

PAWA Lines

Portland Amateur Wireless Association Newsletter

Portland Amateur Wireless Association Repeaters

W1KVI Falmouth: 146.730MHz (-600KHz) (T 100.0Hz)

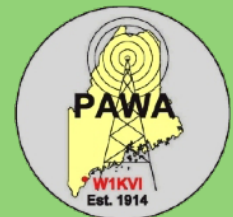
Portland Amateur Wireless Association Board of Directors

President	Jason Cote	W1WDW	W1WDW@jcwebdesign.com
Vice President	Bryce Rumery	K1GAX	K1GAX@juno.com
Secretary	Ariel Cote	KC1CCB	KC1CCB@jcwebdesign.com
Treasurer	Jack Ney	KC1UX	kc1ux@maine.rr.com
Chief Operator	Ross Drivas	KB1OND	rmdkb1ond@yahoo.com
Member at Large	John Bogner	W1JLB	JBogner1@maine.rr.com
Member at Large	Joseph Shortill	W1XXV	shortill5@yahoo.com



Growing wiser?

Send us your birthday to include in the newsletter!



New Home for 2019!

We'll need help moving!



New Website!

We have launched a new website!



On The Web

Please visit us on the web! We have pages on Twitter, Facebook and the world wide web. Check out our addresses at the top of the newsletter's first page, follow us on Twitter, and like our page on Facebook to stay up to date on club activities. If you have something to add, please let us know!

President's Message

Jason Cote - W1WDW

Happy December All,

We have reached the end of another year and with the coming of the new year brings exciting news. We have reached an agreement with the Southern Maine Chapter of the American Red Cross to move our regular business meetings to their facility at 2401 Congress Street in Portland. This has a couple of interesting meanings, first and foremost, we will once again truly be the "Portland" Amateur Wireless Association, and probably most importantly, this will be a rent-free agreement that will allow our club to continue without the massive expense of a \$1200 per year rent. Our first meeting in the new facility will take place on January 2nd at 7pm, the Board of Directors meeting will start at 6:30pm. At the present time, we have not discussed the possibility of additional nights in the building for things like exam sessions and special events, but we are continuing to work with the ARC to allow for these events. In the interim, the possibility of having exam sessions on our regular meeting nights might be an option. Any suggestions, or questions can be sent my way, W1WDW@jcwebdesign.com. We were also planning on having a potluck-style dinner at our December meeting as we traditionally have had in the past, due to the shortage of treasury funds, we

have elected to not have a club-sponsored dinner this year, and as a result of the recent low turnout for meetings, I feel it is best to cancel the December dinner this year. I'm sincerely hoping that with the new home and new opportunities for activities in 2019, that we will once again see an influx in attendance. Thanks for your time, and I hope to see you at the December meeting.

- Jason, W1WDW - President

Treasurer's Report

November 2018	
Beginning Balance	\$269.45
Income	\$20.00
Expenses	\$100.00
Ending Balance	\$189.45

A reminder that dues are due for 2019! Remember, the club operates because of the income provided by the yearly dues. Your timely payment can ensure that we have the funds to continue to operate. Thank you.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, December 5th, 2018 - 7pm - Annual Holiday Potluck
413 Broadway, South Portland
Stewart Morrill American Legion Post #35

Contests:

11/30-12/2 160 Meter
17-19 10 Meter
24-25 Rookie Roundup - CW



Secretary's Report

Ariel Cote - KC1CCB

Wednesday, November 7th, 2018

Board of Directors Meeting

The criteria for a quorum was met. Meeting was moved to the McDonalds due to lack of access to the legion hall.

The Red Cross confirmed that we will be able to meet the first Wednesday of each month and will reserve the meeting room from 6-9 beginning 1/2/19. There are radios, antennas and a tower at the new facility. Hopefully more radio access at Red Cross will lead to more activities. Jason Cote, W1WDW, also reminded the group there is work to finish at the Red Cross.

General Membership Meeting

A quorum was not met for the general meeting.

Ariel Cote, KC1CCB, announced Red Cross will be the clubs new meeting spot starting in 2019. The October work party to clean out the radio room cancelled due to lack of participants. We will need to reschedule, especially now that we are officially moving out of the space. Jason will be contacting the legion to inform them of our intentions.

There will be no Ham of the Year this year.

It was decided to keep the dues the same for 2019, but hope to consider lowering them for 2020.

Chief Operator's Report

Ross Drivas - KB1OND

Interesting news and changes in the AMSAT world. Amateur radio now has its first geosynchronous satellite in orbit! Thursday, November 15, 2018 the geostationary satellite Es'hail-2 launched from Kennedy Space Center at

20:46 GMT on and is now in a geostationary orbit. The satellite was delivered from a Space-X Falcon 9 launch. Space-X being one of the private firms competing for NASA and commercial launch services. The satellite's foot print is oriented to the Mideast as it's sponsor is Qatar Satellite company. As you can see from the accompanying illustration



coverage includes parts of Brazil over to Thailand

Coverage information https://ukamsat.files.wordpress.com/2018/11/amsat-uk_eshail-2_transponder_info.pdf

<https://amsat-uk.org/satellites/geosynchronous/eshail-2/>

As one might expect the frequencies are not the VHF one we are currently used to. Instead its uses a 2 GHZ uplink and a 10 GHZ down link. The good news is there are plans afoot to develop a SDR to help lower the cost of access-- <https://eshail.batc.org.uk/>

The shutdown of the HF broadcast of Radio Australia earlier this year is still in the news. The service was defunded to support DAB broadcasting in the urban areas. Due to its propagation HF coverage by Australia Broadcast Corporation served wide areas of the Outback and the needed no internet connectivity or expensive gear to accomplish this. In addition, it was a great source of news and information to

many of the island nations in the Pacific. There is a proposal to relocate some of the transmitters to Shepparton, one of ABC's sites and with this consolidation, possibly resurrect ABC Radio on HF.

Swling Blog has a great post-

<https://swling.com/blog/2018/11/editorial-nigels-take-on-restoring-abc-shortwave-service/>

And finally speaking of changes FT8 the digital mode spawned by Joe Taylor's WSPR beaconing system is really taking off. While very slow, it works well during periods of high noise and no sunspots.

<http://www.arrl.org/news/ft8-mode-is-latest-bright-shiny-object-in-amateur-radio-digital-world>

In less than a year's time its use has taken off, with some advocates and some opponents. One of its biggest proponents is the President of FlexRadio. He offers some interesting thoughts, right here..

<https://www.flexradio.com/ft8-tipping-point-for-ham-radio/>

As he points out about 10 meters - when you think about it, digital modes like FT8 make 10 meters a DX band in all sorts of less than optimal conditions. This has great possibilities for Tech class amateurs who won't have to wait for years for the band to open up during the upswing of the sunspot cycle.

With the advent of new digital modes such as FT8 (and DMR) Technician class operators can literally have worldwide communication that has been sometimes very hard to achieve. And that is a good change for the hobby...

73

Ross KB1OND

Big changes ahead for ARRL board

Dan Romanchik - KB6NU

The results are finally in. No, I'm not talking about the national mid-term election results. As I'm writing this, some of those votes are still being counted. I'm talking about this year's ARRL board elections. ARRL members have spoken, and they have elected four new faces to the board in what was the most hotly-contested election in a long time.

Three of the five incumbents, plus an incumbent vice director running for the Northwest Division director position, were defeated by candidates calling for more transparency and for changes in the way that the ARRL operates.

Here are the results:

Central Division Director

- Kermit Carlson, W9XA 1,898
- Valerie Hotzfeld, NV9L 1,755

Hudson Division Director

- Ria Jairam, N2RJ 1,292
- Mike Lisenco, N2YBB 1,239

New England Division Director

- Fred Hopengarten, K1VR 1,432
- Tom Frenaye, K1KI 1,383

Northwestern Division Director

- Mike Ritz, W7VO 1,589
- Bonnie Altus, AB7ZQ 1,308
- Horace Hamby, N7DRW 495

Roanoke Division Director

- George Hippisley, W2RU 1,891
- Dr. James Boehner, N2ZZ 1,365

In the only two contested vice director elections, Mark Tharp, KB7HDX defeated Daniel Stevens, KL7WM and Delvin Bunton, NS7U in the Northwest Division and in the Roanoke Division, William Morine, N2COP defeated John Humphry, W4IM. All newly elected officials will take office at noon on January 1, 2019.

I was kind of surprised here that Valerie Hotzfeld, NV9L, failed to win in the Central Division. She has certainly made many contributions to amateur radio, both in the DX/contest community and on Ham Nation. Apparently, though, she made some statements that she was forced to retract, and that probably hurt her campaign, and as some pointed out to me, Kermit Carlson, W9XA, was well thought of in the Central Division and in the VHF/UHF community.

Overall, though, I'm very pleased with the results. Although some of the margins of victory were small—K1VR won by only 49 votes and N2RJ won by 53 votes—I think it's pretty clear that the members want change. Now, it's up to the board, including its newest members to effect that change. As always, I'm ready to help in any way that I can.

When he's not keeping up with ARRL politics, Dan blogs about amateur radio, writes exam study guides (www.kb6nu.com/study-guides), and operates CW on the HF bands, and lately some digital modes as well. Look for him on 30m, 40m, and 80m. Please email him your thoughts about the ARRL at cwgeek@kb6nu.com.