

≡ IT'S OK ≡
IF YOU DON'T LIKE
HAM RADIO



IT KIND OF A
SMART PEOPLE
≡ HOBBY ANYWAY ≡

Newport County Radio Club

March 9, 2026

Club Meeting



Approval of February 9, 2026 Meeting Minutes



Newport County Radio Club (NCRC) Meeting Minutes, 09 FEB 2026

Attendees: Willy MacLean, Mike Rousseau, Joe DeLano, Elen Vainey, Bob Matase, John West, Chris Linkin, John Jackson, Brian Conley, Greg Bengefield, Javel Laver, Bill Bagwell, Rene Martel, Rich Thompson, Paul Fredette, Jim Sandra, (2), Mark Mueller (2), Ed Gosling (2), Brian Maynard (2), Bob Beatty (2), Chuck Kesson (2), Scott Nacey (2), Mike Cullen (2), Mike Sall

Presentations: Joe DeLano presented the John Jackson NCRC Treasurer's report for January 2026. The Club's largest recent expenditures are purchases of the Motorola MTR3000 repeater and auxiliary cabling and software and our year-end Christmas party.

A motion to approve the January 2026 financials was approved.

January Meeting Minutes: A motion to approve the January 2026 NCRC meeting minutes was approved.

New Members: NCRC Vice President Joe DeLano welcomed General class operator Javel Laver, KC1NFV, to the Club. Javel and his wife are sailors and own a marine logistics company in Newport.

We have also received applications for membership from Arthur Potts and Edward Stewart. These individuals were not in attendance at the DMPE Club meeting and have not yet paid their 2026 membership dues.

A radio amateur in Fort Worth, TX has recently applied for Club membership via Email. He is Vincent Cruz, KV1CZ. He has paid his membership dues for 2026 and is active as a POSB hunter and activator. He owns a summer residence in Rhode Island and is looking forward to working with the Club POSB activators this summer.

Winter Field Day: Another Winter Field Day (WFD) is in the books and NCRC has much to be proud of in retrospect. This year we operated at a Club from the Secretary's booth at Glen Park, braving cold and wind to erect two dipole antennas, a Yagi beam and a 6m Mission antenna. We started operation at 1300 hours (Local) Saturday 23Jan and started breaking down on Sunday 24Jan at approximately 0800 hours (Local). In anticipation of a snowstorm that ultimately dropped seven inches of snow on Aquidneck Island. Even so our QSO totals were FB considering we cut our operating time short by some eight hours. Important this year was the contribution of the CW team of Joe DeLano, W1VYE, Jay Niccum, N1CPL, Bill Boyce, KB5G and Brian Maynard, K1NW who raked up 330 QSOs. FB indeed!!!

The SSB team included Bob Matase, KC1RPM, Elen Vainey, N1EEN, Jim Sandra, KC1UG, Dave Quinn, KC1DDE, Bill Bagwell, W1VBA, Willy MacLean, W1UJ and sons Ross, KC1RP and Hayden, KC1RML, et al. They raked 415 QSOs!!!

Cory Thibault, N1DL, Mike Rousseau, KC1MEI and Keith Henry, KC1PV worked to QSO with the Nantux Area Amateur Radio Association, station N1TQ, via ISS satellite. KC1MEI also copied/transmitted a WinLink Email and Mike Sall, AA1QZ, copied the WFD Special Bulletin via PSK31 from station W0MET in Pagan, WI.

Through the course of the event, we worked stations on 2m, 30m, 15m, 20m, 40m, and 80m.

Our Objective Multipliers gathered through the course of the event were as follows:

- Operate 100% on alternative power: OM X 1
- Operate away from home: OM X 3
- Display and make at least one contact on multiple antennas: OM X 1
- Make a SSB or CW specific contact: OM X 2
- Send and receive at least one Winlink email: OM X 1
- Copy the Winter Field Day Special Bulletin: OM X 1
- Make three contacts on at least in 3 different bands: OM X 4
- Use multiple modes: OM X 2
- Operate in continuous blocks during the event: OM X 2

Total Contacts by Band and Mode:

Band	CW	Phone	Dig	Total	%
80	0	19	0	19	3
40	164	108	6	278	37
20	129	280	0	409	54
15	37	0	0	37	5
10	0	5	0	5	1
2	0	3	0	3	0
Total	330	415	6	751	100

Our claimed score is then:

330 CW X 2 = 660 SSB = 6 Digital X 2 = 1087
X
20 OM = 1

=
28,914 Points

Thanks to Dave Emrod, KC1RA, who loaned the generators, Steve, John West, KC1R00, who transported the tower and 10' ladder to the site and assisted with setup and tear down along with numerous others.

Kudos to Keith Henry, the Club's FB photographer/ videographer. He provided the following video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=020400100001> Newport County Radio Club 2026 Winter Field Day Performance - 8 min

KC1UG and KC1PV provided the following photographs:

Cory, N1DL and Mike, KC1NFV working with the operators.

The Shack, W1VYE and N1CPL bounding bass to make CW contacts with Willy, W1UJ and Mike, AA1QZ working SSB.

With snow falling in background and tower breakdown begins.



Previous WFD results:

2023					
Band	CW	Phone	Dig	Total	%
160	1	1	1	3	0
80	1	354	1	356	36
40	17	24	1	42	9
20	45	401	1	527	53
15	1	1	1	3	0
10	1	0	1	2	0
5	1	1	1	3	0
2	1	1	1	3	0
70	1	1	0	2	0
51	0	0	1	1	0
Total	89	923	8	1,000	100

2024					
Band	CW	Phone	Dig	Total	%
40	0	270	0	270	33
20	0	274	0	274	36
15	0	287	0	287	35
10	0	40	0	40	5
Total	0	751	0	751	100

2025					
Band	CW	Phone	Dig	Total	%
80	28	81	0	89	12
40	15	94	0	109	14
20	59	400	0	559	69
15	0	27	0	27	4
10	0	1	0	1	0
5	0	1	0	1	0
2	0	1	0	1	0
Total	102	650	0	752	100

2026					
Band	CW	Phone	Dig	Total	%
80	0	19	0	19	3
40	164	108	6	278	37
20	129	280	0	409	54
15	37	0	0	37	5
10	0	5	0	5	1
2	0	3	0	3	0
Total	330	415	6	751	100

Winter Field Day Reflection: Joe DeLano quickly mentioned that he felt the 10' ladder antenna was probably unnecessary given the amount of time and effort needed for setup and to avoid relative to the paucity of contacts realized using it. Use of the W1ZJAN portable tower as a support for our second dipole antenna is highly laudable.

Two station operators from the Secretary's booth seemed to work FB with use of headsets and tightly controlled access keys to success. Also, a well-defined list of operators and assigned time slots also worked FB. This includes assignments for Objective Multipliers such as WinLink messages, and the electronic etc.

The W1VYE An Repeaters Upgrade: Dave Neal, W1ZJAN, has installed the Motorola MTR3000 repeater and the unit is on the air. The usable range of the repeater has been enhanced considerably but the signal needs to be more linear than hoped to be addressed.

Club Build Night: Chris Linkin talked build night plans with the next event scheduled for Monday 23Mar at St. Barnabas Parish Hall at 1900 hours. Build project is currently to be Determined.

Chris would like to make build night a regularly scheduled event, perhaps the 31st Monday of every month. He also underscored the importance of collaboration among the membership as a vehicle for learning. Many online collaboration tools are available including Discord, MeetMe, MeetCore and MeetStar.

Chris also has a Maker Space at Fashreport that may be useful down the road for build projects.



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Newport County Radio Club Search

Home of the W1SYE and W1AAD Repeater

NEWPORT COUNTY RADIO CLUB

About Us News POTA Activities Become a Ham Join NCRC Member Bios **Members** Nets

Repeaters

- Member Bios
- Meeting Documents**
- Member Only
- Pay Dues or Donate
- For Sale

Meeting Documents

Copies of our meeting minutes, financial statements, newsletters, and presentations can be found here. (See the Meeting Slide Deck for the Treasurer's report)

2026 Meeting Files

- February 2026
 - Meeting Slide Deck
 - Meeting Minutes**

Treasurer's Report



Newport County Radio Club Statements of Assets, Liabilities and Capital At February 28, 2026	
Assets	
Cash.....	8,279.07
PayPal.....	1,678.18
Total Assets	<u>9,957.25</u>
Liabilities & Capital	
Liabilities.....	-
Club Equity.....	(9,957.02)
Total Liabilities & Capital	<u>(9,957.02)</u>

Newport County Radio Club Change in Capital 2 Month Period Ending February 28, 2026	
Beginning Capital.....	9,762.02
Prior period adjustment.....	-
Net Income (Loss).....	195.00
Ending Capital	<u>9,957.02</u>

Newport County Radio Club Statement of Income 2 Month Period Ending February 28, 2026	
Income	
Grants.....	-
Dues.....	880.00
Donations.....	25.00
Education.....	-
Misc.....	-
Total Income	905.00
Expenses	
Grants.....	-
Paypal.....	-
Supplies.....	(9.87)
Education.....	-
Utilities.....	(446.00)
Insurance.....	(222.00)
Banking.....	(32.13)
Total Expenses	(710.00)
Net Income (Loss)	<u>195.00</u>

Newport County Radio Club Statement of Cash Flow 2 Month Period Ending February 28, 2026	
Cash at January 1, 2026	9,762.25
Cash Inflows	
Grants.....	-
Dues.....	880.00
Donations...	25.00
Education...	-
Misc.....	-
Total Cash inflows	905.00
Cash Outflows	
Grants.....	-
Paypal.....	-
Supplies.....	(9.87)
Education...	-
Utilities.....	(446.00)
Insurance...	(222.00)
Banking.....	(32.13)
Total Cash Outflows	(710.00)
Cash at February 28, 2026	<u>9,957.25</u>
Notes:	
Unrestricted cash	\$5,240.89
Restricted ARRL Grant	\$2,962.31
Restricted Pete Lawson Fund	\$1,363.90
Restricted IBM Grant	\$390.15

Treasurer's Report



Navigation: About Us | News | POTA | Activities | Become a Ham | Join NCRC | Member Bios | **Members** | Nets

Repeaters

Pay Dues or Donate

Membership Type

Regular Membership \$40.00 USD

Please Enter Your Callsign:

Please enter your EMAIL

Buy Now

VISA | Mastercard | American Express | Apple Pay | Discover | PayPal

New Members



- Don Messier - KW1DON – Coventry - Extra



W1SYE Repeater Update

“All,

When the weather gets better and I can find some time I do want to go to the site with my service monitor and check out the system. When that is I am not sure. I have tested the repeater around the state, and it is working good and yes it can be better. Again, I will know more when I use the service monitor at the site. I also want to change out the repeater cabinet. I have a Motorola one I will use.

Thanks

Dave Neal W2DAN”



POTA Brochure

Thanks Bob! WB4SON

Amateur Radio in a Park



Thanks for checking us out!

Thank you for for stopping by to visit us and for your questions today. It isn't every day you see a radio station in a park!

What you saw today was a licensed Radio Amateur participating in an activity we call "Parks on the Air ® (POTA)".

Amateur (also called "Ham") Radio is a community of people who enjoy speaking with other radio operators all over the globe, from our home stations, cars, handheld radios, or even in parks!

We also love learning new skills to add to our knowledge of STEM (science, technology, engineering, math), and even art, as we use and explore 2-way radio.

What are we doing in the park

We set up our radio equipment in a park and try to contact other stations. We exchange our radio call signs, a report on how well we hear the other station, and our location.

Normally, we are speaking with hams at their home stations. But sometimes, a station at another park will call, and we'll accomplish a "park-to-park" (P2P) contact.

A website, www.parksontheair.com, helps us by showing who is on-the-air at which parks (there are thousands of them).

Those who enjoy POTA operations get to know one another after months or years talking together.

Learn more about the
Parks on the Air
program



Find out more about Rhode Island's largest Amateur Radio Club

The Newport County Amateur Radio Club is the state's largest. We are a diverse club, engaging in many on-the-air activities, educational opportunities, public service, and good old fashioned fun!

Feel free to visit our website
www.w1sy.org

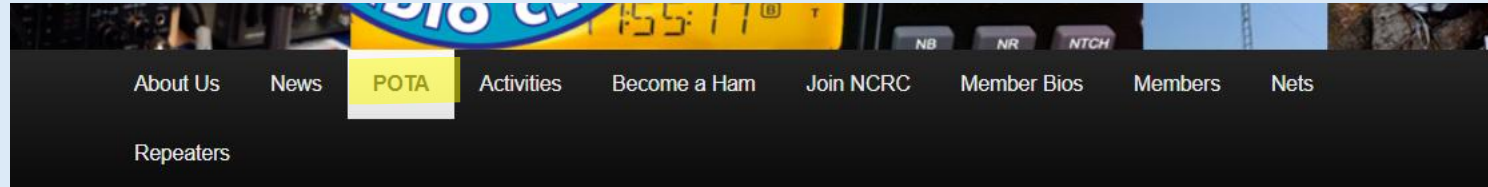
Scan this QRcode
to learn more about
NCRC





POTA Brochure

Thanks Bob! WB4SON



POTA

Parks On The Air (POTA) Brochure

So you're out at a beautiful state park, all setup, and making contacts for POTA activation. Along comes some folks who are walking the dog, having a picnic, riding bicycles, whatever. *"What are you doing?"* They inquire.

Well, here is something cool that was designed by our own Bob Beatty (WB4SON). It's a brochure that contains information about Parks On The Air. Many of you have asked for something like this and here it is.

If you're heading out to enjoy a POTA activity, you may want to print a couple of these to have handy. We will bulk print these and make available to you. But, if you're stuck without, here is a printable version, Be sure to set your app for two-sided printing on 8.5" x 11" paper.

[Printable PDF](#)



Field Day

June 26, 27, 28, 2026

2:00pm Saturday thru 4:59pm Sunday





Field Day

June 26, 27, 28, 2026

2:00pm Saturday thru 4:59pm Sunday



4/26/2025

Field Day Survey

Supplemental Training & Education

I would like to attend one or both meetings. Reviewed will be radio operation, logging procedures and practice QSOs. Meetings held at:

Saint Barnabas Church
1697 E Main Rd, Portsmouth, RI 02871

- Monday, May 19th – 6:30pm
- Monday, June 9th – 6:30pm

Field Day Weekend

I would like to participate in the following activities.

Friday, June 27th – 9:00am

- Setup Day – Help setup the antenna farm, tents and radio stations.

Saturday, June 28th - 9:00am

- Setup continuation

Saturday, June 28th - 2:00pm thru Sunday, June, 29th - 2:00pm

Field Day Operations. *I would like to work some shifts in the following stations.*

- SSB/HF Phone
- GOTA – Get On The Air*
- CW
- UHF/VHF Digital (FT-8, etc.)
- Satellite

I would like to:

- Radio operation – conduct QSOs
- Log contacts into laptop logging program
- Mentor – standby and assist other members with less experience

Sunday, June 29th – 2:00pm

- Assist with dismantling and stowing all Field Day equipment

Comments

You will be contacted by a friendly NCRC member to assist you with scheduling air shifts and other activity time periods. Thank you for your interest and desire to help make NCRC's 2025 Field Day one of the best ever!

*There are specific ARRL qualifications necessary to participate in the GOTA station.

BONUS – Free Family Picnic Saturday, June 28th 4:00 – 6:00pm

The NCRC will host a free BBQ style picnic for members and their families.



Field Day

June 26, 27, 28, 2026

2:00pm Saturday thru 4:59pm Sunday



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

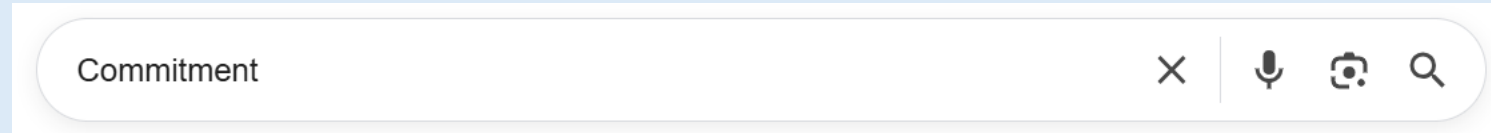
(+NE1RI) 3,539 2 47 15,296 RI



Field Day

June 26, 27, 28, 2026

2:00pm Saturday thru 4:59pm Sunday



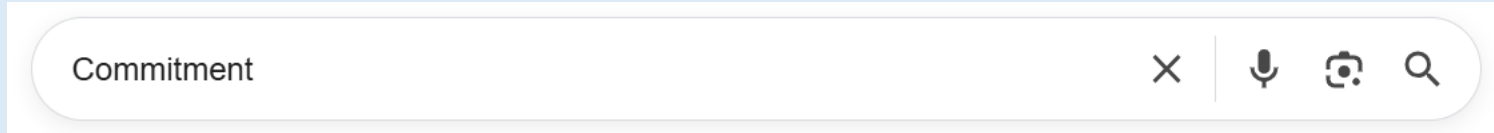
Commitment is the firm, unwavering dedication to a goal, person, or obligation, involving active, long-term effort rather than just a promise. It represents a conscious, often binding, decision to follow through with actions despite difficulties. It spans personal relationships, professional duties, and financial obligations, requiring consistent, reliable action.



Field Day

June 26, 27, 28, 2026

2:00pm Saturday thru 4:59pm Sunday



**Size
Doesn't Matter**





Year of the Club

John Brewer N1SXB

ARRL RI Section Affiliated Club Coordinator



Build Nights



W1SYE 2026 Builds

Christopher Lirakis
W1QIS

March 9, 2025

Build Nights



A Year of Builds

Have a series of 3 major goals for the year that will help club members develop practical skills.

Primary Goals and Dates

- Field Day, conclusion: June 27-28.
 - ▶ Dipole and End fed antennas, connectors, mechanical relief, baluns, matching networks, field day and home use.
 - ▶ Build a set of Quadrafilar Helix antennas to be used in uplink/downlink for satellite coms on field day.
- Receivers conclusion: September 4
 - ▶ Understanding the basics, Crystal Radio set
 - ▶ Understanding modulation
 - ▶ Simple SDR
- Foxhunt conclusion: November 9
 - ▶ Setup a team
 - ▶ antennas for use for location
 - ▶ the fox

Build Nights



Dates and Topics

Specific Dates and Interium Goals

- March 23: Revisit VHF/UHF JPole
- April 27: Coax And Connectors
- May 25: Matching Network, Balun, ULUN
- June 22: Mechanical support, final full assembly
- July 27: Buid a Crystal Radio Set
- August 24: WSPR transmitter using a Raspberry Pi
- September 21: USB SDR setup and usage
- October 26: Fox hunt Antenna
- Novmeber 23: Fox Hunt transmitter/setup

Build Nights



March 23 - Revisit J-Pole

Start of the Antenna Theme

- have 2 soldering stations setup with people to instruct on soldering
- Bring the J-Pole you did last time and characterize it
 - ▶ Make an SWR sweep
 - ▶ Use the portable VNAs
- make a dual band, 2m/70cm JPole

Need 2 volunteers to bring in Soldering stations and help out teaching.

Need 3 volunteers to bring in pocket VNAs and show how to use them

Objective: Characterize Antenna, finish up project if incomplete, build one if you didn't. Practice soldering. Prepare for next build.

Build Nights



April 27 - Field Day Antennas

Start the process of making antennas for use at field day.

Final Objective: Choose a band and make a end-fed, dipole or loop antenna with coax, balun/ulun, support insulators and characterize. (you can take it home when done)

I would also like to make two quadrafilar helix antennas for the satellite passes

Objective for this session

- Choose Band
- Choose Antenna Type, dipole, end-fed, loop
- choose a coax run length, strip and terminate with connectors

Come up with an idea that can be used on FD, but also if you just want to build something for home use, do that! We will work on coax terminations.

Build Nights



May 25 - Feed Match

Depending on the type of antenna, make a Balun or Ulun to match the impedance of the antenna to the feedline.

- Balun - balanced feed but can transform with ratios 1:1, 4:1, 49:1
- Wind the core
- terminate the lines into a coax feed
- terminate the lines into the antenna feed
- seal up in a PVC housing with support on it.
- characterize its response.

For the helix antennas, have wire in hand to bend and place in pre-drilled PVC form.

Understand and make the appropriate matching network for the antenna.

Build Nights



June 22 - Final Assembly

Make and test final assembly

Put all the pieces together, string it up and run a test on the full assembly.

For end fed antennas - check performance on multiple bands.

Put it all together and characterize it.

Build Nights



July 27: Build a Crystal Radio Set

The next stage signal production, reception and modulation.

Final Objective: Make a full WSPR setup.

- Calculate desired band and determine inductance knowing capacitance
- wind coil on form and terminate
- add in germanium diode, headphones and filter cap
- put a longwire on and check it out! We can fly a kite or float a balloon!

The objective of this set of builds is to understand transmission, reception and modulation.

Build Nights



August 24: WSPR transmitter using a Raspberry Pi

Make a transmitter

Have a rep from Raspberry Pi come in prior or at this meeting to talk about the Raspberry Pi

- choose operating band and make a filter network
 - ▶ wind the necessary toroidal inductors
 - ▶ solder the capacitors and inductors together on a breadboard
 - ▶ add connector
- start with say a Pi-Zero and load up the WSPR-Pi software
- test!

This permits dipping into the world of Raspberry-Pi and understanding how to make and modulate a signal.

Build Nights



September 21: USB SDR setup and usage

use a low cost USB SDR and learn about the various modes.

- load up the software and learn about the simple SDR
- load up FLDIGI and experience all of the modes available to you
- learn how to identify modes based on the waterfall display

Get to know in a very simple way what Software Defined Radio is and how it works. Learn about the variety of digital modes.

Build Nights



October 26: Fox hunt Antenna

Prepare for an actual fox hunt. What kind of antenna is needed?

- Plan out the fox hunt
- Choose teams
- Make a directional antenna for your handheld

Prepare for an actual fox hunt

Build Nights



Novmeber 23: Fox Hunt transmitter/setup

What things are necessary to make the Fox?

- Choose the transmitter and understand the basics
- Practice with your antenna and handheld
- Plan out the hunt

Choose a date for the field fox hunt.

Logging Software

Joe Demarco WA1VEE



N1MM

- GREAT FOR CW
- WELL DEVELOPED MACRO LANGUAGE
- CAN BE USED FOR SSB
- MOST CW OPS USE IT
- MANY CONTEST CNFIGURATIONS
- HAS RIG CONTROL
- FREE
- SCREEN LAYOUT A BIT INFLEABLE
- NOT GREAT FOR POTA
- NOT GREAT FOR GENERAL LOGGING
- BEEN AROUND FOR A LONG TIME AND SHOWS ITS AGE

N3FJP

- FLEXIBLE SCREEN LAYOUT
- HAS RIG CONTROL
- CAN BE CONFIGURED FOR ANY CONTEST EASILY
- HAS SOME PREDEFINED CONTEST LAYOUTS SUCH AS FIELD DAY
- REQUIRED WINDOWS PC
- MODEST COST ~\$60 ONE TIME
- OWNER VERY RESPONSIVE
- BEEN AROUND A WHILE AND IT SHOWS

SMART LOGGER

- FREE TO INSTALL
- EASY TO USE
- WORKS ON MULTIPLE PLATFORMS
- NOW HAS RIG CONTROL
- GREAT FOR PARKS ON THE AIR
- SHOWS CURRENTLY ACTIVE PARKS
- NEW AND EVOLVING PRODUCT

HAMRS

- WORKS ON ALL PLATFORMS
- HAS RIG CONTROL
- EASY TO SET UP AND USE
- GREAT FOR POTA
- CURRENTLY ONLY TWO CONFIGURATIONS POTA AND WFD
- FREE FOR ONE PLATFORM
- RIG CONTROL NOT INTEGRATED INTO THE SW MUST LOAD FLRIG
- FEE FOR MULTIPLATFORM USE
- NEW PRODUCT AND PROBABLY EVOLVING

The Elephants in the Room

- QRZ.COM
- LOTW