



# 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	<a href="mailto:W1WDW@jcwebdesign.com">W1WDW@jcwebdesign.com</a>
Vice President	Bryce Rumery	K1GAX	<a href="mailto:K1GAX@juno.com">K1GAX@juno.com</a>
Secretary	Ariel Cote	KC1CCB	<a href="mailto:KC1CCB@jcwebdesign.com">KC1CCB@jcwebdesign.com</a>
Treasurer	Jack Ney	KC1UX	<a href="mailto:kc1ux@maine.rr.com">kc1ux@maine.rr.com</a>
Chief Operator	Ross Drivas	KB1OND	<a href="mailto:rmdkb1ond@yahoo.com">rmdkb1ond@yahoo.com</a>
Member at Large	John Bogner	W1JLB	<a href="mailto:JBogner1@maine.rr.com">JBogner1@maine.rr.com</a>
Member at Large	Joseph Shortill	W1XXV	<a href="mailto:shortill5@yahoo.com">shortill5@yahoo.com</a>

## Club Birthdays

**1st - Peter Eastman, N1AKP**

**13th - Bryce Rumery, K1GAX**

**17th - Jason Cote, W1WDW**

## 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!



### Growing wiser?

Send us your birthday to include in the newsletter!



### New Home for 2019!

We are in need of storage space!



### New Website!

We have launched a new website!

## President's Message

**Jason Cote - W1WDW**

Hello and Happy February,

As the PAWA moves forward into 2019 I would like to remind all members that this is YOUR club. The success and life of the club relies solely upon membership involvement. At our last few meetings we have been unable to conduct any business due to not having the required 10 members minimum to meet a quorum. This means that the club cannot conduct business that directly relates to the continuation of the PAWA. I would encourage all members to attend the monthly meeting, it's a very small time commitment, a couple hours once a month, so that the club can continue to function. If there are concerns with scheduling, or other problems, I would ask that you contact me directly so we can solve any problems.

Thank you very much and I hope to see you at the meetings!

- Jason, W1WDW - President

**PLEASE NOTE: ALL PAWA MEETINGS NOW BEING HELD AT THE AMERICAN RED CROSS, 2401 CONGRESS STREET IN PORTLAND.**

## Treasurer's Report

January 2019	
Beginning Balance	\$178.95
Income	\$160.00
Expenses	\$0.00
Ending Balance	\$338.95

A reminder that dues are overdue for 2019! Remember, the club operates because of the income provided by the yearly dues. Your timely payment can ensure that we have the funds to continue to operate. Thank you.

## Now Recruiting!

**Jason Cote - W1WDW**

Our current treasurer Jack Ney, KC1UX has served our club faithfully for many years in multiple roles, but is looking to retire the office of treasurer to someone else. If you are interested in holding office and being responsible for paying the bills, please contact any one of our board of directors. All we ask is that you be a regular at our meetings and participate in club activities and business. We very much need a club treasurer, so please consider volunteering your time, thank you.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Next Meeting:

Wednesday, February 6th, 2019 - 7pm  
2401 Congress Street, Portland  
American Red Cross - Southern Maine Chapter

#### Contests:

11-15      School Club Roundup  
16-17      International DX - CW



## Secretary's Report

**Ariel Cote - KC1CCB**

**Wednesday, January 2nd, 2019**

### **Board of Members Meeting**

The requirements for a quorum were met.

Looked into storage unit pricing. Many items from the radio room are in need of storage.

### **General Membership Meeting**

The requirements for a quorum were not met.

John Bogner, W1JLB, has been in contact with Paul and confirmed the possibility of storing the repeater and duplexer at Blackstrap. Need to talk to Red Cross about test sessions. Would like to schedule one for end of January or February. Additionally, it was suggested that we inquire about using some small space at the Farm (possibly in the barn) to store the equipment that was removed from the legion hall. Jason Cote, W1WDW, noted that some neat things were found in the radio room during the cleaning out process, including 2 gift certificates to ARRL store. The league reinstated them until February.

## Chief Operator's Report

No report was available.

## Got Storage? (Urgent)

**Jason Cote - W1WDW**

Our move from the legion hall left us with a truck load of club property that is now just sitting at our very small apartment. In addition to that, there are also a few containers of equipment in a temporary storage unit. We are hoping that somebody has space to store all of this equipment for the club. Maybe you have some extra room in your basement, or a spare room? With the help of Jack, Mike, and Ross, Ariel and I cleaned out what was left of the radio room and I would like to find a safe home for it until we have a use for it, or sell it off. If you have space to donate, please let me know!

## New Club Items

**Jason Cote - W1WDW**

I was authorized at the last director's meeting to utilize the ARRL gift certificates we found in the radio room to purchase some items for the club. I have purchased a couple of books for the club's library, as well as some 2019 calendars for members. I have a limited quantity, so if you would like one, please come to the next club meeting!

## Classifieds

**A note from Jack:**

I received a call from NX1I Bill Armstrong who lives I believe on Chebague Island. He said he is getting out of amateur radio and he has a TS-140 and I believe a TS-80. He wants to give them away to a ham. You would have to go down on the boat to the island and he would meet you at the boat. Tel Bill @ 846-4737 if interested or for more info.

## Amateur radio (illegally) aiding yacht racers

### Dan Romanchik - KB6NU

The Golden Globe Race (<https://goldenglobrace.com>), a 30,000 mile, non-stop solo yacht race to celebrate Sir Robin Knox-Johnston's historic 1968/9 world first solo non-stop circumnavigation. There are 18 sailors in the race, which started on July 1, 2018 from Les Sables-D'Olonne, France.



Amateur radio is at the heart of the latest controversy surrounding the race. Scuttlebutt Sailing News reported (<https://www.sailingcuttlebutt.com/2019/01/21/maintaining-information-barrier/>) on January 21, 2019 (day 205 of the race):

"Sailors have been making use of the Amateur Radio net (ham radio) for decades, and while National telecommunication authorities have often turned a deaf ear to unlicensed operators using made-up call signs while at sea, warnings from a National regulator to Golden Globe Race skippers has created intrigue into an exciting finale for race leaders.

"Modern navigation and routing tools are restricted from use in the 2018-19 contest, limiting GGR skippers to the type of equipment available for the inaugural Sunday Times Golden Globe

solo non-stop round the world race in 1968-69. That includes Amateur Radio.

"The skippers have been using this free communication system to gain weather forecasts and maintain contact with their teams, which is allowed under the Race Rules. However, it is the responsibility of each skipper to ensure that they abide by National and International regulations which Jean-Luc Van Den Heede and Mark Slats, in first and second in the race, have not been doing. [[Neither Van den Heede or Slats have valid amateur radio licenses...Dan]]

"Said the warning, 'You use an amateur callsign and are making connections with amateur radio operators. The call sign letters are not registered, and thus illegal. I ask you to stop. If you have a legal amateur callsign then I urge you to present it.'"

As a result of this warning, Slats is considering dropping out of the race, even though the race is nearly complete. Yachting Monthly reports (<https://www.yachtingmonthly.com/boat-events/golden-globe-race/golden-globe-race-slats-considers-quitting-comms-row-68574>):

"Mark Slats, who is less than 50 miles from Golden Globe Race leader Jean-Luc Van Den Heede, has announced he is thinking about retiring from the race after being banned from broadcasting on the Ham Radio Net.

"Race organisers said the Dutch skipper does not have the required licence, and has been warned by the Dutch authorities to stop broadcasting, which has left him unable to communicate with his shore team.

"Under the rules of the race, all of the entrants are able to use this free communication system to gain weather forecasts and maintain contact with their teams, but, it is the responsibility of each skipper to ensure that they abide by national and international regulations."

It's not only the yachters that are flouting the rules, it's the amateur radio operators who are communicating with them. According to Yachting Monthly, OFCOM, the UK regulator issued the following warning:

"Fair warning both to unregistered GGR skippers and to legitimate Ham radio operators communicating with them. In Britain, the Ham Radio net is controlled by OFCOM, which recently revoked more than 500 licences for non-compliance. This includes communicating with unregistered Ham radio operators. The maximum penalty is 6 months in prison, a £5,000 fine and loss of their licence."

This is a fascinating story, and I wish that I'd found out about this sooner. It would be interesting to listen in on some of these communications. One question I have is why these guys failed to obtain a valid amateur radio license? The Golden Globe Radio website notes, "[The race] will be sailed under the auspices of the Royal Nomuka Yacht Club in the Kingdom of Tonga. His Royal Highness, Crown Prince Tupouto'a Ulukalala is Patron of the Race." They probably could have issued valid amateur radio licenses to all the racers.

If any of you have heard the communications or know any more about the technical details, I'd love to hear from you.

**Dan Romanchik, KB6NU, is the author of the KB6NU amateur radio blog ([KB6NU.com](http://KB6NU.com)), the "No Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides ([KB6NU.Com/study-guides/](http://KB6NU.Com/study-guides/)), and one of the hosts of the No Nonsense Amateur Radio Podcast ([NoNonsenseAmateurRadio.Com](http://NoNonsenseAmateurRadio.Com)). When he's not think about operating maritime mobile, you'll find him on 30m, 40m, and 80m.**

