

The

Modulator

NCRC Newsletter Supplement, June 2016

Island Activation Schedule

Weather cancelled the activation planned for Patience Island this past Sunday, June 5th. Instead, our Activation Navy headed over to Gooseberry to get a good look at this challenging islet.



Goblin left, Turmoil right.

Gooseberry will be a rough site because it is little more than a rocky spine, but we ran into a bigger problem—nesting gulls.



Marshall spots a gull chick.

Gooseberry will be rescheduled for late summer after the gulls have left and Patience Island will take its calendar position:

July 2nd—Patience Island

Type 18 Registration Saga Continues

Radio Call License Plates Alive and Well

As Lily Tomlin used to say on *Laugh In*, “Never mind.” What’s the big deal about getting a call sign plate?” you might ask. “The procedure is on the club web site.”

And so it is. But here’s the rub: You know that there has been confusion in the past about the fee for a Radio Operator Registration—Type 18. You know that you have to insist that Type 18s are not vanity plates. But what do you say when the DMV clerk tells you that *Type 18s are no longer issued as of over a year ago?*

Bob Beatty, WB4SON, who has more experience with this than anyone, assures us that the enabling legislation is still in effect. As a result of personal experience and frustration, Bob spoke to the Assistant Director of DMV, resulting in a mail in application form being posted on the DMV web site. Might it have been this new application process that caused DMV clerks to think Type 18s had been discontinued?

The A-ha! Moment

And now we see why the DMV counter clerks are so misinformed: *They are completely isolated from the application process. They only process Type 18 renewals.*

The Crucial Form

<http://www.dmv.ri.gov/documents/forms/registration/Amateur%20Radio%20Operator%20Plate%20Application.pdf>

This link includes the legislation, 31-4-39, instructions, and the form. Follow this procedure:

- Fill out the form and attach a copy of your license.
- Choose the main DMV center (Cranston) for pick up.
- Mail all DMV Cranston.

You will receive a mailed notice to pick up your plates 6 to 8 weeks later. Bob reports that his took 3 months.

Changing to a Type 18

So you’ve got your ham ticket and you want to put a Type 18 on your car—home free?—not quite. DMV procedure requires that your Private Passenger Registration, Type 1, be cancelled before your new Type 18 can be issued. That cost Bob Beatty over one hundred dollars!

The Final Word

Chuck DiLuglio, K1DA, works for the RI General Assembly as an assistant legislative counsel and “...keep[s] an eye on this stuff.” Chuck assures us that 31-3-39 has not been repealed.

Thanks Bob and Chuck !