

QRA NEWSLETTER

QUANNAPOWITT RADIO ASSOCIATION

6 SAVIN STREET, BURLINGTON, MA 01803-2210

EMAIL: AA1M@ARRL.NET

CLUB CALL: W1EKT

ON THE WEB AT: WWW.W1EKT.ORG

JUNE 2017

VOLUME 56, ISSUE 10

**QRA WAS FOUNDED ON NOVEMBER 18, 1948
IN WAKEFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS
1948-2016, OUR 68th YEAR**

CLUB OFFICERS

President – VACANCY
Vice President – Mike Rioux, W1USN
Secretary – Bob Reiser, AA1M
Treasurer – Jeff Hollis, W1CKH
Club Webmaster – Brian Gudzevich, WO1VES
Club Call Trustee – Dex Wheeler, W1TUM
QRA Equipment Manager – Dave Libby, N1SJB
Nominating Committee- Barbara Day, KA1EDY
QRA 2-Meter Net- Brian Gudzevich, WO1VES
Education Committee- Jim Fisk, W1HL
Tom Cefalo Jr.- W1EX
Tim McNulty, K1TIM
Field Day Committee- Walter Callahan, KC1ENI
Jim Powers, KC1ENJ

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bill Watt, W1HN 2016-2018
Rob Woltag, W1AFP 2016-2018
Fred DeVries, KC1FIZ 2016-2018
Phil Maguire, WA1HTP(SK) 2015-2017
Mike Rioux, W1USN 2015-2017
Brian Gudzevich, WO1VES 2015-2017
Membership committee - VACANCY
Archives Trustee – Bob Reiser, AA1M
Christmas Committee - Jim Fisk, W1HL
Speaker Committee - Mike Rioux, W1USN
John Carrick, KB1YEF
Banquet Committee- John Carrick, KB1YEF
Barbara Day, KA1EDY
Jim Fisk, W1HL

IS IT TIME TO PAY

YOUR DUES ?

STILL ONLY \$15.00

Dues can be paid to the club treasurer at the next meeting or sent to him at:
QRA c/o Jeff Hollis, W1CKH, 46 Bond St., Reading, MA 01867-2432

QRA MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The QRA holds its membership meetings at the Reading, MA Senior Citizen Center at 49 Pleasant Street in the old fire house. All are invited and holding an Amateur Radio license is not required. Meetings begin around 7:00 pm on the third Thursday of each month, September through June. We have very interesting speakers. Come join us and bring a friend with you.

QRA MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES, 2017-05-18

Call to order 7:10 PM

Mike Rioux W1USN presented a talk on Internet Safety. Some bullet points from his talk:

- 1) Scammers and Nefarious are professionals making their livings on income from internet scams and attacks.
- 2) Install and Update your antivirus software.
- 3) Keep your operating system regularly updated.
- 4) Expect to buy a new computer every three years as HW, SW become obsolete.
- 5) Passwords- Use them.

To be able to remember long PWs use "pass phrases", with a method to extract subtext.

6) Don't use open networks, e.g. airports, hotel lobbies, Starbucks and the like, without using VPN, Virtual Private Networks.

7) Scam awareness- Use some combination of thoughtfulness and common sense.

8) The ransomware in general:

The repeat business model suggests that ransomers will deliver recovery keys, because if they get a reputation for not, no one will pay ransoms.

9) Wannacry ransomware in particular:

9a) Ransomware plus a "worm" that explores and attacks your local network.

9b) Based on a "Zero day exploits" bug. Zero day exploits are software flaws that are not known by the source or authors of software, that once discovered, can be used to achieve catastrophic results at a later time. Some discoverers of such bugs have little incentive to advise the authors of the flawed software because the closely held knowledge of such bugs provide a strategic advantage, and is hence valuable.

9c) Wannacry ransomware has/may have a "Lazarus" fingerprint, or low level code similar to code known as Lazarus. And Lazarus may have ties to North Korea. This is pretty much hearsay and suspect as of 5/19.

9d) Wannacry is specific to Windows NT, and Windows 7. (JCC had heard that recent patches for Win-7 stop wannacry. More hearsay.)

10) Great talk Mike! Thanks!

Field day is June 24, setup in 11 AM +/- at Overlook Park Burlington, starts XX GMT or ZULU.

Steve from HRO left two up-to-date repeater directories to be given out, one to the longest license holder, one to the shortest license holder. They were.

Banquet is June 15. Fare will be from Lester's BBQ. JCC authorized to get food for 20. Walter will be tapped to assist with drinks.

Sometime in June (July?) John Carrick is planning to go see the Museum of Antiquated Technology, run by Mark Vess KC1ACF. Link:<http://antiquatedtech.weebly.com/>

John will drop a note to Bob AA1M to blast to membership if anyone wants to join John. Vess invites people to come operate his KC1ACF station. Minor disclosure: Vess will be looking for a donation from visitors, presumably modest.

No movement on club officers, nominating committee, or the like.

Twelve attendees. - Meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM. **Special thanks to John Carrick, KB1YEF**

THE

**Shameless
Wolf**

Your Local Technology Specialist

Brian and the Shameless Wolf know technology. He can help you with your Computers, Networking, Printers, Home Theater, and even gadgets. Whether you're having problems with a virus, need a new hard drive, or just need to figure out which connector to plug your new DVD player into. The Shameless Wolf is here for you. So give the Wolf a call today for quick, affordable, and reliable technology services.

**QRA members get 25% off labor when you mention
this ad, compliments of Brian, WOIVES**

781-368-3413

Web, <http://www.shamelesswolf.com>

Email: brian@shamelesswolf.com

GROWING THE RANKS vs. GROWING THE EQUIPMENT

Because I teach amateur radio classes and publish a series of popular amateur radio license study guides (www.kb6nu.com/study-guides/), I often get kudos for "growing the ranks." In fact, Gordon West, WB6NOA, told me this just last week, when he stopped by the booth I was in at the Dayton Hamvention. I'm paraphrasing a little, but after telling me that he's heard good things about my study guides, he said something like, "You're doing good work in helping get more people into ham radio."

People say that as if this is—or should be—the ultimate goal of teaching a license class. While this may be one of the goals, if that's your primary goal, I think that you're barking up the wrong tree.

In a way, creating more hams is selfish. If there are more licensed amateur radio operators, they say, then amateur radio will have more political clout with the FCC and with Congress, making it easier to pass legislation like the Amateur Radio Parity Act. While this may certainly help the new ham down the line, its main thrust is to reduce restrictions on those who are currently hams.

My goal in teaching amateur radio classes isn't to create more hams. Instead, my goal is to help more people have fun with ham radio. The first step in helping people have fun with ham radio is, of course, helping them get their license. I do that by publishing my study guides and teaching ham classes.

The next step, and I'm only really getting started on this right now, is to help people learn what they need to know to become better ham radio operators. That's why I got a little excited when I saw the article, "Making a Good hobby Better Through Post-Licensing Enrichment" by Tim Busch, N0CKR in the latest issue of Radio Waves, the ARRL's email newsletter for amateur radio instructors.

In the article, Tim describes several activities that his club encourages, including a "new ham net" and the Field Day GOTA station, but he also details a program of "mini classes" that will teach specific skills related to ham radio. These include:

- * Programming Radios and Getting on the Air
- * Soldering 101
- * Multimeter 101
- * Build and Use a Roll-Up J-Pole Antenna
- * Build and Use a Satellite Antenna
- * Foxhunts
- * Operating Digital Modes: IRLP, AllStar, D-Star, EchoLink, etc.
- * Remote Operation
- * Software-Defined Radios
- * Transitioning from VHF/UHF to HF Operating
- * Chasing Awards
- * Learn CW
- * Contesting

Tim writes, "Each class is intended to be no more than two hours at a sitting, so they can be held before a monthly club meeting. The variety of subject matter allows many club members to get involved in leading a topic. Materials kits are prepared in advance, so students walk away with practical items they can use at home."

I think this is a great set of classes, and I plan to try some of these in the fall. A couple of other topics that occur to me are:

- * Power Supplies 101
- * Mobile Operation 101
- * ARRL 101
- * RFI/TVI 101

Helping new hams—and old hams—have more fun with amateur radio is a lot more satisfying to me than just "growing the ranks." It would be nice to say that we have a million licensed radio amateurs in the U.S., but I think it would be a lot more valuable to the hobby to say that a larger percentage of licensed hams were active and enjoying ham radio. I know that, for me, increasing the number of active, engaged hams would be more personally satisfying than simply creating a lot of new licensees.

=====

When he's not working on helping new hams, Dan operates CW on the HF bands and blogs about amateur radio at KB6NU.Com. If you have a good idea for a new ham "mini class," e-mail him at cwgeek@kb6nu.com. **By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU**

NEXT QRA MEMBERSHIP MEETING IS THURSDAY

JUNE 15, 2017

AND WILL BEGIN AT

*** * * 7:00 PM * * ***

THIS WILL BE OUR ANNUAL BANQUET AND THANKS TO JOHN CARRICK AND HIS CREW, WE WILL HAVE FOOD FROM LESTER'S IN BURLINGTON

KDA Custom Embroidery is owned by QRA member Paul Anderson, KA1GIJ and his wife Kathleen. For 20 years, Paul and Kathleen have been providing customized embroidery and screen-printing from their shop on Pearl Street in Reading. Names, monograms, call signs, logos and designs (stock or customized) can be stitched on hats, shirts, sweatshirts, polo-shirts and more. Purchase garments from them or provide your own.

Visit: www.kdaembroidery.com, email to kdace@aol.com or call Kathleen at (781) 942-0421.

**COME JOIN THE QRA 2-METER NET ON TUESDAY EVENINGS
WA1RHN/R AT 7:30 PM ON 147.075**

**QUANNAPOWITT RADIO ASSOCIATION
6 SAVIN STREET
BURLINGTON, MA. 01803-2210**

**EMAIL: AA1M@ARRL.NET
CLUB CALL - W1EKT**

FIRST CLASS MAIL TO:

**QRA WEBSITE:
WWW.W1EKT.ORG
WWW.W1EKT.NET**

