

Newport County Radio Club (NCRC) Meeting Minutes, 10 NOV 2025

Attendees: Jim Sendrak, Willy MacLean, Brian Cottle, Mike Rousseau, , Joe DeMarco, Keith Henry, Ellen Vadney, Bruce Braga, Bob Matose, Paul Recupero, Crystal Thibault, Corry Thibault, John Brewer, Chris Lirakis, Bill Bagwill, Bill Cameron, Greg Bonaguide, Jim Sammons, Bob Beatty, Rene Martel, Rich Townsen, Jeff Frederick, Mark, Mueller Scott Nacey (Z), Robert Marro (Z), Rich Travers (Z), Paul Fredette (Z), Chuck Kesson (Z), Evan Bowen (Z), Ed Gosling (Z), Dave Quinn (Z), Stephan Crawford (Z), Mike Seil

-2026 Officers and Executive Committee: The slate of 2026 Club officers and Executive Committee members as presented at the October meeting was approved by vote of the Club Secretary per ARTICLE EIGHT Section 4) of the Club bylaws. Jim Sendrak, KC1LYG, will once again serve as President, Joe DeMarco, WA1VEE, Vice President, John Jackman, N1SMX, Treasurer and Mike Seil, AA1XQ as Secretary. Keith Henry, KC1LPV, Bob Matose, KC1RFM, Evan Bowen, K1GEA, Willy MacLean, W1LY, and Bob Beatty, WB4SON will make up the 2026 Executive Committee in addition to the aforementioned Club officers.

-NCRC October Meeting Minutes: A motion to approve the October meeting minutes was approved.

-New Member: Jim Sendrak welcomed Bill Cameron to the Club. Bill lives in Barrington and heard about NCRC by listening to chatter on our weeknight 2m nets. Unfortunately, he is not able to get in to the repeater with his HT, only receive. However, two things should work to remedy this situation; Firstly, the J-Pole antenna Club build project; Secondly, an upgrade to our existing repeater. More to follow on both of these initiatives. A motion to approve Bill's membership was seconded and agreed upon.

-Treasurers' Report: John Jackman, NCRC Treasurer, presented his report for the Club's September and October financial expenditures. The September Pete Lawson Outdoor Adventure expenses resulted in higher than average totals for typical months. Also the October expenses included two payments for Club equipment insurance owing to changes made to the list [i.e. additions & subtractions]. We will be receiving a refund check from the ARRL.

-Club Events:

-Christmas Party; Keith Henry, Crystal Thibault and Linda MacLean are planning our December Christmas Party to be held at the Hometown Tavern in Warren, R.I. on December 8th. Tickets will be available for purchase on the W1SYE website for \$35.00 per person. Cash bar open at 1800 hours, dinner at 1900 hours.

-Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA); JOTA is an annual world-wide scouting event to encourage scouts to become "radio-active." It is always held on the third weekend in October. This year

Troop 1 from Jamestown sent eight scouts to participate in an activation from Fort Wetherill State Park. Willy MacLean, W1LY, Jim Sendrak, KC1LYG and Bill Bagwill, W1VRA coached the scouts working 20m and 40m SSB contacts as W1SYE. Logs from this JOTA/POTA activation have been uploaded to the POTA and Log-of-the-World [LoTW] websites.

More information about JOTA at;

<https://www.scouting.org/international/jota-ioti/jota/>

-Parks-on-the-Air (POTA); Joe DeMarco, WA1VEE, has been mentoring individuals on POTA activations at various parks around the State. This has been a very successful venture thus far with strong participation amongst newer hams in the Club. This includes instruction on how to spot on the POTA website and hunt stations, how to setup a portable station, call "CQ POTA", log contacts and submit logs. POTA activations are an excellent tool to increase operator proficiency and all in the Club are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to learn from a POTA Elmer.

-Coordinator Programs; Jim Sendrak introduced the idea of Coordinator Programs to the membership at the October meeting. Meeting Presentations, Fund Raising, JOTA and Field Day [Antennas/Tents/Radios] are all Programs requiring a coordinator.

-W1AAD D-Star Repeater; The W1AAD D-Star repeater will be disconnected from the internet starting 30NOV2025. It will still function as a D-Star repeater but be devoid of web access. Internet costs are approximately \$120.00/month so the Club will realize a savings of roughly \$1,500 per year.

-W1SYE Analog Repeater; The Club has started a search for an upgraded 2m repeater. The Executive Committee have allocated \$4,000 for the purchase and designated Dave Neal, W2DAN, Paul Fredette, K1YBE, and Mike Seil, AA1XQ to complete this action. We hope to purchase a commercial-grade used Motorola MTR-3000 unit.

-Member Dues; We are in the process of preparing a budget for the 2026 calendar year and plan to increase member dues to \$40.00 per year. This aligns with inflation and will support increasing field day, build night, PLOA, Christmas party, etc. expenditures.

-Winter Field Day; Winter Field Day [WFD] will take place on 24-25JAN2026 with setup starting on 23JAN. The Club have secured permitted use of Glen Park for these dates and preliminary planning for the event has begun. It is not yet clear whether we will operate two stations or just one and what antenna[s] will be used. More to follow on this effort.

-Summer Field Day Results; The results from summer Field Day 2025 have been published by the ARRL. The NCRC participated in the 2A category and placed third behind the Radio

Amateurs of Northern Vermont. W1NVT, and the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society, K4MN as shown in the table below..

2A

Radio Amateurs of Northern VT					
W1NVT					
(+W1PU)	4,158	2	20	17,730	VT
Cape Fear ARS					
K4MN					
(+WA2COU)	3,157	2	49	15,440	NC
Newport Co. RC					
W1SYE					
(+NE1RI)	3,539	2	47	15,296	RI
Muskogee ARC					
K5CM (+KK5I)	2,788	2	12	13,878	OK
Greer ARC					
K4SV					
(+KE4EA)	3,180	2	38	11,945	SC
Albuquerque DX Assn.					
W5UR					
(+N2GG)	2,279	2	18	11,158	NM
McHenry Co. Wireless Assn.					
K9RN (+W9TD)	2,191	2	20	10,238	IL
Rochester (NY) DX Assn.					
W2RDX					
(+W2AN)	2,251	2	20	10,221	WNY
Mississippi Valley ARA					
W9MVA					
(+W9FCC)	2,464	2	14	9,477	WI
Hellgate ARC					
W7PX	2,880	2	8	9,128	MT
Falmouth ARA					
K1RK					
(+W1NOB)	2,278	2	25	9,059	EMA
Tom's Garage ARC					
N6MI	2,135	2	6	7,926	SB
Piglet Radio					
N9BCN					
(+KD9YPY)	1,899	2	17	7,581	IN
Devanooga					
W3DEV (+AB3I)	1,407	2	4	7,247	TN

In this table the first entry is the club callsign followed by the QSO total, a power designator [6W – 100W ≡ “2”], the number of participants, the point total and the ARRL section. The complete list of Field Day 2025 results can be found at the link below;

<https://contests.arrl.org/ContestResults/2025/Field-Day-2025-FinalQSTResults.pdf>

Community Outreach and Support >>> Mike Rousseau, KC1NEJ, assembled a number of hams from the Club to support the Third Annual Sakonnet Coastal Bike and Stroll that took place Saturday November 1st in Island Park. Other hams supporting the event were Mike Cullen, K1NPT, Mark Flaherty, W1MBF, Ray Perry, KC1IPC, Ellen Vadney, N1ELN, John Vecoli, KC1KOO, Jeff Frederick, KC1YHY, Chris Carruba, KC1WVZ, and Brian Cottle, N1TBT.

ARRL Club Coordinator Announcements >>> John Brewer, N1SXB, is our ARRL Affiliated Club Coordinator for the State of Rhode Island. John had two announcements for the group;

First and foremost, the ARRL campaign to pass the Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act continues. Please see;

<https://www.arrl.org/current-legislation>

Hams can send a letter to their Senator or Congressman from their home computers with just a few clicks at;

<https://send-a-letter.org/hoa/>

Second, Icom is offering a chance to win a “dream station” by joining the ARRL, renewing an ARRL memberships or by donating to the ARRL Diamond Club. The station includes the following;

- Icom IC-7760 HF/50 MHz Transceiver
200 W Transceiver, 60th Anniversary Signature Edition
- Icom IC-PW2 HF/50 MHz 1 kW Linear Amplifier
- Icom SM-50 Advanced Desktop Microphone

Please see details at;

<https://www.arrl.org/arrl-sweepstakes#rules>

Projects and Builds >>> Chris Lirakis, W1QIS, discussed the anatomy of the 2m J-Pole antenna and showed several variants. One is fabricated from copper pipe another from 450Ω ladder line and still another from 300Ω twin lead. Chris passed around a survey to gauge Club interest in the planned build night scheduled for next Monday night, 17NOV, 1900 hours, at St. Barnabas Parish Hall. Note that other Elmers are welcome for this build to assist with such items as soldering, construction techniques, matching networks, etc.