

December 2021

Statewide Newsletter for Maine Amateur Radio Operators



Submit Articles to: Cory Golob - KU1U by emailing ku1u@arrl.net

Every Vote Counts!

Cory Golob, KU1U

Anyone who knows me, knows that I am clearly not a morning person, but some things are worth waking up early for. On Friday November 19th, I hit the road at 4:34 AM to head down to ARRL Headquarters in Newington, Connecticut. I pulled into the parking lot of 225 Main St, Newington at 8:30. The counting of the ballots for the New England Division Director race, a hotly contested 3-way race between Fred Hopengarten (incumbent), Tom Frenaye (former director) and Fred Kemmerer (challenger). Each candidate could be present to observe the ballot count or a designee could witness in their place with approval from the ARRL. I was present to witness ballot counts on behalf of AB10C.

As I walked across the parking lot to enter ARRL HQ, I saw Tom Frenaye, Director Emeritus, in the parking lot and had a nice conversation with him. I told him that I was new to the process, but was the kind of person who enjoyed seeing how things worked from start to finish. He assured me to not be afraid to ask questions. Shortly after entering the lobby, I saw several boxes of ballots on a cart get rolled down the hallway. At 9 AM, David Minster, NA2AA, CEO of ARRL, came up front to bring the observers back to the conference room where the long awaited activities were to take place. I shook David's hand and introduced myself. There were three chairs inside a cordoned off area marked by blue painter's tape, which I jokingly referred to out loud as the "penalty box". Jeff Ryan, KORM, Rocky Mountain Division Director, introduced himself and explained the process of the day. Jeff informed us that ballot envelopes were being opened, they would then be sorted and finally counted. There were two race counts being handled on that day, the New England Division race in blue envelopes, and the Roanoak Division race in green envelopes. The mailroom cutter breezed through envelopes for nearly 7,000 ballots (between the two races).

Once the envelopes were opened, the longest part of the process was underway... sorting. Five individuals conducted the sorting. Each person would grab an opened envelope and tear the perforated ballot in half and then make three piles, one for each candidate according to the respective check mark. Once the piles reached a certain height, another person would go around and collect up each candidate's pile and double check they were all the same candidate marked

on each of the ballots. A rubber band would be placed around the smaller pile and placed in the candidate's box for counting at the end of the session. Some envelopes needed more attention. There were some ballots that marked more than one candidate, others had a blank ballot, one even had a write-in candidate (write-in candidates are not allowed because they must be certified by ARRL). A few envelopes contained multiple ballots which had to go into a separate pile for further research (instructions stated one ballot per envelope). After ballots were sorted, the envelopes were placed in its own receptacle, but was thoroughly checked to make sure no ballot was still inside it.

After about 3 hours of sorting ballots, it was time for a lunch break. The ARRL graciously provided pizza and bottled water for refreshments. I was able to meet a few more folks, one of them was Mickey Baker, N4MB, Southeast Division Director and head of the Ethics and Elections (E&E) Committee. We both gave our backgrounds and talked a bit about emergency communications. Tom Abernethy, W3TOM, Atlantic Division Director also introduced himself. He told me of his time in Maine, jeeping up Bald Mountain in Dedham which he said was not for the faint of heart.

Once the lunch break was over, it was time to deal with the questionable ballots. The E&E team watched over each questionable ballot to determine if they were valid or not valid, each member boldly claiming their answer in order, all in agreement (no member had any dissenting opinions on ballots when deeming them valid or not valid). The last ballots to be validated were the multiple received in the same envelope. One of the committee members looked up the alphanumeric digits on the ballots to verify that they all belonged to the same household.

Now, the moment we were all waiting for. President Rick Roderick, K5UR, and CEO David Minster, NA2AA, were present for the official counting of votes. Two counting machines were set up to verify numbers of the ballots in stacks. Each candidate's box had smaller stacks. From experience, it was said that more than 100 ballots in the machine triggered a jam in the past, so the piles were kept to smaller quantities to avoid the possibility of any malfunction. Each stack was sent through the miniature machines and the number was spoken aloud and conferred by the committees. After each smaller pile was accounted for, the numbers of each pile were announced. One person would announce the number, two people would tally with a calculator, after announcing their totals in unison,

they would be recorded on paper. The first piles were counted and it was announced "This will be for Fred Hopengarten, K1VR". The numbers mounted and the total was reached... 1,054 votes. The process repeated. "This will be for Tom Frenaye, K1KI"... the final tally for Tom was 1,026 votes. My mind did some quick math, about 2,100 votes accounted for. If the voter turnout repeated history, then only 700 more votes were out there... unless... the New England Division had a higher turnout of voters. Looking at all three piles, there was no runaway winner. The stacks were too close to call visually. "This will be for Fred Kemmerer, AB10C"... "One thousand"... (wow, each candidate received a thousand votes!)... "One hundred forty seven". And in a moment, the results were confirmed. AB10C was declared the winner at 1:47 PM.

The same process was repeated for the Roanoke Division. The race was also a 3-way contest. Results were as follows: Incumbent George W. "Bud" Hippisley, W2RU 809 votes, Past Director Dr. Jim Boehner, N2ZZ 1,612 votes and Challenger Marvin Hoffman, WA4NC 1,294 votes. After all of the winners were declared, Rick Roderick made phone calls to all of the candidates to notify them of the results.



Statewide Elmer/Mentoring List

Phil Duggan, N1EP, is building a statewide Elmer/Mentoring list so that hams or prospective hams can seek advice or assistance in order to get on the air or licensed. If you would like to represent your town, county, or district, please send an email to Phil Duggan, N1EP email n1ep@arrl.net — We need a strong Elmer Program to follow up with VE teams and clubs. If you are an experienced ham that would be comfortable with sharing your knowledge or could help put the person in contact with those that can help, then PLEASE become an Elmer!

The New England Traffic Handlers Facebook Page

Greetings All,

We are excited to see a renewed interest in the art and skill of record message handling. Our newly elected ARRL New England Division Director Fred Kemmerer AB1OC has set emergency communications and public service as one of his top priorities and he has indeed hit the ground running. This Facebook group has been created to help put a spotlight on the ARRL's National Traffic System as a means for assisting in long haul messaging especially in disasters. Amateur radio has a history of ready support for a variety of public service organizations and a part of that support includes the ability to relay messages accurately and efficiently throughout the US and Canada via the National Traffic System in conjunction with Radio Relay International. While this group is focused primarily in New England, it is hoped to become a model for other parts of the country. It is important for those interested in emergency communications not only to be knowledgeable concerning best practices in message relay but also to be ready to use these skills when a disaster happens. We plan to include articles of interest including where to find training, traffic nets and events such as exercise opportunities and even traffic handler get-togethers. We hope to see you here regularly and please send us your suggestions, comments, etc.

73, Marcia KW1U and James N1PZP

Message from N1WJO

When you get this month's newsletter, several people may already be aware that I have decided to resign as Section Manager. When I took this position, I would have never thought it would end this way. I have personal things going on that are making it next to impossible to do what is needed in this position. Section Manager really requires someone that can spend several hours per week "on the job". I do not have that and thus I am not fulfilling the needs of Maine amateurs.

Phil Duggan, N1EP, will be taking over effective December 1. He expressed the interest in continuing with the team that I organized and assisting them in expanding amateur radio in Maine.

I apologize for not dealing with this situation sooner. Maybe in the future I will be able to come back and be section manager and help the amateurs of Maine.

Robert Gould

N1WJO

Maine ARRL District 3 News

(Waldo - Washington - Hancock - Knox counties)

Hello all,

Thanksgiving greetings from Milbridge! May you all enjoy the holiday with family and friends. As Assistant Section Manager representing ARRL District 3 in Maine, I have put together some news and tidbits that you, your clubs, emcomm groups, and other hams may find useful, so please share this.

1. Sometime in January District 3 hams will have the opportunity to meet District 4 (Aroostook, Penobscot, Piscataquis, Somerset) hams on the air in a special 75 meter net. Those with General class privileges and above can join in this informal round-robin net to test the pathways from coastal Maine through the northern part of the state. Let's get to know our neighbors, and perhaps in the following months we can schedule other fun operating activities using different bands and modes. When the date/time and frequency are set for the January session, an announcement will be posted on mainearrl.org.

2. Have you invested a lot of money in ham radio equipment? If so, you should know that as an ARRL member, you can purchase discounted ham radio equipment insurance that covers your gear from fire, theft, and several other hazards. The cost equates to \$1.40 per \$100 of equipment. More info is available here: <https://www.arrlinsurance.com/>

3. Fred Kemmerer, AB1OC, won the election for ARRL New England Division Director and will take office in January. Fred is a very active ham, especially when it comes to space communications. He will bring fresh ideas to the division, many of which you may wish to consider for your group or yourself!

4. The Maine Ham Radio Society will be conducting a special 75-meter net on Thursday, December 16 at 1600 (4pm) on or near 3840 KHz LSB. All are welcome to jump in and share their holiday plans with the other check-ins.

5. Another benefit of club ARRL affiliation is : "Referrals Of Prospective Radio Amateurs- League Headquarters, in addition to providing a basic package of information to a prospective ham, will refer prospects to your club for follow-up and recruitment. And your club will be listed in ARRLWeb'sclub search database. In order to remain in the database your club must submit an annual report each year. " - ARRL

6. I am building a statewide Elmer/Mentoring list so that hams or prospective hams can seek advice or assistance in order to get on the air or licensed. If you would like to represent your town, county, or district, please send an email to Phil Duggan, N1EP email n1ep@arrl.net - We need a strong Elmer Program to follow up with VE teams and clubs. If you are an experienced ham that would be comfortable with sharing your knowledge or could help put the person in contact with those that can help, then PLEASE become an Elmer!

7. If your local VE team is scheduling amateur radio exams, please post them on the ARRL web site:

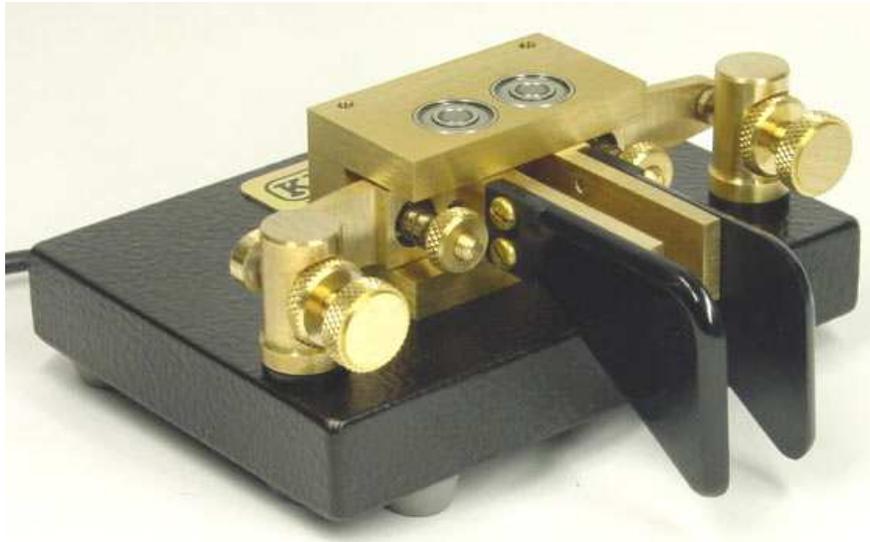
<http://www.arrl.org/register-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session> Also please send the exam info to Maine's ARRL Public Information Coordinator, Joy Foss K1SEW, so that she can place it on the Maine section page. Her email is k1sew@arrl.net

8. Let's put more effort in attracting more people, especially youth, into our hobby. Has your club given a ham radio demo at local schools? Scouts, 4-H, and other groups often really appreciate ham radio demos or presentations for their youth. We have some local hams in Washington and Hancock counties that organize ham radio camps in association with youth and educational organizations. We include kit-building, on air events, zombie (fox) hunts (the kids LOVE this activity), and other fun activities. Let's inspire the kids now. They may not get licensed right away, but the experience may spark them later to earn their tickets.

Brenda (N1ZPV) and I wish you all a fantastic holiday season and hope to hear you On The Air!!!

73 de Phil Duggan, N1EP
phil.n1ep@gmail.com

News from the Pine Tree Net Manager Bill Mann, W1KX



November 28, 2021, was a milestone for PTN. **John, K1ESE, completed one year of perfect attendance!** That is certainly a record for the last 32 years that I have been keeping records for PTN. And I will bet it is also a record for the entire 85-year history of PTN. Congratulations John!

The Pine Tree Net is a traffic handling net that meets daily on 3596 kHz at 5:30 PM Eastern. When the clocks Spring Ahead, the net will return to its normal 7:00 PM time. All are welcome to join.

Joel Hallas, W1ZR (SK)



Some of you may recall seeing Joel Hallas present his impromptu “The Doctor Is In” during a few of the Maine State Conventions. His talks always had a great following. Joel passed away on November 25th. I enjoyed chatting with Joel and his wife Nancy. It was nice to enjoy their company at Wei Li Restaurant after one of the state conventions a few years back. While we graduated 34 years apart from each other, Joel and I both attended the University of Connecticut - UConn. His knowledge of the hobby was truly amazing and will be missed.

73 DE KU1U

From: <http://www.cqsanta.com>

About The Santa Net



For the 16th consecutive year, The 3916 Nets will be presenting The Santa Net on 3.916 MHz. Good girls and boys can talk to Santa Claus, via amateur radio, nightly at 7:15 PM (Central) starting Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, through Christmas Eve, December 24th.

We enjoy helping young people and their families have a shared Christmas experience that they'll always remember

Pete KE5GGY

Pete Thomson (KE5GGY), of The 3916 Nets, commented on The 3916 Santa Net. He said, "Christmastime is a very special time for our nets every year. We enjoy helping young people and their families have a shared Christmas experience that they'll always remember. And we're thrilled to introduce young people to the excitement of amateur radio."

Youngsters can talk to "Santa at The North Pole" via strategically placed operators who relay the voice of Santa. Thomson said that The Santa Net is a team effort that involves the efforts of a number of 3916 Net members. He said, "In our first year, we connected 10 kids to Santa on Ham Radio and it's grown steadily since. This year, we're expecting over 1,000 children to participate."

Prior to each night's Santa Net, pre-net check-ins can be made at www.cqsanta.com.

Third party rules and regulations apply. The Santa Nets are presented annually by The 3916 Nets. The Rag Chew Crew, The Tailgaters and The Freewheelers are all amateur radio nets that meet on 3.916 MHz nightly. For more information on The 3916 Nets, go to www.3916nets.com For more information on The Santa Net, email KE5GGY@Gmail.com .

STRAIGHT KEY NIGHT!

(From <http://www.arrl.org/straight-key-night>)



About

Objective: This 24-hour event is not a contest; rather it is a day dedicated to celebrating our CW heritage. Participants are encouraged to get on the air and simply make enjoyable, conversational CW QSOs. The use of straight keys or bugs to send CW is preferred. There are no points scored and all who participate are winners.

Contest Details

Dates

Straight Key Night is held every January 1 from 0000 UTC through 2359 UTC.

Terms Of Entry

- Entrants agree to be bound by the provisions and intent of ARRL contest rules.
- Entrants agree to be bound by the regulations of their national licensing authority.

- Entrants agree to be bound by the decisions of the ARRL Awards Committee.
- Log contents used to determine final score and awards will be available to the public.
- All entries become the property of the ARRL.

Bands

All authorized Amateur frequencies, but activity has traditionally been centered on the HF bands.

Log Submission Deadline

Entries for Straight Key Night must be received by January 31. Votes for 'Best Fist' and "Most Interesting QSO" will be tabulated and included in the results.

Send your information to straightkey@arrl.org

or by mail to

ARRL Straight Key Night

225 Main Street

Newington, CT 06111

Contact Information

For contest information contact contests@arrl.org or (860) 594-0232

RATPAC Presentation/ Video Series

Steve Hansen, KB1TCE (Mission from RATPAC website)



Mission of the project:

Radio Amateur Training Planning and Activities Committee (RATPAC) comprises ARRL section managers, appointed field leadership, and membership. Together, we host nationwide Amateur Radio Zoom presentations twice-a-week, Wednesdays on general radio topics and Thursdays on amateur radio emergency communications. The topics are selected from audience recommendations that the planning committee then seeks topic experts or discussion panel members. The presentation audience consists of thousands of amateur radio operators worldwide who participate directly in the Zoom sessions or with video links of the presentation and related documentation sent out after each session.

<https://sites.google.com/view/ratpac>

If you go to the bottom of the page you'll see a listing of past and future presentations. Each of the past presentations is available for view and the documentation including chat transcripts.

I've found their emcomm series to be excellent. The "general radio topics" series has information for all levels of ham.



UPCOMING CONTESTS

Information links to ARRL Contest Pages

December 3-5: [160-Meter Contest](#)

December 11-12: [10-Meter Contest](#)

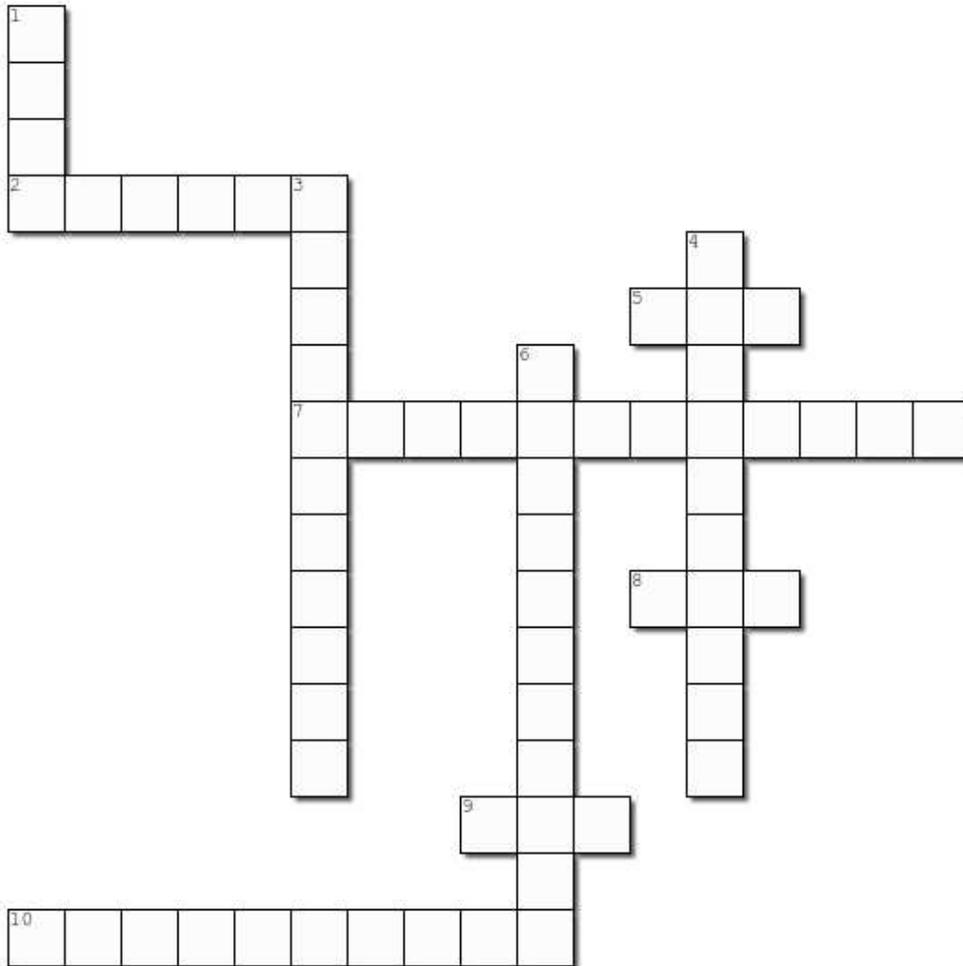
December 19: [Rookie Roundup \(CW\)](#)

December 18-19: [EME Contest \(50 - 1296 MHz\)](#)

Name: _____

December Telegraph Crossword

Complete the crossword puzzle below



Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

Across

2. Fusion 146.775 Repeater is in this town
5. Q-Signal used when you have been released from a Net
7. Used to send Morse code, can be set to mode A or B (2 Words)
8. Q-Signal used when asking for Check-Ins in a Net
9. Used to send Morse code, proficient with high speed CW operators
10. Manufacturer that had a short run of radios 1988-1990, better known for their Packet TNCs like KPC-3

Down

1. Multiplied by 1,000,000,000; Doc needed 1.21 of these watts
3. Used to send Morse code, will be used on New Year's Eve (2 Words)
4. Coax is considered this type of line
6. Amateur Radio Club that uses the Call Sign K1PQ

November Crossword Answers

1. SUNSPOT, 2. SWEEPSTAKES, 3. YAESU, 4. SUNDAY, 5. TWENTY FIVE, 6. KEYING, 7. OLIVIA, 8. MERRYMEETING, 9. VACUUM, 10. BEACON

December Word Search

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

JOLLY
KWANZAA
MERRY
SANTA
CAROLING
HANUKKAH
CHRISTMAS
WINTER
FESTIVE
SNOW

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/3062427/>

<https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/3062427/>



\$wap \$hop

Amateur Radio Equipment For Sale or Trade

K1JW Estate Sale Equipment:

Contact Ron, KF1H, if interested in any items: KF1H@myfairpoint.net

Make	Model	Serial	Type		Price
LDG	AT-600 Pro II		Automatic Antenna Tuner 160 to 6 Meters 600 Watts		\$200.00
ICOM	IC-730		HF-XCVR	80-10 Meters Tested OK	\$250.00
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 CONCEPT S	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	\$100.0 0
MFJ	MFJ-974HB		80-10 METERS	Balanced Line 300 Watts	\$100.0 0
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	\$300.0 0
TRIPP-LIT E	PR-60		60 AMP REGULATED POWER SUPPLY		\$150.0 0
TRIPP-LIT E	PR-10 b		10 AMP REGULATED POWER SUPPLY		\$25.00
LARSEN	440 spike		Mobile Antenna With MAG-MOUNT (6 new)		\$15.00
SINCLAIR	1-450-1Q7		Q-FILTER	PASS 466.9 REJECT 461.9	
SINCLAIR	1-450-1Q7		Q-FILTER	PASS 467.55 REJECT 462.55	\$200.0 0
SINCLAIR	1-450-1S10			FREQ. 467.55	
TX-RX SYSYEMS	11-37-01			FREQ. 144 TO 174 PASS	

RF Connectors	BNC	ALL	Connector Hardware 27 in Bag (solder type)		
RF Connectors	BNC	Connectors	Female Chassis Mounts 11 in Bag		
RF Connectors	BNC	Are NEW	"T" Connectors 13 in Bag		
RF Connectors	UHF / BNC		UHF to BNC Adapters 12 in Bag		
RF Connectors	UHF	ALL	"T" Connectors 8 in Bag		
RF Connectors	UHF	Connectors	PL-259 with UG-175U 5 in Bag		
RF Connectors	UHF	Are NEW	SO-239 Chassis Mounts 15 in Bag		
COAX CABLE	SPOOLS		50 AND 75 OHM		
COAX CABLE	CUT LENGTHS	Various	50 AND 75 OHM		

*Everyone Have A
Happy and Safe Holiday!*



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

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

This publication is available to anyone. Please distribute as you see fit. Newsletters are posted and archived to the <http://mainearrl.org/newsletter>

Consider joining a local club and/or the American Radio Relay League

Visit <http://arrl.org> for more information