesday May 2, 2017 at Old Town Restaurant. The pizza at Old Town is fantastic. This is the same restaurant at which we have our Christmas/Holiday party. This is a good time to bring the entire family to enjoy good pizza and ham radio talk.

MORE ON WINTER FIELD DAY 2017
The 2017 Winter Field Day was held the weekend of January 28-29 at the East Village Recreation Center, Shelton CT. At press time the Winter Field Day Association is still working on the results. Stay tuned to this newsletter for further updates in a future issue! Here is our call in their “logs received” database.
SATURDAY MORNING BREAKFAST
Saturday morning breakfast was held at Riverdale diner on March 25, 2017.

THURSDAY NIGHT NET SWAP N SHOP
The GBARC Thursday night net has begun again and attendance has been great, averaging between 8 and 11 check-ins. Club information, updates on Field Day and the balloon projects are just a few of the things discussed on the net. Stop by, Thursday nights at 8 pm on the 146.445/441.700 repeaters. Now as a bonus, the Thursday night net will now have a Swap N Shop right afterwards. If you have equipment to sell, buy or trade, this is your opportunity. Please use this net to describe your equipment, make contact and talk about it, but please exchange contact info and do the actual dealing by phone or elsewhere and not on the net. Equipment can be anything Amateur Radio, computers, radios, antennas, etc.

SUMMER FIELD DAY FACT FINDING MISSION
On March 29, Dave KB1LTW, Gary WE1M and Mike K1MJM went to the Westport Astronomical Society’s Rolnick Observatory on a fact finding mission to determine if this area is a good Field Day site. Previously Dave
The Greater Bridgeport Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

KB1LTW and Ned KA1CVv had surveyed the site for RF interference and found none. Below are some pics from the fact finding mission.

Parking at the site

The Field behind the observatory and class room
The Greater Bridgeport Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Another view of the field

The classroom
SUMMER FIELD DAY AT W.A.S. THIS YEAR
GBARC will operate Summer Field Day at the Westport Astronomical Society (W.A.S.), at their Rolnick Observatory site, 182 Bayberry Lane, Westport, CT 06880. This is at the invitation of WAS. After a brief site survey for RF noise and possible station locations, GBARC membership overwhelming approved the measure. Gary WE1M suggested that protocol dictated we use the home call sign of KB1WLW. WAS rep Mike K1MJM suggested we use the Housatonic ARC call sign N1KT. Housatonic ARC President Larry AB1JC made a command decision and approved the use of the N1KT call sign on the spot. Field Day set up will begin Friday. This year several key "setter-uppers" are not available for Field Day, so we are in need of volunteers to help set up and take down. Please consider donating some time to your club for this event.
UPCOMING CONTESTS

- CW WW WPX CW May 27-28
- ARRL June VHF Contest June 10-12
- ARRL Field Day June 24-25
- IARU HF World Championship July 8-9
- CQ WW VHF July 15-16
- ARRL Sept VHF Contest Sept 9-11
- CQ WW RTTY DX Sept 23-24
- CQ WW DX SSB Oct 28-29
- ARRL CW Sweepstakes Nov 4-6
- ARRL Phone Sweepstakes Nov 18-20
- CQ WW DX CW Nov 25-26
- ARRL 160 meter Contest Dec 1-3
- ARRL 10 meter Contest Dec 9-10

SOUTHINGTON HAMFEST
The Southington Hamfest was held on Sunday March 19, 2017 at Southington High School. Ned KA1CVV, Dave KB1LTW and Gary WE1M drove up to attend. At the hamfest we met Jon WE1K, Jon’s brother Bill KA1UWB, Jay N1NRP, Jeff KB1MZL, Joe WA1EDX, Douglas WA1SFH, Bob KE1AU (Meriden
The Greater Bridgeport Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

ARC) and Hank K2OT. The crowds were there but the vendors were scarce again. Quicksilver radio and Connect Systems were the two well-known commercial vendors. Very few stayed until closing and we were no exception. By 11:30 am we were on our way home. Let’s hope that this hamfest improves every year.

Southington Hamfest  Vendors selling at table

HAMFESTS from ARRL
- 5/5-6/17 – NearFest, Deerfield NH
- 5/20/17 - Goshen Hamfest, Goshen CT
- 5/19-21/17 - Dayton Hamvention
- 8/27/17 – Newtown Hamfest
- 10/15/17 – Nutmeg Hamfest Meriden, CT

DAYTON HAMVENTION
GBARC will have representatives out at the 2017 Dayton Hamvention. There is still room in the car and empty beds for the trip. If interested, please contact the Editor for more information.

SKED
- May 2 – GBARC Pizza Party
- May 4 – GBARC Net
- May 11 – GBARC Net
- May 19-21 – Dayton Hamvention
- May 25 – GBARC Net
- Jun 1 – GBARC Net
- Jun 6 – GBARC Meeting
- June 8 – GBARC Net
A MESSAGE FROM TOM K1KI ON THE NEW ENGLAND QSO PARTY (NEQP)
To New England radio clubs:

The NEQP is a great time to check out antenna systems and offers a moderately paced opportunity to work new states and countries. You'll find a wide variety of participants, from newcomers to experienced contesters, all interested in making contacts with New England stations. We're working to make sure that all of the New England counties are active again this year and would appreciate your help. Get on for at least an hour or two and join in on the fun. Please let me know if you can put in any time at all so we can work on activity from the rarest counties.

Will you be QRV? Let us know which county you'll be on from with a message to info@neqp.org

Oh yes, the NEQP is also lots of fun when mobile. Every time you cross a county line the action starts over again. It's amazing what a 100w radio and mobile whip can do.

The QSO Party is 20 hours long overall, in two sections with a civilized break for sleep Saturday night. It goes from 4pm Saturday until 1am Sunday, then 9am Sunday until 8pm Sunday. Operate on CW, SSB and digital modes on 80-40-20-15-10 meters. For each QSO you'll give your call sign, a signal report and your county/state. Top scorers can earn a plaque and everyone who makes 25 QSOs and sends in a log will get a certificate.

Last year we had logs from 179 New England stations and 300 more from around the country and world.

The full rules are here -> http://www.neqp.org/rules.html

The 2016 results were posted over the weekend and the results since 2002 are also available -> http://www.neqp.org/results.html

It's just about a month until the 2017 NEQP. Please make some QSOs even if you don't want to send in a log.

Thanks!
73 Tom/K1KI

[NEQP is May 6-7, 2017 – Editor]
The Greater Bridgeport Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

NECROLOGY
It is with deep sadness that we report on the passing of one of our GBARC members, Sandra Russell KB1TGZ. Sandra was very active during emergency deployments with the Bridgeport EOC. She and her family were always present at our annual Xmas/Holiday Party. Our deepest sympathy goes out to her family. KB1TGZ SK.

SOLAR FLUX from ARRL
The latest daily forecast for May shows solar flux at 100, 97, 92, 85, and 80 on May 1-5, 75 on May 6-7, 78 on May 8-9, 75 on May 10-11, 78 on May 12-13, 85 on May 14-16, and 92 on May 17-20. The same forecast for May's planetary A index shows 6 through May 2, 5 on May 3-13, 20, 18, and 10 on May 14-16, 5 from May 17-19, then 55 and 28 on May 20-21.

CONNECTICUT REGIONAL TEST CENTER HAM RADIO EXAM DATES

MAY 11TH (W5YI / VEC)
JUNE 8TH (ARRL / VEC)
JULY 13TH (W5YI / VEC)
AUGUST 10TH (W5YI / VEC)
SEPTEMBER 14TH (ARRL / VEC)
OCTOBER 12TH (W5YI / VEC)
NOVEMBER 9TH (W5YI / VEC)
DECEMBER 14TH (ARRL / VEC)

All Amateur Exam Session Dates take place at 6:30 o'clock PM on the SECOND THURSDAY of Each Month. Registration & Sign-in for Exams take place at 6:30PM!!!

Exam session contact information

Connecticut Regional Testing Center
49 Sunrise Avenue
Trumbull, CT. 06611

Kevin W. Cellini N1KGM
Test Center Manager
Telephone No.# (203) 209-6495
Email Address: kevin.cellini@gmail.com

Edmond L. Cellini N1KGN
Commercial & Amateur Examiner
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GBARC INFO
The Greater Bridgeport Amateur Radio Club, Inc. (GBARC) is a volunteer group of trained communicators dedicated to helping provide vital emergency communications in the greater Bridgeport community. GBARC, Inc. is a not-for-profit corporation, incorporated under the laws of the State of Connecticut and has 501(c)(3) status with the United States Government. All donations to GBARC, Inc. are tax deductible.

President Ed N1KGN    CT Region 1 DEMS EMD Robert
Vice President Kevin N1KGM    CT Region 1 EMD Emeritus Rich KC1ASY
Secretary John N1TVN    CT Region 1 SART Sheldon KB1QPT
Treasurer Connie KB1UJX    Trumbull EMD Bill
Sgt. at Arms Ken NE1CU    Stratford EC Mike KA1EOU
Bridgeport EMD Scott    Monroe AEC Rich KB1IWX
Monroe EMD Dave    Webmaster & QSL Manager Larry W1LAG
Red Cross MDR T1 Dave W1DVE    Bridgeport Discovery Museum Liaison
Red Cross Liaison Larry W1LAG    Dave KB1YYJ
WA1RJI Trustee Mike N1PLH    Newsletter Editor Gary WE1M

Website www.gbarc.net    Facebook www.facebook.com/gbarcbpt
The club call sign is WA1RJI.
GBARC Repeater WA1RJI 146.445 +1MHz offset, PL77
Linked to N1KGN 441.700 +offset, PL77
Linked to WK1M 145.190 – offset, PL77
Echo Link node 441700, Repeater N1KGN-R
NewsLine every Monday night 8 pm
GBARC Net and Swap N Shop every Thursday night at 8 pm
Meetings are the first Tuesday of every month at the
   Bridgeport EOC
   581 North Washington Ave.
   Bridgeport, CT

GBARC and HARC are ARRL affiliated clubs.
QSL WA1RJI via W1LAG, LoTW, eQSL or Bureau.
QSL N1KT via WE1M, eQSL or Bureau.
Interested in joining GBARC? Send email to membership@gbarc.net
Contact the Editor at: WE1M.radio@gmail.com