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DIRECTOR'S UPDATE FOR 1Q-2023

by Fred Kemmerer, ABIOC, New England Director

The first quarter of 2023 has kept me busy on a variety of fronts. The following are a few things that I hope you'll be interested in hearing and learning more about.

January 2023 Board Meeting

The January ARRL Board Meeting was one of the most productive in recent memory. In addition to approving the 2023 ARRL budget, the board passed over 15 motions many of which initiated programs and activities to benefit ARRL members. The following two slides summarize the actions taken by the board in January –

2023 Annual Board Meeting Highlights



- The Annual Board Meeting was quite productive (see notes <u>here</u>)
 - 15+ Motions passed
 - · Multiple actions were taken to strengthen Amateur Radio and the ARRL
 - The 2023 Budget and an updated Investment Policy Statement were approved;
 The IMC charter was also approved.
 - Executive Committee and ARRL Foundation Board Elections
- New Ham Development Initiatives
 - ARRL Ham Bootcamp (a program to get New/Upgraded Hams OTA)
 - · Regular Technical Training
 - Licensing Classes
 - Getting folks active and on the air, including a focus on 6m/10m and SOTA/POTA activities for Techs
- A Radiosport Platform Committee was created to develop a plan and specifications for evolving LoTW.
- A new approach to recognizing clubs for long-term ARRL affiliation was approved.
 - The new approach allows for direct participation by club leaders



2023 Annual Board Meeting

Highlights Continued



- A motion was passed that clarifies the relationship between Division Directors, Vice Directors, Sections Managers, and HQ Staff.
 - The focus here is on Division Cabinets and cooperation between Division and Section Leaders)
- Additional funds for legislative advocacy efforts were allocated and a process for overseeing their use were approved.
- \$150,000 was allocated to support struggling ARRL Division Conventions.
- A group to assist in the development of the ARRL's Survey of Licensed Hams in 2023 was created.
- Several Award Recipients and Individual and Club Affiliation Recognitions were approved.
- The ARRL Board President was asked to form a working group to clarify and improve training around the Conflict-of-Interest process and associated responsibilities of Board Members.
 - Work was also initiated to create a guidebook for the Ethics and Election Committee.
- Negotiations to make Dayton 2023 and Huntsville 2024 the next two ARRL National Conventions were initiated.

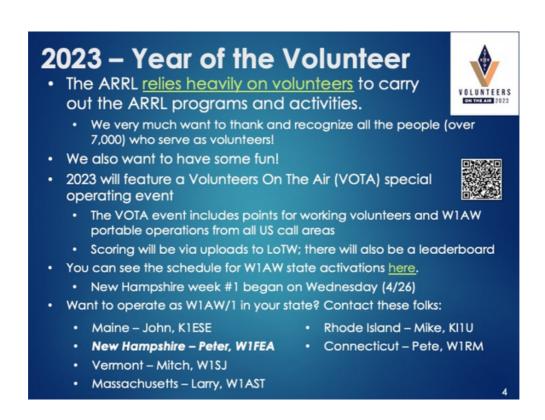


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You can <u>view the notes from the meeting here</u>. I am particularly happy and excited to see the new ham development initiative moving forward.

Year of the Volunteer

The ARRL is fortunate to be supported by over 7,000 volunteers! The ARRL has designated 2023 as <u>The Year of the Volunteers</u>. In addition to QST articles and other publications that highlight the many contributions that volunteers make to the ARRL, the league is sponsoring a year-long operating event to recognize ARRL volunteers (and to have some fun). Here's some information about the event –



You can find more about the event and see the leaderboard here.

Hamfests, Club Meetings, and Field Day



Jerry Burns K1GUP Recognized by the ARRL at the Maine State Convention for his 50 years+ of service as Net Manager for the Maine Seagull Net

I am continuing to attend Hamfests and Club Meetings around our Division. This is one of the areas of my work as an ARRL Director that I enjoy the most! Here are our plans for attending additional conventions and hamfests in 2023 –



Plans for NE Division Hamfests

We are headed off to Dayton and I am looking forward to seeing and talking with folks from New England there. We are working on our plans for visiting folks during Field Day 2023. If you like us to try to include you in our 2023 Field Day visits, please email Anita at ablqb@arrl.net and we'll try to get you onto our schedule.

ISS Contacts

I have continued to remain active in the ARISS program which helps schools to make contact with astronauts on the International Space Station via Amateur Radio.



Council Rock South High School ISS Contact

My work with ARISS includes acting as a Ground Station to provide radio links for school contacts as well as working with schools to help them to prepare for their contacts. Most recently, I had the pleasure to work with Council Rock South H.S. in Pennsylvania to help them with their contact. It was amazing! You can <u>watch a video of the contact here</u>.

License Training and Mentoring

Anita and I continue to support license training and the <u>Ham Bootcamp</u> <u>program</u> which helps Hams to learn to utilize their licenses and get active in Amateur Radio. We've taught Technician, General, and Extra licenses classes this spring where we helped over 20 people to get licensed or upgrade to General and Extra class licenses. We are hoping to transfer these programs and more to the ARRL so that they can benefit more Hams.

6m Antennas and Operations



6m Antennas at AB1OC-AB1QB

I have been able to find a little time to upgrade our station in here New Hampshire. I've been working on our 6m weak signal antenna systems. We've installed 14 new 6m antennas including three stacks and two 7-element LFA antennas. You can <u>read more about our 6m antenna project here</u>. We are really looking forward to the 6m Es season this year. I only need 3 more countries for DXCC on the 6m band and I am hoping to work these during the Es season. I hope to work many folks in our division on the HF bands and 6m this summer!

I hope that folks have a chance to enjoy Amateur Radio this spring and summer. Stay safe and have fun!

Best and 73, Fred, <u>ABIOC</u>

VICE DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

by Phil Temples, K9HI, New England Vice Director

Spring is passing quickly for me in my role as ARRL New England Vice Director. I very much enjoyed meeting many of you at the recent Vermont State Convention ("HAM-CON") in Colchester, Vermont, in February and the Maine State Convention and Hamfest in Lewiston in March.

I continue to attend numerous ARRL board-level committees as an observer, as well as participate in committees to which I am assigned: AMSAT, Programs and Services, and Radio Orienteering Committees. I also lead a working group ("Updated Access & Delivery Methods") of the NTS 2.0 subcommittee under the EmComm & Field Services Committee. The latter effort involves a commitment of two meetings per week! (Incidentally, be sure to look for the article authored by KW1U and AB1OC describing the NTS 2.0 efforts in the July issue of QST.)

I wanted to say a few words about the role which ARRL affiliated clubs play in the health of the Amateur radio hobby. If you currently serve as a radio club leader, KUDOS to you! As a former Affiliated Club Coordinator, I firmly believe that clubs are the lifeblood of this wonderful hobby. In these times when many radio clubs are struggling to draw attendees to their meetings, find new members, or field new

club officers, it's heartening to know that some New England clubs are alive and flourishing.

These clubs have discovered their own winning formula. Oftentimes, their membership is united behind some common project or purpose: a construction effort, public service activity, or series of technical or educational seminars. A successful club is oftentimes blessed with a natural leader who inspires and motivates others; someone who injects a spark of energy and enthusiasm into the organization. A mover and a shaker. They're easy to identify. If you have one in your radio club, you are most fortunate. Their enthusiasm is contagious! This kind of spark can help jumpstart a sluggish club and propel it into the future. Maintaining a healthy club requires effort and tender loving care—much like growing a garden. Don't forget to water and fertilize! ;-)

It's my hope that future issues of the New England Beacon will feature short stories highlighting successful clubs who will describe in their own words what is behind their success.



ASSISTANT DIRECTOR UPDATES

Rob Leiden, K1UI, Assistant Director for Spectrum Utilization & Protection

Barnstable Club (BARC) Builds Amateur Radio Station for Scouts at Camp Greenough

The ARRL Club Grant to BARC of \$25,000 has enabled corporate and private donations of an additional \$100,000 towards creating a platform for amateur radio in scouting. Jamboree-on-the-Air events, licensing and merit badge classes and Field Days will make excellent use of the new facility. Eversource, Xfinity, Mid-Cape Home Centers, Shepley Lumber and other Cape businesses, *have donated utility poles* for antenna supports, fiber-optic cabling for wiring up the entire camp for internet connectivity and building materials for the station itself. Station equipment will be remotely operable allowing it to be used for training performed in a new camp Welcome and Education Center being constructed adjacent to the station.

The idea for the grant was originally conceived by BARC member Steve Boyson, NIVLG, a former BARC president and member of the local Scouting council. Steve also helped source many of the donations received and continues to help using his extensive contacts in the community.

Good progress is being made on station construction. The off center fed dipole antenna, to be placed on the <u>already-erected utility poles</u> with halyards, has been ordered. <u>All the old wiring in the station has been removed.</u> Three of the four walls have been constructed and the materials to build the station interior have been acquired and staged inside the station.

New entrances and security features for the station and the other building spaces are being designed to allow secure outside entrance to the station. Two operating positions are planned with both HF and VHF/UHF capabilities including satellite communication.

The current project plan calls for the station to be completed by the end of this year.

Anita Kemmerer, AB1QB, Assistant Director for Mentoring & New Ham Development

ABIOC and ABIQB Hamfest Visits

This has been a busy few months for Ham Fests and Conventions in New England – Fred, ABIOC and I have attended Hamfests in Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine. The first one we visited was HAM-CON in Vermont on February 25th. Vice Director Phil Temples K9HI, and Assistant Director Cory Golob, KU1U also attended <u>HAM-CON</u>. It was great to meet so many Vermont Ham Radio operators at the event! Fred gave a presentation on Building and Operating a Mobile HF Station and an ARRL Forum and both were well received.



ABIOC Speaks at HamCON



Vermont and New Englanders attending AB1OC's Presentation

We traveled to Lewiston, ME to attend the <u>ARRL Maine State Convention</u> on March 24th and 25th. It was great to spend time with Cory Golob, KU1U, and <u>Section Manager Phil Duggan</u>, N1EP, along with the many folks we spoke to at the convention. Fred and Phil Duggan presented an ARRL Forum and we gave a new 100th Anniversary ARRL Handbook away to an ARRL Member. Fred also presented awards to Jerry Burns, <u>K1GUP</u> for over 50 years of service as the Net Manager for the Maine Seagull Net, and to Cory Golob, KU1U, for his service as New England Assistant Director for Emergency Communications and Public Service.



KUIU Awarded for Service as New England Division Assistant Director of Emergency Communication and Public Service

We attended <u>NEAR-Fest</u> in Deerfield, NH on April 28 and 29. Fred, ABIOC did another ARRL Forum here and we helped out at the NH ARRL Section table. The highlight of the weekend was the educational RFI training session that was given by <u>Assistant Director Rob Leiden</u>, K1UI, to RFI team members from several New England sections. We also gave away a 100th Anniversary ARRL Handbook to a lucky ARRL member.



John Gotthardt, K1UAF, NH STM, and Fred, AB1OC at the ARRL Booth at NEAR-Fest

ARRL Membership Drive

We have been giving away ARRL Handbooks to ARRL members at hamfests in order to promote ARRL membership in New England. Through the ARRL Club Commission program, your club can receive \$15 for each new member application you submit and \$5 for each renewal. ARRL Affiliate clubs are encouraged to hold quarterly membership drives at their meetings. All you need to do is bring the membership forms to your meetings, give a brief presentation to explain the benefits of ARRL membership and collect the forms and payments once they are completed. Send it all into the ARRL and you will receive a rebate check. All of the details and resources (forms and slide decks) to make this process simple for you and your club can be found at https://nediv.arrl.org/clubcomm/



ARRL Affiliated Club Membership Application

□ I am a brand-new member, or my membership lapsed for 2 or more years. My club will receive a \$15 commission □ I am renewing (includes lapsed members of less than 2 years). My club will receive a \$5.00 commission.	
Name	Call Sign
Address	
CityState	
Email P	hone
Date of Birth //	
☐ My Family Member is Joining or Renewing: (Annually \$10 per member)	
Name	
Name	

ARRL Club Commission Program

Field Day Plans

Fred, AB1OC, and I are putting together our plan to visit as many clubs as we can for Field Day 2023 on Friday, June 23rd – Sunday, June 25th. Please contact me at AB1QB@arrl.net if you would like us to visit your Field Day site.

Jack Ciaccia, WM0G, Assistant Director for Emergency Communications & Public Service

EmComm

I was recently appointed by Fred, ABIOC, to help the many amateur radio EmComm organizations in New England. My charter includes ARES, Traffic Handling, SKYWARN, RACES, and Public Service organizations. The plan is to:

- Encourage participation in EmComm & Public Service activities.
- Encourage the development and sharing of Training Programs.
- Encourage developing and sharing resource contact information, training data, and preparedness exercise information.
- Provide for publicizing these programs across the division and the ARRL.

First, some credentials: I am a New Englander, born in Rhode Island, and educated in RI and England. I'm a Vietnam-era Air Force veteran. After the Air Force, Sanders Associates hired me as an Electronic Countermeasures (ECM) technical representative. Later, I worked for GTE/Sylvania, where we developed the first bar code reading systems. We lived in Nashua, New Hampshire before I made a career move and relocated my family to Colorado in 1983. I worked in the electronics industry as a sales and marketing executive for major electronics manufacturers and as the General Manager of a worldwide electronics distributor. Later, I started my business as president and owner of a custom power supply design and manufacturing company and later as a manufacturers representative for many well-known electronic companies. I retired in 2018. We decided to move back to Nashua in 2020.

I'm an Extra-Class ham with w/20 wpm code, and I've been a ham since I was a teenager in 1957 when I got my original Novice call sign, KNIIVY. I have emergency communications experience from my previous ARES and ARRL positions in Colorado. I was president of the Boulder Amateur Radio Club for ten years. I was Emergency Coordinator for Boulder County ARES for over ten years and a member of that organization for thirty-five years. I was appointed Assistant Section Manager for two years and then Colorado Section Manager for nine years.

As the EC and as SM, during that time, I coordinated and participated in over twenty-five major wildfire events and the 2013 flood that paralyzed

the Front Range of the Rockies. So, like James Taylor sang, "I've Seen Fire, and I've Seen Rain."

I also helped create three new laws in the State of Colorado along with my SEC/SGL and Colorado state legislators from both sides. On behalf of Colorado hams, the State adopted PRB-1 as a rule for ham radio antenna ordinances to the cities and counties. Another was an amendment to a proposed law to exempt rural ham radio towers from being painted red and white according to a new FAA regulation on behalf of crop-dusting aircraft that was meant for the temporary gas and oil exploration towers—and we got another amendment exempting ham radio operators from the law prohibiting the use of handheld devices in moving vehicles.

We also created Colorado Auxcomm, which gave our ARES leaders positions within the Colorado Division of Public Safety and the Colorado Department of Homeland Security. Within the law, there's a provision for any participating Auxcomm or ARES members to be covered under Colorado State workman's compensation for any injury incurred during any emergency-related event, including training exercises. That law also protects those hams from liability and torts in the event of any accident they might be responsible for during an emergency or practice.

Here is something I wrote a few years ago concerning the future of ARES:

ARES, as we know it, is changing dynamically and will continue to do so in the coming years. Our served agencies will continue to define our organization, mission, and purpose, and our future will depend on our mission capabilities and operators' training, qualifications, and credentials.

It used to be that all you had to do in an emergency was to be a Good Samaritan ham radio operator with a handi-talkie on your belt, show up at the EOC and get assigned to assist with some communication needs – pretty simple. And they usually did a good job! Why was that? Because our served agencies had radios and a communications system that typically needed more flexibility and interoperability to communicate in multi-agency or multi-location events.

What changed? The first big answer to that is that 9-11 happened. Ham radio played a huge role in maintaining communication in a nightmarish interoperability scenario when the typical telephone and land mobile system infrastructure was either gone or

overloaded. Federal, State, and local agencies said radio interoperability issues and land-based communication systems constructed on vast and complex communications infrastructures for our first responders would have to change, which made the guys with the "bat-wings" smile a lot. These new systems would create a need for more modern communications devices, creating more "bat-wing" smiles. What else happened? Hurricane Katrina happened – same issues as with 9/11. Then the Haiti earthquake occurred – more of the same problems, but even worse, complicated by the lack of a structured communication system.

So, what happened? In both cases, ham radio was integral in getting some communications up and running when the existing infrastructure was gone or overloaded. The onslaught of multiple agencies arrived at these disasters with interoperability issues, further exasperating the glaring weaknesses of the old or non-existent communication systems.

The Government poured a massive amount of \$\$\$ into the problem. The \$\$\$ went to DHS, FEMA, State EOCs, and others. Eventually, some of this \$\$\$ even found its way to local ARES groups in a splendid example of the "trickle down" theory.

But now that those ARES groups accepted the Federal or State \$\$\$, Guess what? The agencies where the \$\$\$ came from have defined the new rules that those ARES groups will play under from here on out.

How does that affect ARES? More reliable communication systems are available today to our served agencies. With just a handi-talkie on his belt, that Good Samaritan ham is now useless to them. The EOCs and the OEMs want and expect radio operators trained and credentialed. The modern ARES ham will have ICS and NIMS certifications, provide valued skills, possess modern radio equipment, and have accessibility to modes and frequencies that our served agencies cannot access.

The new requirements will cause a paradigm shift in how ARES members train and respond. Do you remember the large VHF /UHF repeater groups that provided Autopatch capability to hams? And do you remember what happened to their membership numbers once the cell phone became omnipresent? The ARES groups that adapt and conform to these changes will survive and thrive. The others that refuse to change may go the way of the Dodo Bird.

In a Related Issue:

Attention PIOs: ARES needs good press. What's so crucial about Public Relations? It gives us CPR – Community Recognition, Protection, and Recruitment.

When we do something good, or people we're associated with are doing something good, we like to have it recognized. One of the reasons amateur radio exists is to provide service to the public. A positive perception of amateur radio translates into allies and helps build support for us among neighbors, educators, corporate leaders, and government officials.

Oh, They've Seen Fire and They've Seen Rain†

Flooding and wildfires put Colorado and California EmComm Teams to the test

xtraordinary emergency communications efforts by radio amateurs and their organizations in Colorado and California are in focus this month as Public Service chronicles hams' remarkable support during widespread and deadly flooding on Colorado's Front Range and devastating wildfires that raged near the giant sequoias in California's Yosemite National Park.

*1940 Wetherly Way, Riverside, CA 92506 e-mail: -ki6sn@cq-amateur-radio.com> † with apologies to James Taylor Again, highly-skilled operators and solid communications systems underlined ham radio's value in preventing bad situations from becoming even worse. – Richard Fisher, KI6SN

Colorado ARES® Stands Firm During Deadly Weeklong Deluge

Sometimes to best get our arms around the gravity of a widespread disaster such as September's deadly flooding in Colorado, we turn to the snapshots of radio amateurs that make up the gallery of images telling the story, photo A.

Photo A. Don Nelson, NØYE, manages a smile after working on the Yagi antenna system in driving rain atop a building at Colorado's Boulder Municipal Airport. Amateurs provided ATV evacuation images to EOCs during massive flooding in the region in September. (Colorado photos courtesy of KB9TTI)

Photo B. ARRL Colorado Section Manager Jack Ciaccia. WMØG, contacts Chris Zietkiewicz, WØDRZ, whose amateur radio was the only means of communication in Pinewood Springs – a mountain community of 650 people cut off by recent flooding. The communications center was part of a report on NBC Nightly News. (Internet screen grab http://nbcnews.to/15RDgYV)



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public service

May 2023



BOULDER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

TO ALL WHO SHALL SEE THESE PRESENTS, GREETINGS:
THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE SHERIFF OF BOULDER COUNTY HAS AWARDED THE

SHERIFF'S COMMENDATION

To

BCARES

FOR EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMANCE, ACHIEVEMENT, AND EXEMPLARY INITIATIVE IN SUPPORT OF THE MISSION OF THE BOULDER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND IN THE COUNTY OF BOULDER, STATE OF COLORADO THIS 29^{TH} DAY OF OCTOBER 2013

JOSEPH K. PELLE, SHERIFF





2014 FEMA Individual and Community Preparedness Awards

Honorable Mention Technological Innovation

Boulder County Amateur Radio Emergency Services

In recognition of your service to the whole community, the Federal Emergency Management Agency hereby awards you an honorable mention in the 2014 Individual and Community Preparedness Awards

September 8, 2014

W. Craig Fugate Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency

K1EHZ: "A COUPLED-RESONATOR HF ANTENNA" FEATURED IN APRIL, 2023 QST

Contributed by Phil Temples, K9HI

Kudos to Jay Taft, KIEHZ, for his article, "A Coupled-Resonator HF Antenna" which appears in the April, 2023 QST. Jay also has antenna designs published in The ARRL Antenna Book.

Jay is an Amateur Extra class licensee. He earned his first license in 1958 at the age of 14, and his first job was servicing marine HF radios along the Connecticut coast. Jay has a bachelors degree in biology, as well as a Master's and PhD degree in biological oceanography. The Bedford, New Hampshire resident operates Winlink global email gateways and is a member of ARRL, New Hampshire ARES, the Merrimack Valley ARA and the Granite State ARA.

[Note: On March 10th, Jay Taft, K1EHZ, along with John Stanley, K4ERO, gave a presentation to the Granite State ARA on Comparing Coil Form Materials. This presentation is related to his recent April 2023 QST article titled "A Coupled-Resonator HF Antenna". You can find the video of the presentation on the GSARA YouTube page:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wF-OyD3eH-k]

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PROVIDENCE (RI) RADIO ASSOCIATION HOLDS BOY SCOUT RADIO MERIT BADGE CLASS

Contributed by Phil Temples, K9HI

The PRA Foundation, the educational outreach arm of the Providence Radio Association, W1OP, presented a Boy Scouts of America RADIO Merit Badge class for members of Troop 2, Central Falls, RI. Over the course of 5 weeks, Foundation Director Dom Mallozzi, N1DM, and President Dave Tessitore K1DT, taught in-person classes at the PRA Clubhouse / W1OP station following the K2PSA American Radio out

W1OP station following the K2BSA Amateur Radio curriculum. Instruction was augmented with lab demonstrations, on-the-air experiences using HF and VHF, as well as CW and several OSCAR Satellite and ISS repeater contacts. The Scouts were thrilled and encouraged when, by sheer coincidence, we worked a young Ham on 20M SSB who had just become an Eagle Scout! Upon earning their Merit Badges, the Scouts and Scoutmaster were each presented with FRS handheld radios courtesy of the Foundation, along with an invitation to return for a Technician License Class.

Coming up in May, Dom and Dave will be joined by PRA Secretary Dave, W3DRE, and member Thomas, KC1QYD, as they present an Introduction to Amateur Radio, the Ionosphere, and Orbital Mechanics to an assembly of 360 eighth-grade science students at the Alan S. Feinstein Middle School in Coventry RI. KC1QYD happens to be a member of that class, as well as being the youngest member of the PRA. His classmates are aware of Thomas' many contacts via the International Space Station's crossband repeater. The lecture will be accompanied by an OSCAR demonstration as well as a live "Parks On The Air" ® station operating from the school grounds.

For info contact <u>president@wlop.com</u>.



Three smiling Scouts from Troop 2 Central Falls RI pose with Dave Tessitore, K1DT (L) and Dom Mallozzi, N1DM (R) after just earning their BSA Radio Merit Badge.



MASSACHUSETTS K2H "13 COLONIES" SPECIAL EVENTS, JULY 1-7, 2023, SIGN UP BY JUNE 1

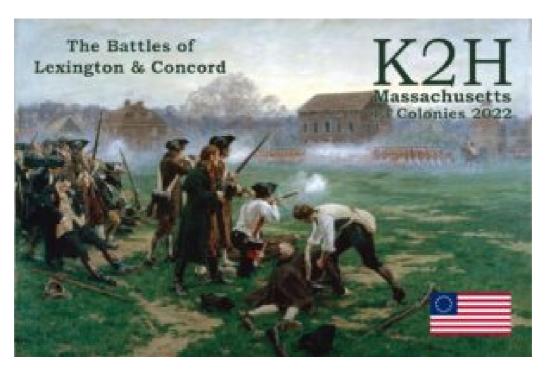
Contributed by Larry Krainson, W1AST

It's 13 Colonies time again and that means Massachusetts K2H is looking for ham that would like to activate.

The special event runs 7 days from July 1 through July 7.

Team K2H is looking for ops. Last year we made over 21,300 QSOs during those 7 days. We are hoping to exceed that this year. Would you like to be part of Team K2H?

If yes, then go here and fill in the form.



2022 13 Colonies K2H QSL card

"INTERNATIONAL MARCONI DAY: NATIONAL PARKS DIRECTOR MAKES QSO"

From the ARRL Letter,

International Marconi Day celebrates the accomplishments of radio pioneer Guglielmo Marconi on the Saturday closest to his birthday each year. Stations around the world activate a special operating event to celebrate.



National Parks Service

Director Charles "Chuck" Sams, III (left) operates as <u>KM1CC</u> from the South Wellfleet Historic Site at Cape Cod National Seashore. Marconi Cape Cod Radio Club Trustee Barbara Dougan, N1NS, (right). (Marconi Cape Cod Radio Club KM1CC, photo)

On January 18, 1903, the first public two-way wireless communication occurred between the United States and Europe. A message from President Theodore Roosevelt was sent to King Edward VII from the South Wellfleet site. The site is preserved within the Cape Cod National Seashore in Massachusetts. [full story]

NAME THAT LIGHTHOUSE

The Lighthouse featured on the cover of the last New England Beacon was Cape Neddick Lighthouse, also known as Nubble Light in York, Maine. Thank you to WB2UQP and K8CN for naming it.

If you would like to be listed in the next Beacon Newsletter, please send a radiogram to Jack Ciaccia identifying the name of the lighthouse in this edition of the Beacon.

Send Radiograms To:

Jack Ciaccia, WM0G 105 Conant Rd. Nashua, NH. 03062