

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

NOVEMBER 2017

VOLUME 57, ISSUE 3

QRA WAS FOUNDED ON NOVEMBER 18, 1948

IN WAKEFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

1948-2017, OUR 69th YEAR

CLUB OFFICERS

President – Don Melanson, KA1MAP
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, KA1EDV
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
John Carrick, KB1YEF	2017-2019
Tim McNulty, K1TIM	2017-2019
Brian Gudzevich, WO1VES	2017-2019
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, KA1EDV	
Jim Fisk, W1HL	

WINE

Lord, give me coffee to change the things I can change and wine to accept the things I can't.

People who wonder if the glass is half empty or half full miss the point. The glass is refillable.

I got salad for dinner. Actually fruity salad. Well, mostly grapes. OK, all grapes. Wine. I've got wine for dinner.

Sometimes when I reflect on all the wine I drank, I feel shame. Then I look into the glass and think about the workers in the vineyards and all of their hopes and dreams. If I didn't drink this wine, they might be out of work and their dreams would be shattered. Then I say to myself, "It is better that I drink this wine and let their dreams come true than be selfish and worry about my liver. (Jack Handy)

I only drink a little, but when I do, I turn into another person, and that person drinks a lot.

Of course size matters. No one wants a small glass of wine.

I spotted this on a wine truck. I should follow them. "In case of accident. Bring Cheese and Crackers. Lots and lots of Cheese and Crackers."

Not to get technical, but according to chemistry, alcohol is a solution.

Did you know that 2 or 3 glasses of wine per day can reduce your risk of giving a crap.

Dear alcohol, we had a deal that you would make me prettier, funnier and a better dancer. I saw the video, we need to talk.

I don't drink alcohol, I drink distilled spirits. So I'm not an alcoholic, I'm spiritual.

Thanks to Ron Draper, WA1QZK

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

**NEXT QRA MEMBERSHIP MEETING
WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY**

NOVEMBER 16 , 2017

AND WILL BEGIN AT

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

OUR SPEAKER WILL BE

RON DRAPER, WA1QZK

Ron will be giving a presentation on emergency preparedness at the QRA November meeting. This will be a very timely talk given the recent spate of storms that have hit the US including the high wind storm in New England on the 30th of October and the ensuing power outages.

Are you prepared?

Ron has many years of experience in emergency communications and preparedness and his talk will educate us on the means and need for preparation.

* * * * *

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**QRA members get 25% off labor when you mention
this ad, compliments of Brian, WO1VES**

USS INDIANAPOLIS FOUND

The final resting place of the World War II ship made famous by its last mission, sinking and heroic rescue of its survivors has been found. The ruins of the USS Indianapolis, a cruiser that played a crucial role in ending World War II, were found August 19 I a remote section of the Pacific Ocean.

On July 30, 1945, the Indianapolis was struck by two torpedoes from a Japanese submarine. The cruiser was returning to its base in the Philippines from Tinian, where it had delivered components of the atomic bomb subsequently dropped on Hiroshima, Japan.

About 800 of the ship's 1,197 sailors and Marines survived the torpedoe attack, but after 5 days of floating in the ocean, only 316 survived. Those who survived succumbed to exposure, dehydration, drowning – as related in a famous fictionalized account in the 1975 film “Jaws” – shark attacks. It was the single greatest loss of life at sea from a single ship in the U.S Navy history.

The exact location of the wreck – found by a 13 member research team led by Microsoft cofounder Paul Allen and assisted by the Naval History and Heritage Command – is confidential. The site is more than 18,000 feet below the surface.

Since it contains the remains of sailors and Marines, the wreck is considered a war grave. According ti the U.S Code (18 U.S.C. 641), it is illegal to disturb any portion of the ship or to remove any items from it.

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.

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COME JOIN THE QRA 2-METER NET ON TUESDAY EVENINGS

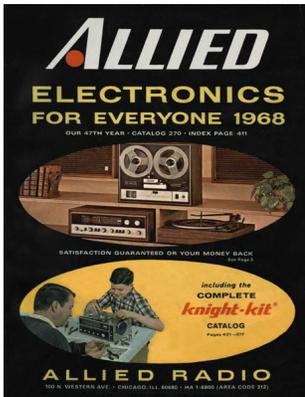
WA1RHN/R AT 7:30 PM

ON 147.075 (tone 151.4)

CATALOGS ARE ABOUT POSSIBILITIES

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

When I was a kid, I used to regularly get catalogs, such as the Allied Radio and Lafayette Radio catalogs shown below, and pore over them for hours. Even if I couldn't afford to buy the latest Knight-Kit or Lafayette shortwave radio, I could imagine what it would be like. These catalogs were chock full of possibilities.



I spent many hours poring over the Allied and Lafayette catalogs as a kid. These two are from 1968, when I was 13 years old.

So, you can imagine how I felt when, last Thursday, I found both the Autumn/Winter 2017

DX Engineering catalog and the 2018-2019 Newark Electronics/element14 catalog, shown in reverse, in my mailbox.

DX Engineering has really taken the amateur radio world by storm over the last ten years or so. I probably don't have to tell you about that. If you're an active amateur radio operator, I'm sure that you have heard about—and probably ordered from—DX Engineering. I think that DX Engineering did a very smart thing by investing the money in a print catalog. There's something about browsing a print catalog that is just more satisfying than browsing online.

DX Engineering has just about everything you need to have fun with amateur radio. The one glaring omission? They still don't carry my study guides!

The Newark/element14 2018-2019 catalog is a completely different beast. Amateur radio operators are only a small part of Newark/element14's market, but one nonetheless. They have, for example, attended the Dayton Hamvention for many years.

As such, the catalog is not a "ham radio" catalog, but if you build stuff at all you'll find something of interest in its 1,799 pages. It includes nearly any kind of electronic part that you might need.

The section that might you might want to start with is the "makerspace" section. In this section, you'll find Raspberry Pis, BeagleBones, and even micro:bits. They really have everything, though, including passive and active components, connectors, cable, and enclosures.

Like I say, these catalogs are all about possibilities. You can search each company's website and find the parts they carry quickly and easily, but that experience is just not the same as browsing a print catalog and daydreaming about what you might find there. So, get your own copies—they're free—and page through them. I'd be surprised if you didn't run across something that you didn't know about before, and it gave you some ideas about your next amateur radio project.

Dan, KB6NU, is the author of the "No Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides and blogs about amateur radio at KB6NU.Com. When he's not browsing through catalogs, he teaches ham radio classes and operates CW on the HF bands. You can email him at cwgeek@kb6nu.com.

QRA NOVEMBER 2017 MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

The November 2017 QRA membership meeting was called to order at 7:07 pm by club president Don Melanson, KA1MAP. All were asked to introduce themselves to the group. President Don then asked for a moment of silence for Patrick McNulty, KB1YDY who became a silent key on September 4, 2017. Patrick was the grandson of member Tim McNulty, K1TIM.

A motion was made and passed to accept the minutes of the September QRA meeting as read in the latest issue of the QRA News.

Brian Gudzevich, WO1VES spoke briefly on the new location and system at the club repeater and planned changes to the club web site.

Mike Rioux, W1USN passed out a printed 2017 QRA club questionnaire. In it, he asked what members might be interested in for the club.

Dex Wheeler, W1TUM received a 10 meter award from an ARRL contest.

President Don told all about his experience in handling traffic from Puerto Rico to Florida after the past hurricane notifying friends and relatives about survivors in P.R.

Don has contacted radio and TV station WCVB about the Ham Radio coverage during and after the emergency in the Caribbean Sea.

Don strongly recommended looking up Hamradionow.tv.

Coffee and donuts were served.

Meeting adjourned at 7:47, pm. There were 20 members and friends attending.

Submitted by Bob Reiser, AA1M, QRA secretary

KDA Custom Embroidery is owned by QRA member Paul Anderson, KA1GIJ and his wife Kathleen. For over 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.

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CLUB CALL - W1EKT

FIRST CLASS MAIL TO:

QRA WEBSITE:
WWW.WIEKT.ORG
WWW.WIEKT.NET



COME JOIN THE QRA 2-METER NET ON TUESDAY EVENINGS

WA1RHN/R AT 7:30 PM

ON 147.075 (tone 151.4)

UNDERSTANDING PROPAGATION NUMBER

HOW TO READ PROPAGATION NUMBERS (I hope this helps)

The A index [LOW is GOOD]

1 to 6 is BEST

7 to 9 is OK

11 or more is BAD

Represents the overall geomagnetic condition of the ionosphere ("Ap" if averaged from the Kp-Index) (an average of the eight 3-hour K-Indices) ('A' referring to amplitude) over a given 24 hour period, ranging (linearly) typically from 1-100 but theoretically up to 400.

A lower A-Index generally suggests better propagation on the 10, 12, 15, 17, & 20 Meter Bands; a low & steady Ap-Index generally suggest good propagation on the 30, 40, 60, 80, & 160 Meter Bands.

SFI index [HIGH is GOOD]

70 NOT GOOD

80 GOOD

90 BETTER

100+ BEST

The measure of total radio emissions from the sun at 10.7cm (2800 MHz), on a scale of 60 (no sunspots) to 300, generally corresponding to the sunspot level, but being too low in energy to cause ionization, not related to the ionization level of the Ionosphere.

Higher Solar Flux generally suggests better propagation on the 10, 12, 15, 17, & 20 Meter Bands; Solar Flux rarely affects the 30, 40, 60, 80, & 160 Meter Bands.

K index [LOW is GOOD]

0 or 1 is BEST

2 is OK

3 or more is BAD

5 is VERY VERY BAD

The overall geomagnetic condition of the ionosphere ("Kp" if averaged over the planet) over the past 3 hours, measured by 13 magnetometers between 46 & 63 degrees of latitude, and ranging quasi-logarithmically from 0-9. Designed to detect solar particle radiation by its magnetic effect. A higher K-index generally means worse HF conditions.

A lower K-Index generally suggests better propagation on the 10, 12, 15, 17, & 20 Meter Bands; a low & steady Kp-Index generally suggest good propagation on the 30, 40, 60, 80, & 160 Meter Bands.

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WE'RE ON THE WEB AT:

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