



The Old Professor

The Providence Radio Association, Inc. September 2026 Volume CVII, Issue III



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

What does it mean to be an amateur radio operator in 2026? Looking back at the history of radio, one finds the radio amateur prominent in the development of equipment and operating methods. In 1939 RCA recruited a few of the then 50,000 plus radio amateurs to build and demonstrate the new technology: Television! Fast forward to 2017 and WSJTX including FT8 were developed by hams Joe Taylor K1JT and Steve Franke K9AN.

HamXposition ran Thursday August 13 through Sunday August 16th and the Providence Radio Association operated the W1XPO, Get-On-The-Air station, a GREAT time to showcase the PRA by mentoring new hams, showcasing our talents and getting to know our members.

Volunteers to be there to demonstrate and educate visitors about what we do and our ability to provide communications when all else fails makes it a success.

Is amateur radio “dying”? Nope! In March 2026 the FCC reported 735,936 radio amateurs in the USA. We have continued our flyer campaign sending out notices to newly minted hams and inviting them to check out the club.

Many hams were at HamXposition. This is THE place in New England to see new radios, presentations, check out the trailers from different ham clubs and

BEING A HAM IN 2026

DAVE STEUSSIE, KV1T

peruse the flea market giving you a chance to find that one last item you need for your shack. And of course, make new friends from all those attending.

In September, we have “Activate All RI”, if you are interested in hunting or activating POTA, this is a chance to get your certificate of working or hunting all Rhode Island Parks. Several hams will be joining in, check out the link to see when and where RI parks will be activated. How about you activate a park or team up with someone that has scheduled an activation. Check out this link and you can see who, where, and when a park will be activated.

<https://ripota.org/activate-ri-2026/>

We also have the PRA Ham Radio and Electronics Flea Market. Last year, with short notice, we pulled off a successful event.

We will start getting the word out, the same site is secured, we have a state approved raffle, and we hope to make it another ARRL sanctioned event.

We are fortunate to have several hams always looking for new opportunities and activities. What do you want to do next?

73

Dave Steussie—KV1T



WELCOME:

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Message from the President.....	1
From the Editor.....	3
Club News - Summer 2026 Recap.....	5
On the Air - Field Fay 2026.....	9
EMCOMM - EMMCOMM in Rhode Island.....	12
POTA.....	14
Happenings.....	15
Calendar.....	17
In Closing.....	18

On the Cover: Indian Head Television Test Pattern circa 1938



The Providence Radio Association, Inc.

The Old Professor is The Newsletter of The Providence Radio Association, Inc. and is published quarterly.

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W1OP Johnston, RI Repeaters

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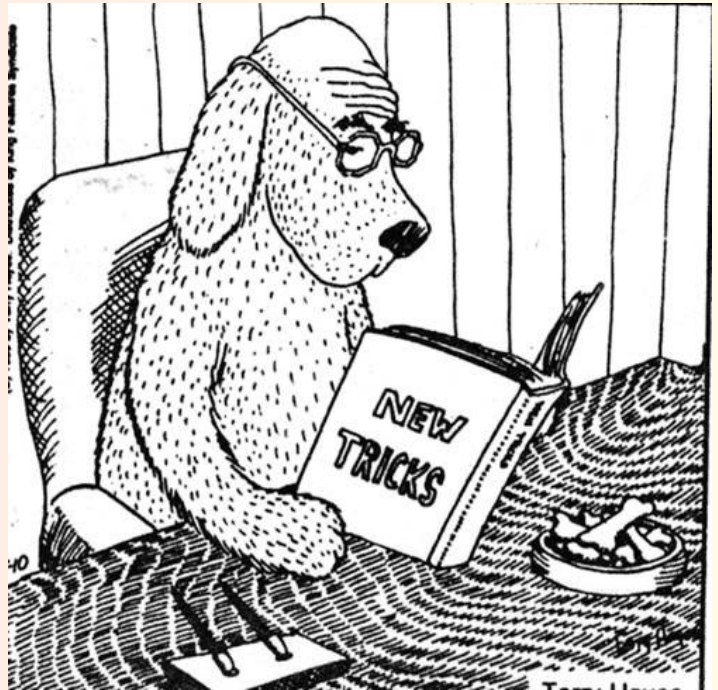
440 MHz DMR: 447.725 / 442.725 CC2



Welcome to the September edition of The Old Professor. The saying goes, “you can’t teach an old dog new tricks”. It dates back to the mid 1500’s in England describing the need to teach shepherd dogs when they are young else, they will not comply when they are older. Today, it reflects an older person’s inability to learn how to do things in a different way from what they have been accustomed to all their life. Do you believe it? Do we really reach a point of inability to learn something new?

For close to a year, I’ve been bemoaning the upcoming end of life of Microsoft Publisher, the tool I have used for the last five years to produce The Old Professor. About three years was invested in getting the newsletter to where it was, much of it through experimentation and trial and error. Even the June edition had experimentation with different features. But the end was closing in.

I read Microsoft’s recommendations of suggested alternatives, of course, Word and PowerPoint, tools I’ve used for years through my career. Attempts to recreate a couple of simpler pages resulted in “No” and a resounding double “No”. A fellow club member suggested a desktop publishing software program, so I downloaded it and checked it out. Immediately I realized that transitioning to the new program was like driving a car with a manual transmission your entire life and suddenly being put in a car with an automatic transmission. That program ended up in the growing pile of programs that just weren’t going to cut it.



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Fast forward a few months with no solution in hand and the end-of-life date closing in. I got to talking with another club member who directed me to a recent article in a computer magazine about options for replacing MS Publisher. There in the article were some of the programs that I had looked at before. But one in particular stood out, the one with the automatic transmission. I pondered it and asked myself, “I wonder if there are any primers for getting started?” Lo and behold, I found 14 short videos that provided the basics for getting started and some of the features that I knew from experience with Publisher that were necessary for this being successful. The end result is what you see today. This old dog isn’t quite that old yet.

A long story but begs the question, have you learned any new tricks lately? Our

¹ “The dogge must lerne it, whan he is a whelp, or els it will not be: for it is harde to make an olde dogge to stoupe”.



FROM THE EDITOR

CONT'D

hobby is constantly evolving. There are new tricks to be learned every day. Have you acquired a new radio that operates completely differently from the one that has been by your side, and you have trusted since the radio before that one blew up? Do you know how to program it? How about erecting a new antenna? Every day, something new arrives to our hobby. Have you tried it or are you still gnawing at that good old trusty bone? Finally, just to throw out the riskiest of all questions, are you still operating spark gap or have you dared yourself to learn one of the newest digital modes?

To the folks at Microsoft, thanks for many years of Publisher and the offerings that it provided to our newsletter. You have been a trusty tool for us and we have accomplished a lot with you. But we have just been introduced to the General Motors Hydra-Matic. Yes, the manual

transmission has been around for decades and this is new. We expect there to be some hiccups along the way, but we'll be okay. It may take a while to break the habit of reaching for the clutch pedal with our left foot but we'll get used to it.

As I say every quarter, lots of great stuff in this issue. Enjoy the read and when you are done, let rover have a read or place it in the glove box of your Oldsmobile Series 60.

If you are curious about what the new software is, keep your eyes open through this issue. You will find your answer and learn a new trick.

73

Tom Greenwood—W1ER

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HAMXPO 2026

One of the highlights of the summer amateur radio season is HamXposition. Held at the Best Western Hotel in Marlborough, MA, in mid-August, the three-day event has something for everyone, presentations, vendors, the flea market, and banquets. The Providence Radio Association was a proud sponsor this year with full coverage promoting the PRA. This was the third year for the PRA operating the special event station.

A highlight of this year's Xposition was the presentation by the PRA's own Kaushik, KC1WNO entitled "AI and Modern Wireless Communications Systems". The program was attended by about two dozen people and was well received. Kaushik explained different methodologies of how AI works and how those principles can be applied to amateur communications and included a demonstration of how AI was used to clean up a noisy HF QSO to improve

readability. Congratulations Kaushik on an excellent presentation.

The PRA operated the special event station with a 20-meter SSB station with an antenna in the parking lot and remote connection to the club house FT-8 station. Ted, NE1U came to the rescue when the W1XPO coaxial cable was severed by a door closing on it. Ted quickly rounded up the parts from vendors in the flea market and was able to put the station back on the air quickly. Thanks for coming to the rescue.

K1DT spent much of his time at the flea market and was very pleased to have sold almost if not all the stuff he was looking to unload. Dave does indicate that his voice was shot after conversing nonstop with the many attendees.

The best part of any event like this is socializing and seeing old faces and putting faces to names. Several members attended the DX Banquet on Friday

2026 HAMXPO HONOR ROLL

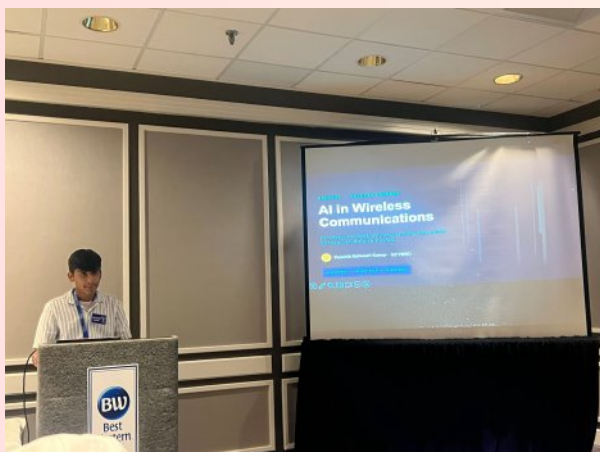
**Many thanks to the following members and friends of the club
for their participation this year**

N1BAQ	Bob Egan	KZ1K	John Winman
K1COI	Rich Mancini	W1PRA	Paul DePetrillo
K1CW	Mike Gibbemeyer	N1RHH	Octavio Vieira
N1DM	Dom Mallozzi	KV1T	Dave Steussie
KV4DN	Don Stanford	KC1VMU	Satheesh Rajaram
K1DT	Dave Tessitore	NE1U	Ted Casassa
W1ER	Tom Greenwood	KC1WNO	Kaushik Kumar
W1GS	John Good		



CLUB NEWS

CONT'D



Kaushik, KC1WNO Presents AI In Wireless Communications



W1XPO in Operation



The PRA Table at Saturday's Grand Banquet



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evening as well as the Grand Banquet on Saturday evening. After the Saturday flea market extravaganza and the many presentations, many members got together in the bar for happy hour prior to the Grand Banquet.

Did you attend? What did you learn? Did you make any great finds at the flea market? What was your favorite part? All of us at the PRA look forward to returning next year to HamXposition 2027.

13 COLONIES

The 2026 13 Colonies Special Event is in the books. PRA clubmembers and other volunteers got Rhode Island (K2C) on the air. This very popular special event runs every year from July 1st to July 7th. Many thanks to those who participated.

Two years ago the Providence Radio

Association was asked to take over the event and we happily obliged. We lost and gained some operators from 2025. Thanks to those that took the time to help out on this very popular event. The pile ups are legendary for SSB and CW. As you learn to manage them, you become a better operator. I thought Field Day was busy until I operated K2C. I imagine the K2C pile up is like when DX-peditions operate. I operated one less day this year and still I met my personal goal of over 2000 SSB QSO's.

In 2025, one K2C operator generated 4400 digital QSOs but was not able to operate this year. I hope to get more participation in the digital space next year from the club. Operating digital is very simple, it is not like SSB or CW. I can see K2C easily increasing our numbers in the digital modes without much effort. We are looking for feedback on how we can increase club members

2026 13- COLONIES HONOR ROLL

**Many thanks to the following members and friends of the club
for their participation this year**

N1BAQ	Bob Egan	KC1WNO	Kaushik Kumar
N1BS	Brian Swann	KC1YMO	Anthony Thompson
K1BH	Bob Hart	AJ1DM	John Merkel
K1NW	Brian Maynard	WA1LAD	Gil Woodside
WQ1Q	Rocco Quattrucci	W1WIU	Jim Greenwood
KV1T	Dave Steussie	KA1MXL	Kevin Halton
NE1U	Ted Casassa	NK2MC	Juan Serra



participation. Yes, it is right after Field Day, but just one day from everyone would be great. We will also look to try to recruit more members from other clubs.

K1DS VISITS THE CLUB

Esteemed member Rick Rosen, K1DS, paid the club a visit for the August 25 social meeting during his pilgrimage to Rhode Island from Florida. Great to see you, Rick, and glad you could join us.

BREAKING NEWS

As you may be aware, the ARRL Board of Directors designated 2026 as the Year of the Club. In the words of the league,

"radio clubs are the backbone of ARRL. The growth and development of amateur radio rely on our vibrant community of radio clubs." The league has been pushing many activities to promote club activity. One activity was the Year of the Club Newsletter Contest. Late last year, we submitted our four 2025 newsletters. At the end of July, we received notification from Becky Schoenfeld, W1BXY, Director of Publications and Editorial for the League that the Old Professor had received Honorable Mention in the Medium sized Club category. More to follow in the December edition of The Old Professor.



Frank, W1EYH; Rick, K1DS; Paul, W1PRA; Dave, K1DT; Ron, WA1FOS



Field Day was a resounding success this year. Operating from the Masonic Youth Center at Buttonwoods in Warwick, RI, this year's team led by Bob Egan, N1BAQ and Andy Stenberg, AJ1S saw a dramatic improvement in system performance and operation. Three stations operated with the callsign W1OP in addition to a fourth station operating GOTA with the callsign N1PRA. Bob and Andy combined months of planning and engineering expertise to work out antenna and grounding arrangements for all the stations that permitted the stations to peacefully coexist with each other for the entire 24-hour exercise.

The results speak for themselves. We saw a great staffing level at each of the stations that contributed to us achieving a 59% improvement in the number of contacts compared to 2025 for a grand total of 3,284 contacts. As mentioned before, the three primary stations operated for almost the entire duration of the exercise. The little down time was due mostly to the time needed to exchange Winlink messages for bonus points and during handoffs between operators. W1OP was also successful in making satellite contacts on the 70 cm band. We had many visitors who had the opportunity to operate ham radio for the first time as well as a visit from the Cranston Herald and the Warwick Police Department. Check out the phenomenal article about the PRA at cranstononline.com.

John Brewer, N1SXB served as our Get-On-The-Air (GOTA) coach aiding and guiding operators who were newly licensed or had not been on the air in long time, and visitors who were seeing



for the first time what ham radio is all about. One hundred twenty-nine contacts were made by the GOTA operators, and at five points per contact, added another 645 points to our overall score.

The PRA trailer is coming together nicely courtesy of the handiwork of member Bob van Herpe who also facilitated the many behind the scenes logistics that are required to keep the stations operating. And if that wasn't enough to keep Bob on his toes for the duration, he also kept the stomachs of the savage operators satisfied. Many thanks to you, Bob.

With a rapid deployment exercise like this, not everything goes completely smoothly and through a very detailed postmortem and lessons learned conducted afterwards, we've taken note of where improvements are needed in 2027.

Overall, great performance and thanks go out to each, and all the participants listed below in the 2026 Field Day Honor Roll and as always, we express many thanks to the Masonic Youth Center for hosting us again this year. 2026 results are tallied below.

**W1OP & N1PRA 2026 Field Day Results**

CW QSO's	1133	x2	2266
PHONE QSO's	2131	x1	2131
DIGITAL QSO's	20	x2	40
TOTAL QSO POINTS			4437
POWER MULTIPLIER		x2	8874
GOTA QSO's	129	x5	645
BONUS POINTS			1590
TOTAL SCORE			11,109

FIELD DAY 2026 HONOR ROLL

**Many thanks to the following members and friends of the club
for their participation this year**

WA1AI	Anthony Ionata	W1PRA	Paul DePetrillo
N1BAQ	Bob Egan	WQ1Q	Rocco Quattrucci
N1BBM	Gibert Brown	N1QDQ	Peter Brunelli
N1BS	Brian Swann	AJ1S	Andy Stenberg
K1COI	Rich Mancini	N1SXB	John Brewer
N1DM	Domenic Mallozzi	K1TNX	Jim Meltzer
KV4DN	Don Stanford	KC1VMU	Satheesh Rajaram
K3DRE	Douglas Evans	NE1U	Ted Casassa
W3DRE	Dave Steussie	W1WJB	Wally Bonevelle
K1DT	David Tessitore	KC1WNO	Kaushik Kumar
W1ER	Tom Greenwood	KC1YFS	Kevin Swiencki
W1ESQ	Neville Bedford	KC1YMO	Anthony Thompson
W1EYH	Frank DePetrillo	KC1ZCY	Russell Bertrand
WA1FOS	Ron Cameron	No Call Yet	Bob Van Herpe
AC1GE	Rachel Simon	No Call Yet	Glenn Rosera
AA1II	Fred Pocai	No Call Yet	David DePetrillo
N1IVB	Dave Czerwonka	No Call Yet	Rick Odell
KZ1K	John Winman	No Call Yet	Kevin Grant
K1LFS	Leo Smith	No Call Yet	Luanna Depetrillo
K1MD	Richard San Antonio	No Call Yet	Ben del Rosario
KC1NAB	Bob Hart	No Call Yet	Sylvia Storch
KC1NTI	Greg Gruenenfelder	No Call Yet	Dan Cullen
K1NW	Brian Maynard		



The AB-577& Tri-Bander in Action Again



John, KZ1K and Bob, N1BAQ Working the 20 Meter SideBand Station in the PRA Trailer



Ted, NE1U Coaches In the Get On The Air (GOTA) Tent





Many Rhode Island amateur radio operators ask “what role amateur radio plays in Encomm in this state?” I have often thought about this question and recently had to “officially” provide an answer.

A newspaper reporter contacted Providence Emergency Management Agency Director Clara Decerbo with a question about amateur radio, so she referred the person to me. The reporter asked, “when the last time ham radios were used for an emergency response in Rhode Island?”

I am sharing my response to the reporter with The Old Professor with hope members of the PRA will cogitate the issue of Emcomm in Rhode Island.

I hope I can provide you with the information you seek, as I want to be helpful.

For context, I have been involved with amateur radio emergency communications in some form or another since at least Y2K. The radio club I belonged to at the time, spent the night at the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency standing by in the event normal means of communications failed as no one knew for sure what would occur. Y2K went off without a hitch.

Your question you pose asks, “*when the last time ham radios were used for an emergency response?*”

If you are asking if there has ever been an incident in Rhode Island when amateur radios were used because regular means of communication were not accessible or inoperable, then the answer would be never...at least to my knowledge. I have been an amateur radio operator since the early 1980's, before the proliferation of the cell phone, when most people had a “landline”. “Back in the day”, there was the potential to lose phone service because of damage to phone lines during a storm. Public safety radio communications were less sophisticated, amateurs stood by for their local “Civil Defense” agency if needed. A lot has changed.

Today, most everyone has a cell phone and “Landline” is still used by most businesses and government agencies. We have the internet and email as a means of correspondence. These forms of electronic communication relay on

robust backup systems which are in many ways considered fail safe.

Public safety and many government agencies in Rhode Island use a sophisticated radio communications system called the Rhode Island Statewide Communications Network (RISCON) for means of communications daily. <https://riema.ri.gov/operations-support-branch/rhode-island-communications-statewide-communications-network-riscon>. These agencies often have independent back-up radio systems as well.

But an “emergency” can be a participant in a marathon race who gets injured while running or a bicyclist in a “bike-a-thon” whose bicycle breaks down in a secluded section of the route. Amateur radio operators volunteer their service at those events providing radio communications. For the runner or bicyclist, who may not have a cell phone, such an incident is an emergency. Amateur radio aka “ham radio” is used at events in Rhode Island, such as the MS “Ride the Rhode” that occurs annually in Washington County, as well as in other states such as “The Boston Marathon” which deploys a multitude of amateur radio operators for the race. Of note, amateur radio played a critical role during the Boston Marathon bombing in 2013.

Amateur radio is considered a “contingency” means of emergency communications. The motto of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) is “when all else fails”. The ARRL is the national association of amateur radio which



advocates for “ham radio” operators who are required to be licensed by The Federal Communications Commission. “Ham radio” operators must follow rules and regulations contained in the Code of Federal Regulations Part 97 Amateur Radio Service <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-47/chapter-I/subchapter-D/part-97> which indicates that one of the fundamental purposes of the Amateur Radio Service is:

“Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications.”

In fact, there are specific regulations known as Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) which allow amateur radio operators to serve in emergency management agencies if authorized by the director of the agency. <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-47/chapter-I/subchapter-D/part-97/subpart-E/section-97.407>

Nevertheless, I ponder the premise behind your question, “when the last time ham radios were used for an emergency response?” If your question concerns the necessity for amateur radio as a resource for emergency communications during a disaster, then it is a question that is discussed by amateur radio operators as well. Some amateur radio operators regularly pass radio messages called “traffic” that are “relayed” from operator to operator locally, nationally, and internationally.

Amateur radio operators participate in the National Weather Service “SKYWARN” program which regularly uses “ham radio” operators to report local weather conditions to the National Weather Service during adverse weather conditions. Yet other radio amateurs do not participate in such activities but will no doubt “spontaneously” volunteer “when all else fails”. Some just question their role, particularly in a

state with few disasters.

While it may occur for a person to lose cell service during a disaster incident, cell companies provide special circuits for “first responders”. The “internet” has a multitude of backup systems, but “hackers” remain a cyber threat, particularly those “bad actors” from state-sponsored countries who seek to adversely affect our privacy and security. But these are not commonplace events which disrupt normal means of communications.

That was not the case in North Carolina during Hurricane Helene in 2024. Whole counties lost all means of communications, including public safety agencies. I recently watched a 2-hour presentation by the North Carolina Emergency Management Agency communications section chief who highlights how amateur radio provided emergency communications “when all else failed”. He advocates that the current emergency management popular phrase “Expect the Unexpected” be changed to “Expect the Unimaginable.”. <https://youtu.be/9LjSa3my6NY?si=FvGGuAVXVxsKCGJY>

“Expect the Unimaginable” resonates with me.

In closing, I will go back to the night at the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency during Y2K while we waited for the moment when the clock struck midnight. The Chief Radio Officer for the agency at the time, Jimmy Bell, said he did not expect a problem during Y2K. Instead, he said we should be more concerned about a terrorist attack occurring in the United States. I recall thinking at the time, such an incident would never happen in the United States.

And then came 911.

73

Barry Noel—W1BSN



ACTIVATIONS

Date	Park	Location	Station(s)
June 11, 2026	US-4954 Russell-Shea State Forest	US-NH	AJ1S
June 13, 2026	US-4698 Freetown-Fall River State Forest	US-MA	AJ1S
June 15, 2026	US-4368 Wachussett Mtn. Reservation State Park	US-MA	W3DRE
July 10, 2026	US-2645 Clough State Park	US-NH	AJ1S
July 24, 2026	US-2680 Wadleigh State Park	US-NH	AJ1S
July 31, 2026	US-2874 Fort Adams State Park	US-RI	AJ1S
August 5, 2026	US-1559 Assateague State Park	US-MD	KV1T
August 6, 2026	US-7742 Isle of Wight Wildlife Management Area	US-MD	KV1T
August 7, 2026	US-2680 Wadleigh State Park	US-NH	AJ1S
August 21, 2026	US-0744 Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller Nat. Hist. Park	US-VT	AJ1S

PLANNED ACTIVATIONS

Park	Date / Time	By
Colt State Park	August 29, 2026 1300 - 1600	KV1T

All Dates and Times in UTC



Andy, AJ1S, operates from Fort Adams State Park before attending the Newport Jazz Festival



POTA ACTIVATIONS

Have you operated from a state or national park or other similar area? Let our Club President know and we'll publish it here. Are you planning a POTA activation? Send an email to our club president and we'll publish an alert in our weekly mailings.

Want to know more about the Parks On The Air program?

Visit: <https://parksontheair.com/index.html>



HAPPENINGS

Congratulations to the following new members of the Providence Radio Association:



K1NPT
Micheal Cullen
June 9, 2026



Welcome to the Club and remember "once a member, always a member!"



A free, weekly, live, Amateur Radio Technician Class Licensing course on Zoom will begin on Thursday, Sept 3, and will run through Thursday, October 15 (7 sessions). The three-hour sessions will start at 6:30 PM Eastern Time. These are the classes that we have been holding for years sponsored by the National Electronics Museum. Those wishing to sign up can email roland.anders@comcast.net for more information.

So, how did you like this latest edition of The Old Professor? Have you spotted the subtle differences from previous editions? A few changes have been made to improve appearance. How do you like them?

I am happy to announce that this edition has been produced using Scribus. *"Scribus is an Open Source program that brings professional page layout with a combination of press-ready output and new approaches to page design."*

Many thanks to Rocco Quadrucci, WQ1Q who suggested it. Many thanks to Frank Donovan, W3LPL. Our conversation prompted me to rethink the solution and I have to admit, I am rather pleased with the results. It's still rough in some places but improvements to come with future editions.



SUNDAY 80-METER PRA NET

Several of our members across New England have checking in on 80 meters LSB early on Sunday mornings for an informal PRA net. If you are interested in participating, tune in to 3924 KHz +/- depending on existing QRL at 0700 local time. You can also reach out to Bob Hart, KC1NAB who can put you on electronic distribution for notices for when and where the net is operating.

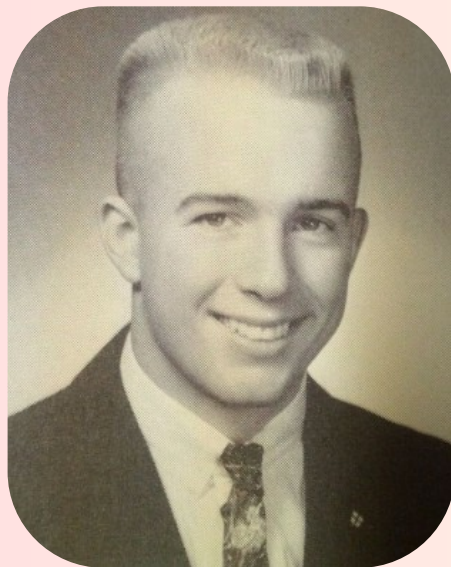
SUNDAY PRA NET ON DMR

Don't forget that the PRA conducts a weekly net on DMR every Sunday night at 2000 EST/EDT, hosted by the New England Digital Emergency Communications Network (NEDECN) on talk group NETAC1.

All are welcomed to attend.

HAPPENINGS is the place to list member accomplishments and other short notices pertaining to club members and other items of amateur radio interest.

if you think there is an item of interest or an event that should be listed in our **Happenings**, please let our Club President know and we will do our best to get it included.



It's with deep regret that we announce the passing of club member and dear friend Dave Smith, WA1UWU.

David Whitney Smith, born on December 18, 1945, in Winchendon, Massachusetts, lived a life that was loving, thoughtful, and witty. A lifelong bachelor, David's heart was devoted to his family and his passions. With his quick wit and warm smile, he could light up the room and make anyone feel at ease. His thoughtfulness was evident in the care he put into his relationships and his work. David was always there to lend an ear and loved hearing about his great-nephews, his niece Becky, and his nephew Brian.

As an accomplished Electrical Engineer, David worked with a defense contractor for forty years. His intelligence

and dedication to his profession were widely respected. Outside the sphere of work, David was an avid ham radio enthusiast and a proud member of the Providence Radio Club. He found joy in sailing along the Rhode Island coast and diving into the intricate world of electronics. An Eagle Scout in his youth, David carried the values of the Scouts throughout his life: service, honor, and commitment. His passions and achievements were a testament to his incredible spirit and resilience.

David spent most of his life in Portsmouth, RI, a place he called home and where he established deep connections. He is survived by his loving sister Anne LeBlanc and her husband Charles, his nephew Brian LeBlanc and his wife Elizabeth, their children Ethan and Benjamin, and his niece Becky Morrison and her husband Wes and her son

Steven and his brother-in-law Dr. Robert Frank. He is preceded in death by his parents, Marshall and Persis Smith, and his sister Dr. Elaine Frank. David's loving nature, his thoughtful demeanor, and his witty charm will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Please share your cherished memories and photos of David on the [memorial page](#).

Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home, 343 Central St., Winchendon, MA.





CALENDAR AUTUMN 2026

PRA Flea Market	Smithfield Sportsman Club, 14 Walter Carey Road, Smithfield, RI
13 September 1300 - 1700 UTC	https://w1op.com/
2nd Annual PRA Flea-Market	
NEAR-Fest XXXX	Hillsborough County Fairgrounds, 17 Hilldale Lane, New Boston, NH
2-3 October 1100 - 1900 UTC	https://near-fest.com/
NE Amateur Radio Festival and Flea-Market	
Olneyville NY System Dinner	18 Plainfield St, Providence, RI 02909
Date TBD 1700 - 1900 Local	https://www.olneyvillenewyorksystem.com/
Hot Wieners at the infamous Olneyville New York System. A PRA tradition	
CQ World-Wide, Phone	PRA Clubhouse, 1 Ludlow Street, Johnston, RI
24-25 October 0000 - 2359 UTC	https://www.cqww.com/rules.htm
Multi-op Entry	
ARRL Sweepstakes, CW	PRA Clubhouse, 1 Ludlow Street, Johnston, RI
7 - 9 November 2100 - 0259 UTC	https://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes/
Multi-op Entry	
ARRL Sweepstakes, Phone	PRA Clubhouse, 1 Ludlow Street, Johnston, RI
21 - 23 November 2100 - 0259 UTC	https://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes/
Multi-op Entry	
PRA Awards Night	Atwood Grille, 1413 Atwood Avenue, Johnston, RI 02909
Date TBD 1730 - 2030 Local	https://www.atwoodgrille.com/
Awards presented to outstanding members	
CQ World-Wide, CW	PRA Clubhouse, 1 Ludlow Street, Johnston, RI
28-29 November 0000 - 2359 UTC	https://www.cqww.com/rules.htm
Multi-Op Entry	
ARRL 160 Meters Contest	PRA Clubhouse, 1 Ludlow Street, Johnston, RI
4 - 6 December 2200 - 1559 UTC	https://www.arrl.org/160-meter/
Annual 160m Tradition. Operate the thrill of Top Band	
FT-8 Challenge	PRA Clubhouse, 1 Ludlow Street, Johnston, RI
5 - 6 December 1800 - 2359 UTC	https://www.rttycontesting.com/ft-challenge/
ARRL 10 Meter Contest	PRA Clubhouse, 1 Ludlow Street, Johnston, RI
12 - 13 December 0000 - 2359 UTC	http://www.arrl.org/10-meter/
Multi-Op Entry	
PRA Christmas Party	PRA Clubhouse, 1 Ludlow Street, Johnston, RI
Date TBD 1800 - 2100 Local	https://w1op.com/

Our **Calendar** section is the place to list events either sponsored by the PRA or of general interest to the PRA membership and including its participation. Events take place year round be it contests, conventions, flea markets, or just casual get togethers.

If you think there is an event that should be listed in our **Calendar**, please let our Event Committee Chairman know as soon as possible at; president@w1op.com and we will do our best to get it included.

Don't forget we meet weekly every Tuesday evening on the web. Watch your email for meeting announcements.



IN CLOSING

Every volunteer organization has challenges in making things go. Members are busy with their own lives, careers, families, and personal responsibilities. Sometimes, adding just one more thing can be a daunting prospect. Everyone gets that, and W1OP members are no different. However, when it comes to making things go in our club the same usual suspects are all too often called upon. This is a significant imposition on a fistful of very gracious individuals to whom we owe tremendous debt. The best way to repay these individuals for their time and contributions is to volunteer to help make one of our club functions go! Carve out a small piece of your time and pitch in on a W1OP activity. What could that be?

- Help out with the PRA Ham Radio Flea Market.
- Participate in a club contest. A few years ago, Fred, AA1II, stated he wanted to get a group together to work the ARRL sweepstakes. I had never done it before and did not know much about it. He explained the contest, rallied and recruited the troops, and fanned the interest within the club. Now it is an annual event that the club looks forward to.
- Step up now to help plan and implement Winter Field Day 2026 or Field Day early in 2027.
- Pitch in on the production and editing of our quarterly newsletter or write an article. Tell a ham radio related story, tell us how you got involved in ham radio. Tell us about you.
- Put together a presentation for one of our monthly meetings.
- Start a net for W1OP. Currently, N1DM runs the

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

DAVE STEUSSIE, KV1T

DMR net Sunday nights, KC1NAB runs the 80m net early Sunday mornings. We have a 2m repeater that reaches the state of Rhode Island and beyond. The net could run from your home off the repeater. We could have several nets on whatever frequency or time you would like. Pick a topic, pick a time. It could be once a day, once a week, or once a month. Ask N1DM, KC1NAB, or me for ideas.

- Volunteer to backup one of our officers or appointed position functions, such as treasurer, house committee, tech committee, program committee, etc. These hams put in a lot of work year-round. Lend a hand, learn their job, share in the responsibilities, join or start a working party.
- Help organize an operational activity for the club, such as a fox hunt or simple contest.
- Conduct a SOTA/POTA activation and invite club members to join you or contact you on the air. When I joined the club not many were doing POTA, I started inviting club members to my monthly POTA activations. As president I don't have as much time so we have not been doing as many as I would like. Host a POTA event, let me show you how easy it is.
- Invite a friend or acquaintance to join W1OP and accompany them to a meeting.

There are many ways to pitch in and make W1OP a little better for us all. Dedicate yourself to allocating a bit of your time and effort to make our organization go! We can all do our part.

73

Dave Steussie—KV1T

President

73 AND SEE YOU IN DECEMBER 2026

**Many thanks to all who contributed for this issue.
It could not be done without you.**

This is Your Newsletter !!

**Forward your items of interest, short articles, and photos to W1ER@ARRL.NET
We will make every effort to include your submission.**

NEAR-Fest

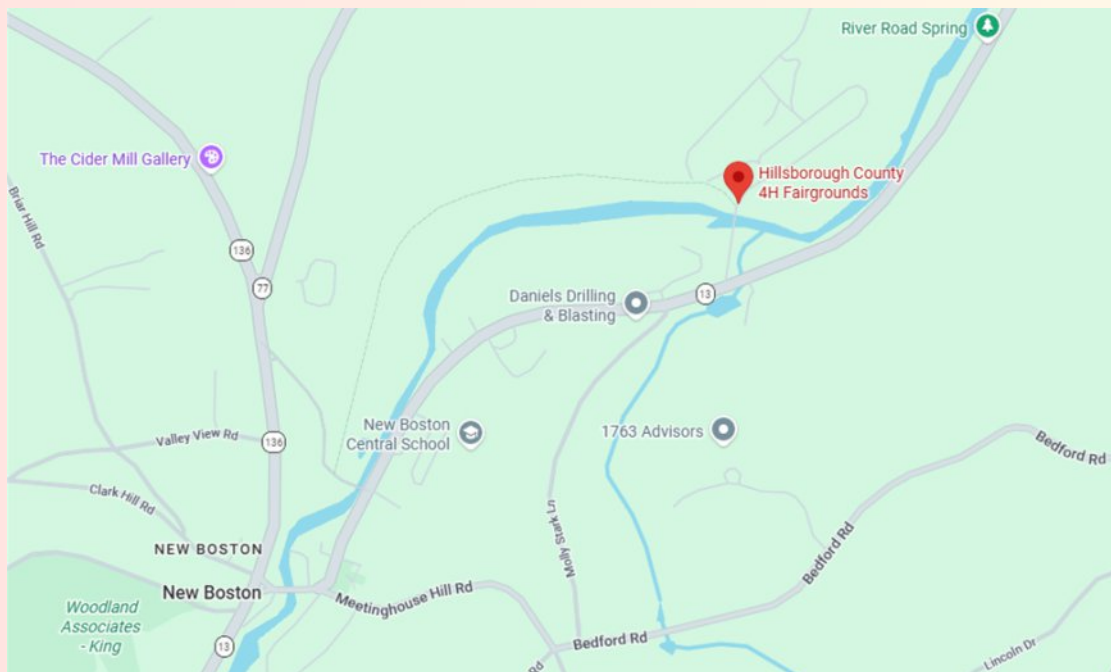
New England Amateur Radio Festival



NEAR-Fest XXXX - October 2 & 3, 2026

Gates open at 8 am on Friday and 7 am on Saturday.

Closing ceremonies at 2 pm on Saturday



W1OP

2nd ANNUAL HAM RADIO & ELECTRONICS



FLEA MARKET

September 13th 2026 9AM-1PM

Vendor Setup 8AM

WHERE: Smithfield Sportsman Club
14 Walter Carey Road, Smithfield, RI

SELLERS: \$10 Table/Spot
INDOOR/OUTDOOR FIRST COME FIRST SERVE
Reserve Now! Contact: President@w1op.com

BUYERS: FREE Admission with canned good
or \$5 donation benefitting:



RHODE ISLAND COMMUNITY
FOOD BANK



TALK-IN: W1OP FM Repeater 146.835 PL 192.8