



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

Club Birthdays

4th - Cindy Stark, KM4HOJ 14th - Ross Drivas, KB1OND



Growing wiser?

Send us your birthday to include in the newsletter!



News From The FCC

Part 90 & Ham Radio Gear.



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

Welcome to October!

The cooler weather and fair season is upon us! Our welcome back BBQ was graciously hosted by Peter Eastman N1AKP and Megan out at the farm. We had a fairly good showing of membership and of course the food was wonderful. I would like to once again extend my thanks to Peter and Megan for their time and venue.

The PAWA website is live at www.pawa-maine.org and I would love to get ideas and feedback for additions to the site. It's still a mild work in progress, so please pardon any typos and such.

We'll meet Wednesday night at the Legion hall in South Portland to discuss the current state of the club and to plan some ideas for activities and events over the winter. As usual, I would encourage all members to drop by and add their ideas and thoughts to the pool.

- Jason, W1WDW - President

Treasurer's Report

September 2018	
Beginning Balance	\$406.34
Income	\$0.00
Expenses	\$126.89
Ending Balance	\$279.45

Secretary's Report

Ariel Cote - KC1CCB

There was no quorum met for September's meeting. In lieu of the normal meeting at the legion hall, the annual Welcome Back BBQ was held at Turkey Hill Farm. We appreciate Megan Wakefield and Peter Eastman's hospitality!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Next meeting:

Wednesday, October 3rd, 2018 - 7pm - 413 Broadway, So Portland
Stewart Morrill American Legion Post #35

Contests:

15-19 [School Club Round-Up](#)
27-28 [EME - 50 to 1296 MH](#)



Chief Operator's Report

Ross Drivas - KB1OND

There are a few interesting items in the news.

The FCC appears to be cracking down on the distribution of many of the inexpensive Chinese radios that are not part 90 certified for use here in the US. Many of the units are two meter HT's and are being used for people by people on GMRS, FMRS and MURS. Worse than that some people are using them without any knowledge of a band plan which results in interference on Public Safety or other frequencies. One of the most popular radios, the Baofeng UV-5Rs, are part 90 certified which would allow genuine ham radio operators to use them.

Some information on part 90 acceptance can be found here. http://www.miklor.com/COM/UV_Certification.php

It's interesting to note aside from the radio having to be certified there has to be a tag on the radio on it, underneath the battery in the case of the Baofeng prior to it being shipped indicating that it has Type 90 acceptance. Many of the uv5rs imported are missing those tags possibly because they were marketed for somewhere else. While maybe the same radio technically, it has not earned the part 90 acceptance.

WWV radio potential shutdown. As part of an efficiency measure designed to save money the National Institute of standards (NIST) has proposed shutting down the world wave radio broadcast which are used by many devices to synchronize clocks across the country. With the advent of the internet and the coming Internet of Things (IOT) many small devices such as thermostats doorbells and even larger ones like refrigerators and the like are being connected to the internet and may be able to get a timing signal from that. But the vast majority of the clocks and time keeping devices out there that use WWV for reset use a simple receiver to sync to a 60 hertz

signal that the WWV stations broadcast. The elimination of these important radio stations may have some far-reaching effects. At the very least people have to manually reset a bunch of devices that they don't currently do now.

<https://swling.com/blog/2018/08/nist-fy2019-budget-includes-request-to-shutdown-wwv-and-wwvh/>

Internet of Things (IoT) goes maritime. A new use for the HF bands and maritime communication has started using The Internet of Things (IoT) to allow ships and devices to communicate to each other digitally through HF. The HF frequencies are starting to be used again in the maritime world but it's not a throwback to having a CW operator on a ship. This use of an existing protocol to create a mesh type network that would allow various maritime elements to communicate or relay information could enhance safety for those out on the ocean. HF terrestrial radio has an advantage over a satellite Communications and that it's cheaper much easier to upgrade. Once again the SWLing Post site has a great link.

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Ross KB1OND

ARRL president suggests that we "re-brand" amateur radio

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

This Week in Amateur Radio recently reported (<https://www.stitcher.com/podcast/this-week-in-amateur-radio/e/51325707>) on a speech given by ARRL president, Rick Roderick, K5UR, at the 60th annual West Virginia State ARRL convention held August 25th at WVU Jackson's Mill Conference Center. Here are some things that he had to say:

"Are we even relevant anymore as ham radio operators? Well, let's see: We're world

communicators. We provide public service. We help in emergencies and disasters. We help save lives. We talk to the jungles of Africa...to the beaches of the South Pacific. We bounce signals off the moon. We talk to astronauts. We promote technology. We do positive things. So absolutely—we are relevant.

“We’ve got to accept change and we’ve got to adapt if we’re going to bridge that gap to that next generation. So the question that I have here that I have challenged my colleagues at ARRL with is this: is it time to rebrand ham radio? Maybe we need to rebrand the American Radio Relay League. That’s a pretty profound statement.”

Of course, I agree with K5UR on this and said so myself (<https://www.kb6nu.com/are-we-amateurs-or-what/>) several years ago. Unfortunately, according to the report, he retreated to the same old ideas that the ARRL has been spouting for years:

“Well I think we ought to get out there and stir things up. That’s what I think we ought to do. I think you ought to go back and rejuvenate your club. Over the next year, get somebody into ham radio. The second thing I want you to do...I want you to help a ham that needs your help. And the third thing I want you to do is—if you’re not a member of the American Radio Relay League, you need to join today...because you know that whether you like us or not, we’re all you’ve got; ain’t nobody else in Washington DC helping us. I want you to ask yourself this question: don’t you think it’s time to give something back? Now I believe as a group, if we all did that we’ll make a difference in this hobby as we go forward. Be a champion of ham radio. Let’s work together and get it done. Thank you very much.”

I’d like to challenge K5UR and the ARRL to really stir things up. There are lots of us out here giving back by teaching classes, conducting exam sessions, and helping hams get on the air. That’s not the problem.

What we need from the ARRL is real leadership, not just talk. Exhorting the troops is only going to go so far. For most hams, amateur radio is only a hobby, and they do what they can. It’s really up to the ARRL to provide the leadership that ties it all together and provide the framework that will allow us all to be successful.

Saying, “Whether you like us or not, we’re all you’ve got; ain’t nobody else in Washington DC helping us” doesn’t really cut it. You have to show people that you’re really making a difference, not just say you are.

When he's not giving the ARRL the benefit of his opinions, Dan blogs about amateur radio, writes exam study guides (www.kb6nu.com/study-guides), and operates CW on the HF bands. Look for him on 30m, 40m, and 80m. You can email him your thoughts about the ARRL at cwgeek@kb6nu.com.