

October 2021

# Statewide Newsletter for Maine Amateur Radio Operators



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Submit Articles to: Cory Golob - KU1U by emailing [ku1u@arrl.net](mailto:ku1u@arrl.net)

## **Busy September**

**Cory Golob, KU1U**

Is anyone tired from September? I think I need a siesta! Wow. 3 Hamfests last month. I wasn't able to get to all of them, but in the words of Meatloaf, Two Out of Three Ain't Bad. My wife Beckie, KB1IRZ, good friend Joe Grace, W1SK and I went down to Ham Xposition together. We had a blast! 1200 people were in attendance, while that number is down compared to previous New England hamfests the attendance was decent considering all of the COVID-19 concerns. We all attended various talks, browsed the exhibition hall, perused the outdoor flea market and just had a wonderful time socializing with other fellow hams. It was great to see several folks from Maine in attendance. Joe even attended a soldering session... without coffee. I must say that the Marlborough venue is leaps and bounds better than the Boxboro location. I am looking forward to next year's HamXposition.

Then there was the "Boat Anchor Hamfest" in Manchester. Exceptional turnout for Maine folks. It was great to see all of the locals and meet some new faces as well. The only hamfest I did not get to this year was the Alexander Hamfest sponsored by the St. Croix Amateur Radio Club. Again, Joe pulled out all the stops and made the 2 ½ hour trek to go support the hamfest. Thank you Joe! I was preoccupied with preparing for the Dempsey Challenge the next day.

The weather is certainly cooling down and I am certain that attendance on the various nets and on-air activity in general will be gradually picking up. Perhaps we can start getting more attendance on our virtual talks as daylight gets shorter and cabin fever starts to creep in a little more each day. Vance Martin, N3VEM, had a great presentation on Parks-on-the-Air (POTA) Thursday night via Freeconferencecall.com. For those who were unable to attend, it will be posted to the MaineARRL Youtube account in the next few days. Be sure to check it out.

Lastly, do not forget about the Simulated Emergency Test (SET) coming up on Saturday October 9th. Plans were listed in the August Edition of the Maine Telegraph.



## HamXposition 2021, Marlborough, MA

Photos courtesy of Phil Temples, K9HI

# Fox Hunting



*Jerry Burns, K1GUP*

A troupe of smartly-outfitted gentlemen atop a well-groomed steed, carousing the English countryside, accompanied by a pack of hounds, in search of their quarry. Since the 15<sup>th</sup> century this has been a well-known tradition in much of the British Empire. Though outlawed in 2004, it is still commonly occurring.

Fortunately, here in North America we have our version of the “Fox Hunt”. However, the participants’ attire is far from formal and canines are seldom involved.

Here in the Bangor area Hidden Transmitter Hunts (as we called them for many years in the past) have been held since at least the early 1950's, and likely even in pre-war years.

My first experience with a Fox Hunt was in 1957 as a ten-year-old kid. My father (K1GUQ) and I were not licensed until 1958, but we were (as was often the case) invited to ride with one of the hunters. These Hunts were held every Wednesday night on ten meters (29.520 MHz), and everyone was operating in the AM mode.

The Club's station (W1QAR, for Queen City Amateur Radio Club) was set-up in the basement of the old Bangor City Hall on the corner of Hammond and Columbia Streets. At seven PM someone would fire up the Club rig and put out a call for check-ins on 29.520. Mobile stations checked-in, and some were already at the City Hall shack. It was then decided who would hide, unless arranged beforehand.

Few of the guys had directional antennas for hunting. Most got our initial bearing to the Fox by driving around the Stand Pipe - Bangor's water supply and the city's highest point. Others drove around the former First National grocery store on State Street Hill. The Fox would proceed to make rather long transmissions to provide the hunters with a steady signal. We conduct the Hunts about the same way today.

Dow Air Force Base was active in Bangor from 1947 - 1968. Often airman-hams stationed there would participate in the Hunts, so we often had eight, ten or more hunting. We had few "rules" to follow. There was no hiding at a church, cemetery or private land not open to the public.

Also the Fox could not be in motion (too dangerous). We observe the same “rules” today.

There were several “memorable” hunts which have stuck with me. Most times the “Fox” would hide in his vehicle, but a particularly sneaky Fox would not!

One such event occurred when Cliff, K1AHD (SK), decked himself out as a derelict, staggering around on Hancock Street (a rougher part of town) wearing a tattered trench coat, hat and holding a brown paper bag! He used his 10 meter HT to transmit. Needless to say, the hunters had quite a time identifying him!

The same Cliff owned a red Ford station wagon. One night he hid, but the hunters were not having success in locating him. One asked him if he was in his Red Wagon. Cliff responded “yes”, but his “wagon” was an American Flyer wagon with the rig and battery in it (which he neglected to tell the hunters)!

Another devious hunt was courtesy of Jim, K1DTW (SK). Jim had made arrangements with a small carnival which was set up each summer at the original Bangor Shopping Center on Broadway. Jim was allowed to ride the Ferris wheel with an HT. Later the frustrated hunters understood why Jim’s signal was going up and down!

In more recent years W1COP and xyl W1SUE set-up inside a new dumpster - complete with lawn chairs, lights and drinks!

There are countless more stories, but I believe I've made my point. Incidentally, I earlier mentioned that canines aren't involved in our hunts. However, I was once found by the dog of one of the hunters. I hid in the bushes with a battery and small antenna at the far end of an abandoned runway at the airport. Jim, N1MCT (SK), and Duchess his German Shepherd had exited his car to find me on foot. Duchess actually sniffed me out well before Jim found me!

For the past several years I have hunted with a two-element cubical quad and step attenuator, both of which I built. I mount the quad so it sticks above my driver's - side window and can be rotated manually. Without the attenuator the S-meter is pegged constantly when you get fairly close to the Fox. It enables me to cut the signal strength so that the meter can be used. Also, the antenna draws lots of attention from pedestrians!

So, what say? Any group or club could try Fox Hunting with little preparation. In fact, years ago most Hamfests ended with a Fox Hunt (often on 75 meter AM). Why not jump into the fun?

# Build A Pi

Jimmy White, KC1ETT

According to KM4ACK, Jason the designer of Build A Pi, states the following.

Build-a-Pi will allow you to get up and running fast with a Raspberry Pi for ham radio. Rather than downloading a pre-built image where you have no choices in the build, Build-a- Pi gives you complete control over the build. It allows you to choose the applications you want to install and skip the ones you don't need. This keeps your pi as lean and mean as possible. A list of applications are available using Build-a-Pi and can be found on his software download site. Use it as your base and add additional applications as needed down the road.

My personal experience has been, Build A Pi is a valuable tool to add and compliment your work with Emcomms. Jason, KM4ACK has the programs in groups for easy access and interaction with each other. The features I use and find useful are the Hotspot which allows the operator to connect to the Build A Pi without extra cables or Internet. The FLDGI Suite and JS8Call using the HF and VHF bands are excellent for Emcomms communications, in a grid down situation. The programs do not need commercial power or internet. Your Emcomm station can be operational in minutes no matter where you may be and most times can be run without an operator in front of the unit.

Pat Winlink the Raspberry Pi version of Winlink is a must for Emcomms work. This allows a user to connect and send and receive email from anywhere in the world, again with NO Internet access. There is an Emergency Email Server included which allows NON Hams to send and receive email when deployed at an emergency event when normal means of communication are not available.

I suggest you or your group look at this design and see what fits your needs. Again this is what I use and highlighted, but there are many more features and software to look at.

Thank you Jason, KM4ACK for your continual support.



## **WBZ 100th Anniversary Commemorative Special Event**

Twenty-one New England operators, including two from Maine, helped celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of WBZ Boston by participating in a special event from Friday morning, September 17th through Sunday the 19th. WBZ is the oldest broadcast station in New England and one of the oldest stations in the United States.

Using the event callsigns W1W, W1B, W1Z and WB1Z, operators on SSB, AM, CW and digital modes made a whopping 4629 QSOs, exceeding all expectations.

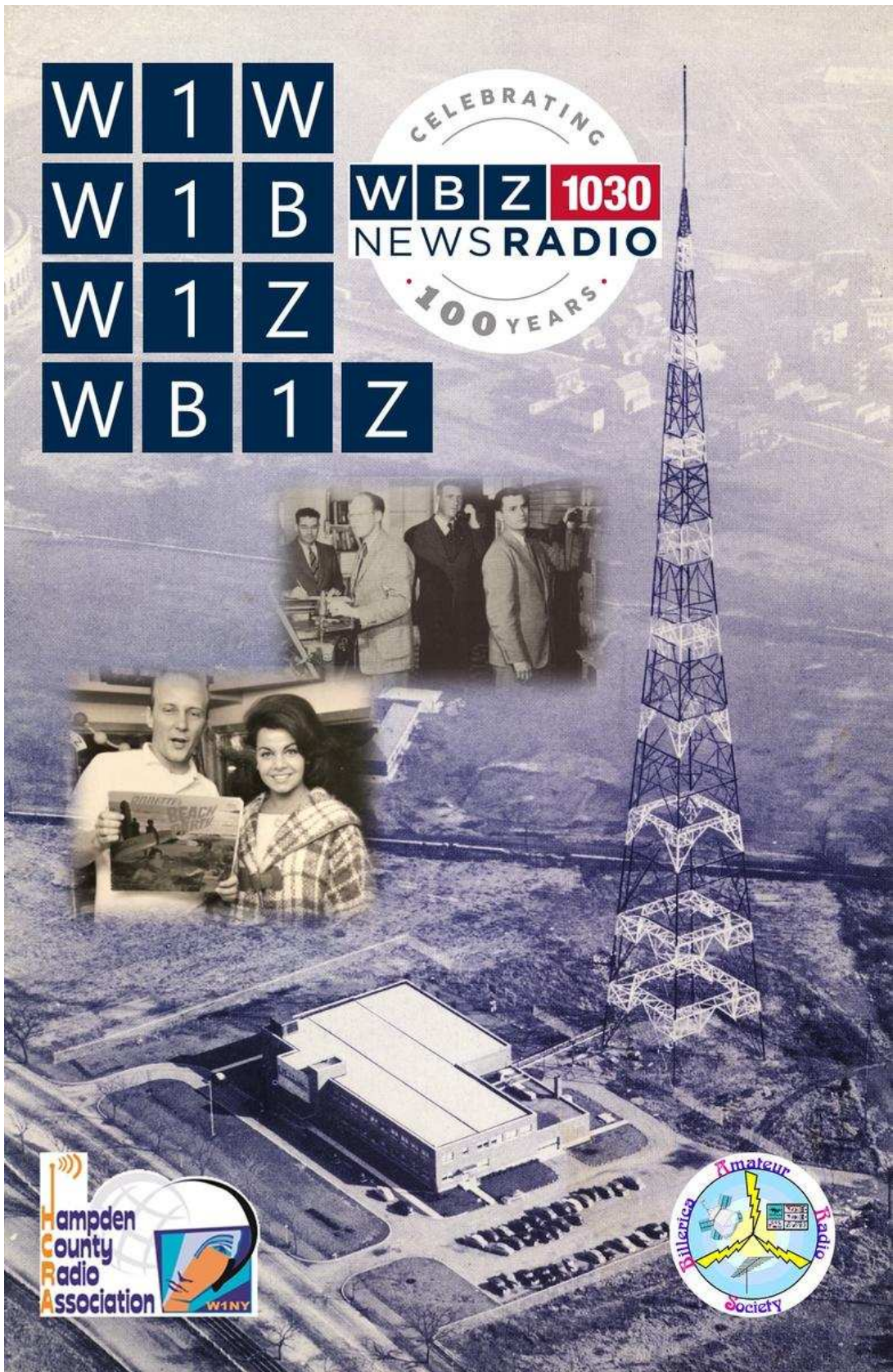
The Billerica (MA) Amateur Radio Society and the Hampden County (MA) Radio Association in Springfield coordinated the event.

On September 15, 1921, WBZ was granted its first license by the US Department of Commerce on the new 360 meter frequency. It began humbly as a 100 watt station in East Springfield, MA before moving to Boston in 1931, its 15,000-watt transmitter moving east to Millis. In 1933, owner Westinghouse Broadcasting increased WBZ's power to 50,000 watts. In 1940, the transmitter was moved to Hull where it remains today. WBZ's studios and offices are now in Medford.

I so enjoyed the opportunity to celebrate WBZ. I listened to it surreptitiously when I was a kid in New York, employing the old transistor-radio-under-the-pillow-when-I-was-supposed-to-be-sleeping ruse. It was fascinating to me to hear this distant, literally "clear channel" station so discernibly at night, only to have it vanish by day. Many of the people I contacted over the weekend shared similar memories. I spoke to several retired professional radio broadcasters and just plain WBZ fans who were eager to share appreciations and reminiscences.

If you made contact with one of the special event operators, look for details under those call signs on QRZ.com. Please follow the QSL card instructions. In return, you'll receive a commemorative card featuring historical photos of WBZ and the special 100th Anniversary WBZ logo.

73,  
Susan A. Bloomfield, WB2UQP  
West Kennebunk



## MANCHESTER BOAT ANCHOR HAMFEST

The Manchester Boat Anchor Hamfest came about as a labour of love for ham radio.

On Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2021, Steve Hanks, WZ1J, mentioned on the Lincoln County Information and Emergency Net that the Windsor Hamfest, held annually at the Windsor Fairgrounds had been cancelled. Steve was naturally upset of its cancellation and feared that other hamfests in the area would suffer the same fate.

Shortly thereafter, Jose Douglas, KB1TCD, President of the Lincoln County Amateur Radio Club as well as Net Manager for the Maine Emergency Communications Net, mentioned to Joe Devonshire, AB1YO, Secretary for the Lincoln County ARC as well as VE Manager for the Mid Coast area, that they should have a hamfest to replace Windsor on the same date as a lot of hams had been looking forward to the Windsor Hamfest for a very long time.

There were talks about making the hamfest a joint venture between the Lincoln County club and the Penbay ARC but that never materialised.

Originally the search began on a location in Lincoln County but soon expanded to a more centralised area.

Things really started getting into shape when Jose - KB1TCD, mentioned of a hamfest to take place of the cancelled Windsor event on the Maine Emergency Communications Net on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> August and George Szadis, K1GDI got on board.

The Manchester Hamfest committee ended up being George - K1GDI, Jose - KB1TCD, Joe - AB1YO, Damon Leibert - N1LJK, Pat Porter – KA3AAG and John Porter – WB3JBK.

George, K1GDI, found an excellent venue in the Hope Baptist Church in Manchester which was less than 2 miles from I-95 in Augusta. The church was thrilled to have the outdoor space used and let us have it free of charge, though a substantial donation was given to the church after the event by the organisers. Finding amenities such as portable toilets and food vendors were a big obstacle given the short time frame.

George again came through finding portable toilets from a private party in Wayne.

The food vendor idea was nixed and Dustin Hinds, N1HN, said his grill could be used for the event. Jose's non-ham friend, Leslie Jones, who lives in Winthrop, the next town over from Manchester, volunteered to cook hamburgers and hotdogs.

Joe – AB1YO was in charge of spreading the word for the event, and judging by the turn out for the hamfest, he did an awesome job.

Pat – KA3AAG created a great flyer advertising the event as well as being in charge of the 50/50 raffles together with John – WB3JBK.

Damon – N1LJK provided the incredible PA System for the event as well as being MC extraordinaire.

Safety Vests were on loan from Bristol Parks and Recreation, thanks to Pat – KA3AAG.

Jose got another non-ham friend, Hiram Horne to help with parking and admission fees.

Two other members of the Lincoln County ARC, Basil Bowen – WV90 and Adam Bowen – KC1KTJ as well as Jose's YL, Nancy Douglas – KB1TCG helped out as well.

Door prizes were donated by DX Engineering, Steve Curry – KD1O, Mike Farris – N1STN, Dustin – N1HN and Jose – KB1TCD.

Vendors started coming into the event by 7am and the hamfest as well underway by 8am.

There was a Maine HF meeting held during the event with great success. Unfortunately there was not enough time to accommodate for a test session.

All being said, the Manchester Hamfest was a huge success, especially given that it all came together in three weeks time.

George Szadis – K1GDI and Jose Douglas – KB1TCD have been looking into the future to bring us more hamfests and perhaps other fun and entertaining ham radio events.









**Ballots for the New England ARRL Director should have been mailed out today. If you are an ARRL Member in Good Standing since September 10, 2021 then you are eligible to cast your vote for the next Director. If you have never participated in the election process, start now!**

**You will be asked to vote for one of the following candidates (listed alphabetically by last name) who will serve as New England ARRL Director for the next term (3 years).**

**Tom Frenaye, K1KI**

**Fred Hopengarten, K1VR**

**Fred Kemmerer, AB1OC**

**However you vote, please participate in the process! Ballots must be mailed back and received by ARRL Headquarters no later than noon, November 19, 2021.**



- **NEARFEST XXX 10/15-10/16**  
Deerfield Fairground  
34 Stage Rd, Deerfield, NH  
Gates open 9 AM Friday and 7 AM Saturday  
Closing Ceremonies 2 PM Saturday  
For More Information, Please Visit: <https://near-fest.com/>
- 

## **TESTING SESSIONS**

**10/02/2021** [Warren ME 04864-9999](https://near-fest.com/)

**Sponsor:** PBARC **Location:** Warren Sanitary District - pre-registration is required  
**Time:** 9:00 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

**12/18/2021** [Warren ME 04864-9999](https://near-fest.com/)

**Sponsor:** PBARC **Location:** Warren Sanitary District - pre-registration is required  
**Time:** 9:00 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

## NTS TRIVIA

*Cory Golob, KU1U*



While at Ham Xposition, I attended the NTS Meet & Greet and learned of something called NTS Trivia. Each week, a new trivia question is given where folks send their answer using a radiogram. It is a fun and engaging way to handle traffic, after all, the hobby is better and we learn easier when things are done in an entertaining fashion. Anyone can participate! You can see the question by visiting <http://www.ntstrivia.com> or you can sign up on the website to receive the weekly question by email.

Send your radiogram responses via the NTS to:

**Aaron Hulett K8AMH**

**PO Box 479**

**Little Elm, TX 75068**

**OP NOTE DELIVER VIA DALLAS TX LOCAL NET**

In the text, tell me what week you are answering for  
(week of April 26, for example), and your answer.

Perhaps the question could be read on the air during NTS nets once or twice a week to give those a chance to receive the question in case they do not have access to internet or email? I think this is an incredible opportunity to generate good traffic and increase activity in radiograms. Why not give it a try!?

# YAESU FUSION NETWORK

*Steve Curry, KD1O*

The Yaesu System Fusion Network is growing in the state of Maine. Currently there are 6 linked repeaters located in Sidney, Athens, Dixmont, Dedham, Falmouth and Morrill.

More repeater locations are in the works. The repeaters are all part of the UFB New England room. #62148 reflector 00039

Next in line is a Down East link at Cooper Mt. as we are waiting for the Frequency pair - repeater- and Cans to move forward. This mode is growing and here to stay and had created much excitement among Maine Hams. As the UFB New England system and group continues to grow.

More information and an opportunity to become a member can be found at [www.ufbnewengland.com](http://www.ufbnewengland.com)

Also , find us on Facebook: "UFB New England fusion radio"

Photos attached from recent repeater installation at Black Strap Mt. , Falmouth, ME

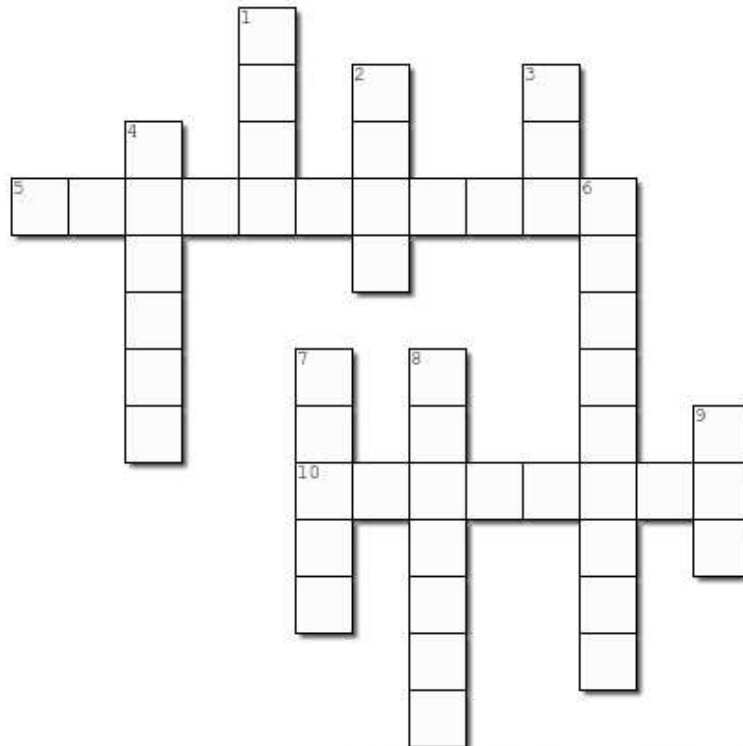
KD1O & N1STN in the photo



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## October Telegraph Crossword

Complete the crossword puzzle below



Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

### **Across**

- 5.** Radio signals reflected back from ionized patches in the ionosphere  
**10.** Type of connector used by many emergency operators to connect 12 volts DC to their radios

### **Down**

- 1.** Type of radio service that you would not want to confuse with Venus  
**2.** Type of dipole that uses tuned circuits to operate on multiple bands  
**3.** Abbreviation for the Contest being held October 23-24 on 2.3 GHz and up  
**4.** \_\_\_\_\_ Club Roundup, Contest held October 18-22  
**6.** This brand morphed into RadioShack  
**7.** This manufacturer made the TR7; A male duck  
**8.** The 'H' in Ni-MH  
**9.** Abbreviation for a Bayonet style antenna connector

## September Crossword Answers

1. BRONZE, 2. HUNTERS, 3. BEAR CAVE, 4. EDGEComb, 5. OCELOT, 6. PARKS, 7. SAPPHIRE,  
8. ACTIVATORS, 9. ACADIA, 10. KILO

## October Word Search

J	P	P	E	E	A	E	C	A	N	D	Y	R	M
A	O	Y	I	L	N	N	O	M	R	T	A	T	H
C	A	H	P	P	O	E	M	F	A	N	Y	R	U
K	O	E	N	A	C	E	L	O	S	N	Y	I	U
O	C	M	I	A	U	W	C	L	O	T	R	C	O
L	O	O	K	E	A	O	R	I	P	E	A	K	U
A	S	T	P	R	J	L	A	A	U	N	C	O	I
N	T	O	M	N	I	L	S	G	A	F	S	R	S
T	U	T	U	G	L	A	L	E	I	T	I	T	O
E	M	E	P	E	I	H	L	H	O	S	E	R	T
R	E	F	T	I	T	G	H	O	S	T	R	E	E
N	S	R	A	R	A	I	I	E	S	T	T	A	E
C	H	A	U	N	T	E	D	M	A	Z	E	T	Y
E	T	N	C	R	O	H	L	A	N	N	S	P	O

TRICK OR TREAT  
GHOST  
FOLIAGE  
CANDY  
SCARY  
COSTUMES  
JACK O LANTERN  
PUMPKIN PIE  
HALLOWEEN  
HAUNTED MAZE

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/2824935/>

<https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/2824935/>



# \$wap \$hop

## *Amateur Radio Equipment For Sale or Trade*

\$300.- delivered in Maine

The 19" Rack is all aluminum, 5' 10" height, Free Standing, 1/4" X 20  
tapped for easy installation, mfg w/ 6" channel aluminum, Four - 120 VAC receptacles  
and power cord,

20 AMP rated. Grounding strap. Shelf for other radio equipment.

Contact:..... Al Sirois/N1MHC

207-633-5363, East Boothbay, ME 04544-0002

The following is equipment from Jeff Weinstein's Estate - K1JW (SK)

<b>Make</b>	<b>Model</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Price</b>
<b>AMERITRON</b>	<b>AL-811</b>	<b>600 W. AMP</b>	160 to 15 Meters \$700.00
<b>AMERITRON</b>	<b>AL-80A</b>	<b>1KW AMP</b>	160 to 15 Meters \$900.00
<b>HEATHKIT</b>	<b>SB-221</b>	<b>2KW AMP</b>	# 595-2201-04 80 - 10 Meters \$1,000.00
<b>LDG</b>	<b>AT-600 Pro II</b>	<b>Automatic Antenna Tuner 160 to 6 Meters 600 Watts</b>	\$200.00
<b>ICOM</b>	<b>IC-735</b>	<b>HF-XCVR</b>	160 to 10 Meters Station Rig OK \$400.00

ICOM	IC-730	HF-XCVR	80-10 Meters Tested OK	\$300.00
ICOM	IC-2200H	FM VHF XCVR	65, 25, 10, and 5 watt 144-148MHZ	\$100.00
ICOM	IC-228H	FM VHF XCVR	45 Watts 144-148MHZ	\$50.00
RF CONCEPTS	RFC 2-117	143 to 149 MHZ Amplifier 10W input 170 W Output		\$100.00
HEATHKIT	HW-32	20 Meter XCVR With Speaker and Power Supply		\$100.00
HEATHKIT	HW-7	QRP HF XCVR	2 watts, 40, 20, and 15 Meters, CW	\$50.00
HEATHKIT	HM-2102	WATT METER	HF 250 Watts	\$50.00
HEATHKIT	HD-1234	Coaxial Antenna Switch 4 Position UHF NEW KIT		\$25.00
MFJ	MFJ-974B	160-10 METERS	Balanced Line 300 Watts	\$100.00
MFJ	MFJ-974H B	80-10 METERS	Balanced Line 300 Watts	\$100.00
MFJ	MFJ-921	DUAL BAND TUNER 144 - 220MHZ 300 Watts		\$50.00
MFJ	MFJ-941E	DELUX VERSATUNER II HF 160-10 Meters 300 Watts		\$50.00

MFJ	MFJ-949D	DELUX VERSATUNER II HF 160-10 Meters 300 Watts		\$50.00
MFJ	MFJ-949E	DELUX VERSATUNER II HF 160-10 Meters 300 Watts		\$50.00
MFJ	MFJ-1040	DELUX RF PRESELECTOR II		\$25.00
BIRD	MODEL 43	WATT METER	3 VHF "C" 25, 50, 250 W. VHF Dummy	\$300.00
TRIPP-LITE	PR-60	60 AMP REGULATED POWER SUPPLY		\$150.00
TRIPP-LITE	PR-40 a	40 AMP REGULATED POWER SUPPLY		\$100.00
TRIPP-LITE	PR-10 b	10 AMP REGULATED POWER SUPPLY		\$25.00
LARSEN	440 spike	Mobile Antenna With MAG-MOUNT		\$20.00
SINCLAIR	1-450-1Q7	Q-FILTER	PASS 466.9 REJECT 461.9	
SINCLAIR	1-450-1Q7	Q-FILTER	PASS 467.55 REJECT 462.55	\$200.00
SINCLAIR	1-450-1S1 0		FREQ. 467.55	



TX-RX SYSYEMS INC	11-37-01		FREQ. 144 TO 174 PASS 145.390	
	K1JW			
<b>Make</b>	<b>Model</b>	<b>Type</b>		<b>Price</b>
BK	283	DIGITAL MULTI METER		\$50.00
BK	530	SEMICONDUCTOR TESTER		\$100.00
LAMPKIN	205A	FM MODULATION METER		\$50.00
LAMPKIN	107C	COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE MONITOR		\$100.00
WILSON	WFC-500E	FREQUENCY COUNTER		\$50.00
RCA	WA-504A	AUDIO GENERATOR		\$50.00
SENCORE	TF-151A	TRANSISTOR TESTER		\$50.00
HELPER INSTRUMENTS	S-101	SINADDER DB-SINAD Distortion Analyzer		\$50.00
HEATHKIT	IP-2728	REGULATED POWER SUPPLY		\$25.00
HEATHKIT	IP-2728	REGULATED POWER SUPPLY NEW KIT		\$25.00
HEATHKIT	IM-4180	FM		\$50.00

		DEVIATION METER		
CRAFTSMAN	MULTI-METER	DIGITAL AUTO-RANGING NEW-IN PACKAGE		\$30.00
RF Connectors	UHF PL-259	Kit of Crimp Connectors for RG-58 and RG-59 (box)		\$25.00
RF Connectors	F (Cable TV)	Kit of F Connector hardware, in box		\$25.00
RF Connectors	BNC	Connector Hardware 27 in Bag (solder type)		
RF Connectors	BNC	Female Chassis Mounts 11 in Bag		
RF Connectors	BNC	"T" Connectors 13 in Bag		
RF Connectors	UHF	UHF to BNC Adapters 12 in Bag		
RF Connectors	UHF	"T" Connectors 8 in Bag		
RF Connectors	UHF	PL-259 with UG-175U 5 in Bag		

RF Connectors	UHF	SO-239 Chassis Mounts 15 in Bag		
COAX CABLE	SPOOLS	50 AND 75 OHM		
COAX CABLE	CUT LENGTHS	50 AND 75 OHM		

Please contact Ron Thompson, KF1H if you are interested in this equipment by emailing [kf1h@myfairpoint.net](mailto:kf1h@myfairpoint.net)

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**[CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT SWAP SHOP ITEM](#)**

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**THE MAINE TELEGRAPH IS ALWAYS LOOKING FOR ARTICLES TO SHARE STATEWIDE. SHARE WHAT YOU ARE DOING WITH THE HOBBY, ESPECIALLY IF YOU HAVE ANY PHOTOS TO GO WITH IT!**

**SUBMIT ARTICLES AND PHOTOS TO [KU1U@ARRL.NET](mailto:KU1U@ARRL.NET)**

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