

F.C.A.R.C. Inc.
P.O. Box 773
Greenfield, MA 01302



MAIL

FIRST CLASS



THE COMMUNICATOR
THE COMMUNICATOR

FCARC April 2021 Newsletter

Calendar

April 10th, Virtual Denny's Breakfast-see below for connection info

April 12th, April Meeting

April 27th, Submissions are due for the May issue of the Communicator.

April Virtual Denny's Breakfast

Topic: FCARC Virtual Denny's Zoom Meeting

Time: Apr 10, 2021 08:15 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/92775272367?pwd=NmFIK1hvTIVFb1FzaStGbXpDdFFZUT09>

Meeting ID: 927 7527 2367

Passcode: ZLT4m1

Topic: FCARC Virtual Denny's Zoom Meeting

Time: Apr 10, 2021 08:45 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/92631728553?pwd=aHYyUTdJV1QwQ3I2eGZIYmxndmhZQT09>

Meeting ID: 926 3172 8553

Passcode: kKKL8d

April Meeting Information

March 12th at 7pm, April Meeting Bob Weller (KA1HAH) goes over highlights of a 40-year career as an oceanographer at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution.

Topic: General Meeting

Time: Apr 12, 2021 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/96287279038?](https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/96287279038?pwd=L0ZqZnl1TUZoY1pROFhXbEJ0cHQ3UT09)

[pwd=L0ZqZnl1TUZoY1pROFhXbEJ0cHQ3UT09](https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/96287279038?pwd=L0ZqZnl1TUZoY1pROFhXbEJ0cHQ3UT09)

Meeting ID: 962 8727 9038

Passcode: 758409

Dial by your location

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Franklin County Amateur Radio Club (FRARC) – Minutes

February 8, 2021

Board Members

Aaron Addison KF1G – President

Dick Merriott KC1JQJ – Vice President

Howard Field N1LUP – Treasurer

Erika LaForme KC1IJJ – Secretary/Clerk

Brad Councilman W1BCC – Director

Belle Dyer KB1NOG – Director

Board Meeting Notes : Meeting cancelled as there were no agenda topics

General Meeting Notes :

Present : Aaron KF1G, Anne N1YL, Bob KB1WWR, Brad W1BCC, Dick KC1JQJ, Erika KC1IJJ, Gene K1WMA, John N1JIE, Lad WA3EEC, Marcia KW1U, Mark KC1JQD, Mark NX1K, Richard KB1NOX, Ron K8HSF, Scott N1LYW

Section Traffic Manager Marcia Forde KW1U presented an informative PowerPoint on message relaying, specifically the National Traffic System (NTS) : what it is and how to use it depending on the type of message being relayed.

March 8, 2021

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Brad Councilman W1BCC – Director

Belle Dyer KB1NOG – Director

Board Meeting Notes : Meeting cancelled as there were no agenda topics

General Meeting Notes :

Present : Aaron KF1G, Al N1AW, Anne N1YL, Brad W1BCC, Erika KC1IJJ, Gene K1WMA, Lad WA3EEC, Mark NX1K

Lad Nagurney WA3ECC gave a presentation entitled “Logging and the Casual Operator: A Short Introduction to Logbook of the World (LOTW), Fast Log Entry (FLE), and Converting Logs to Cabrillo Filer for Contest Log Submission” – an overview of how, when, and why to use various forms of contact logging.

13 Colonies

Larry Krainson is looking for a few operators to run 13 colonies this year. The special event runs for 7 days from July 1 through July 7 and covers all modes.

We are Team K2H and are looking for operators living and operating in Massachusetts who are willing to sit and operate and make at least 500 Contacts in the 7 day period. You would be operating as call K2H.

It's very exciting and fun. If you think you can commit the time, please contact him no later than the start of May.

Larry, W1AST

Team K2H – 13 Colonies Massachusetts State Manager

AC1L Callsign Now Belongs to FCARC

Richard Burnham, AC1L, was a long time member of the Franklin County Amateur Radio Club. Many years ago, in the 1990s, when the club first began using the Poets Seat tower area for a multi-station Field Day operation, Dick gave the club permission to use his AC1L callsign for our temporary Field Day stations. This continued for 25 years, through 2018. Dick passed away in May of 2019, and his license was no longer valid for Field Day that year. In 2020 Dick's son Dale gave the club permission to apply for a memorial license with the AC1L callsign. Dale wrote, "I am honored to know, as Dad would be, that the club held him in such regard. I know of no better way for his memory to live on within the family of area hams he so enjoyed working, learning, and 'playing with for over 40 years."

Application was made to the FCC for a club license with the memorial call of AC1L; as of March 2021 this license has been issued.

Newer hams and younger members of the club may not know much about Dick Burnham. There is a lot to be learned from back issues of our newsletter. The following is from an article published in our FCARC *Communicator* newsletter in October 2006:

"Dick was born in 1921 in Greenfield. He spent his entire working career with Bete Fog Nozzle, located within two miles of his birth site. He first attended schools in Ashfield and Deerfield, both one- room schoolhouses with no indoor facilities or electricity. He graduated with the

Greenfield High class of 1938 after being elected class secretary—a position he has held ever since.

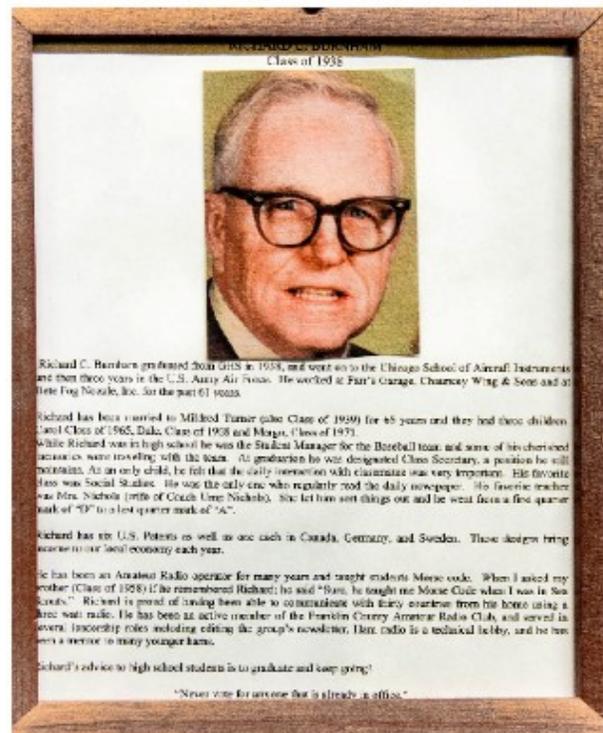
"Dick's working career started as an Apprentice Automobile Mechanic for three years. He states his learning from that experience was that "there must be an easier way to make a living." He also served three years in the Army Air Force as an aircraft instrument specialist. That branch was generally considered to have some of the most highly trained technicians of World War II. Dick was hired at Bete Fog Nozzle in May 1950. He continues to be associated with that company fifty-seven years later as a research and development consultant who is constantly searching for new products to develop. He has been awarded nine patents, six in the U.S. and one each in Canada, Germany, and Sweden. These inventions bring an estimated five million dollars per year into the local economy.

"AC1L has held his extra - class call for thirty years. His spouse Mildred, KB1DCH, has been licensed for eight years. Dick likes to use low power whenever possible and has worked thirty countries using an ancient HW-8 that puts out three watts. He has achieved a Worked All States award and a DXCC from confirmed contacts with about 150 countries. One of his "truly memorable days" was when he was able to work six JA contacts in twenty minutes after having tried to reach Japan for nearly twenty-five years!

"Dick has been an active Volunteer Examiner and assists with licensing and CW instruction. He is also active in most major contests. Although he has experimented with satellite operations and PSK31, he comments that he 'finds them a lot of work.' "

In 2013 a plaque honoring Dick was installed in the "Hall of Honor" of Greenfield High School.

Dick was a very visible member of the Franklin County Amateur Radio Club. He served as newsletter editor and publisher from at least 1998 until 2004. He served as Secretary at various times. Until he moved to the Arbors he hosted monthly E-Board meetings at his home in Greenfield. After retiring as newsletter editor he wrote numerous articles for the Communicator: In January 2006 he described his participation in the recent ARRL 10 meters contest and the



ARRL 160 meter contest. He described a rare (for those days) 15 meter opening when he had to use 100 watts to get through to Hawaii and Argentina; this was a difficult admission for a QRP operator who years earlier had listed 30 countries he worked with a Heath HW-8 transceiver (2 watts!).

In addition to letting us use his callsign for Field Day, the year after a particularly rainy weekend made Poets Seat operation difficult Dick constructed a set of plastic and wood panels that we used for several years to block the wind and rain on the west side of the Poets Seat tower.

Dick organized events. In 2006 Dick presented a "Morse for Fun" program of code practice on the two meter repeater preceding the weekly information net. In 2007 his basement hosted a



"Build an Antenna" event, at which, after a short talk on the theory of Yagi directional antennas, Dick provided materials and guidance for participants to build portable 2-element 2 meter beams. In 2009 Dick organized a Fox Hunt, acting as the fox. The clever fox somehow got everyone started out in a direction 180 degrees from the fox's den.

Dick kept on writing articles for the newsletter – in 2008 he compared Hurricane Katrina with the historic 1938 hurricane that battered the Northeast. In 2009 he described how smoke signals were used by native Americans – they did not encode messages, but smoke signals verified that an expected event or action had indeed taken place. In 2010 he described a 1970's SSB net on 75 meters that resembled somewhat the Quackers net of today. In 2011 he made recommendations on batteries for emergency operation.

Even after moving to the Arbors, without opportunity to operate in the HF bands Dick tried to keep in touch with local hams on 2 meters. A magmount on the ground on a cookie sheet did not do the job when snow arrived. With help, the cookie sheet and antenna ended up mounted on an air exhaust vent above the apartment window.



Submitted by AI, N1AW

Currently two weekly nets are held on the KB1BSS 146.985 Mhz repeater as soon as the net control information is available, it will be put on the website.

ARES 2-Meter Net - Tuesday at 8.00 pm on the KB1BSS repeater, 146.985 MHz, – offset, PL 136.5

FCARC Informational 2-Meter Net - Thursday at 8.00 pm on the KB1BSS repeater 146.985 MHz, – offset, PL 136.5

ARES Western Mass Emergency Net

8:30 am: 3.944 MHz LSB

ARES Hampshire/Hampden/Franklin Net

8:45 am: Mt Tom W1TOM VHF repeater, 146.940 MHz, – offset, PL 127.3

9:15 am: Mt Tom W1TOM UHF repeater, 443.200 MHz, + offset, PL 127.3

ARES Berkshire Net

9:00 am: Mt Greylock K1FFK repeater, 146.910 MHz, – offset, PL 162.2



Western Massachusetts

Amateur Radio Emergency Service®



The Western Massachusetts ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service) group needs volunteers. Everyone is urged to apply.

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES) consists of licensed amateurs who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment, with their local ARES leadership, for communications duty in the public service for local events and when disaster strikes.

Every licensed amateur, regardless of membership in ARRL or any other local or national organization is eligible to apply for membership in ARES.

People are needed:

In your neighborhood

- To aid in getting critical information to and from local emergency officials.
- To get information on the response to a disaster from officials to your neighbors, friends and family.

In your town

- Assisting in a town Emergency Operations agency, hospital or shelter to provide a vital communications link.

At the county or regional level where applicable

- Assisting Emergency Operations Centers, hospitals or shelters in providing communications with towns and groups outside the emergency.

Join now!

Your Western MA, ARRL and ARES Section can provide:

- Training in procedures, regulations and technologies to help increase your communications proficiency
- Technical Support to achieve your desired goals

For more Information or to join visit:

<https://wma.arrl.org/join-ares/>

Before the meeting on the 12th, I will post a survey to the website about Field Day. If members could answer it before the end of the month to gauge support for field day this year it would be a huge help to the club.

Aaron – kf1g

THE COMMUNICATOR is an informational publication for members of the Franklin County Amateur Radio Club. Officers: President: Aaron Addison (kf1g@arrl.net), Vice President: Richard Merriott, KC1JQJ, Treasurer: Howard Field, N1LUP, Secretary: Erika LaForme, KC1IJJ, Director: Belle Dyer, KB1NOG, Director: Brad Councilman

This is your newsletter! Amateur radio information of general interest, club member project descriptions and doings, radio applications to other activities, corrections, or suggestions are all welcome. Individual submissions make for variety! We need more writers! Send submissions to: Aaron KF1G (rangerfriday@gmail.com).