PAWA LINES @PAWA_W1KVI @PAWAME WWW.PAWA-MAINE.ORG JUNE 1, 2019

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

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!

Next Meeting:
Field Day Planning

New Website!
We have launched a new website!

President's Message

Jason Cote - W1WDW

Welcome to summer everybody! (Almost!)

The VE Session held in lieu of the May business meeting was a big success, we are happy to announce that we passed 3 candidates and even upgraded one too! We will be planning more VE test session in the coming months so if you are interested in upgrading, or you know someone who is interested in getting their ticket, stay tuned!

Field Day 2019 is right around the corner and with permission from Peter N1AKP we are welcoming everybody out to Turkey Hill Farm in Cape Elizabeth again this year. As usual, operations will commence at 2:00pm and set up will start at 10:00am. I would hope that everybody could find time to come out and help with set up, but also help with operating radios and probably the most important part, helping us eat the food! The June business meeting will feature our annual field day planning session, we hope you can make it.

Last month I told you all that due to my employer picking up and moving away, I was forced to take a job away from home. As it turns out, shortly after I sent you all that dreadful news, I was called and offered a job locally which I accepted. This means at least for the summer, I will be able to stay in Maine and as your president for a bit longer. Obviously if anybody still wishes to run for office, I would welcome any and all candidates as we have several places we could use help. If anybody wishes to help direct our club into the future, please contact me!

I also want to take this chance to thank everybody for the kind emails I received wishing me good luck. While it looks like you get to hold on to me for a bit longer, your words put a smile on my face, thank you.

Jason, W1WDW - President

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

PLEASE ENTER THROUGH THE BACK DOOR.

Treasurer's Report

May 2019	
Beginning Balance	$345.95
Income	$0.00
Expenses	$0.00
Ending Balance	$345.95

UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Meeting:
Wednesday, June 5th, 2019 - 7pm
2401 Congress Street, Portland
American Red Cross - Southern Maine Chapter

Contests/Events:

8-10th	ARRL June VHF Contest
15th	Kids Day
22-23rd	ARRL Field Day

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.

Secretary's Report

Ariel Cote - KC1CCB

In lieu of the business meeting Wednesday, May 1st, the club held a test session.

REMINDER - THIS YEARS FIELD DAY WILL BE HELD AT TURKEY HILL FARM (120 OLD OCEAN HOUSE ROAD, CAPE ELIZABETH) PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING US FOR SET UP, OPERATIONS AND/OR TEAR DOWN. AS ALWAYS, WE WILL HAVE A COOK OUT ON SATURDAY. HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

Directions to Turkey Hill Farm

from the Casco Bay Bridge in Portland

After crossing the bridge, get into the right lane and turn right onto Rte. 77 S at the second set of lights (the "Pizza Joint" will be on your right).

Follow Rte. 77 for 4.3 miles, through Cape Elizabeth town center, until you come to the second entrance to Old Ocean House Road (this road makes a U intersecting twice with Rte. 77). Turn left.

Turkey Hill Farm is #120 Old Ocean House Rd, the 3rd driveway on the right. The mailbox is on the left and is labeled **THF**.

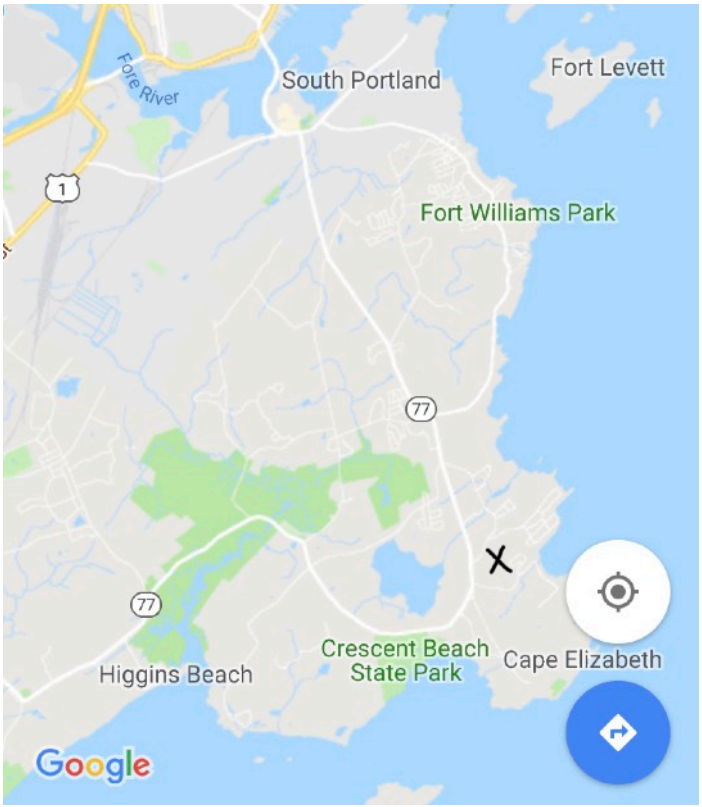
Chief Operator's Report

No report was available.

Club Website

Jason Cote - W1WDW

It has been brought to my attention that several members are still going to the club's old website. I want to remind everybody that the club's **ONLY** official website is located at www.pawa-maine.org. Please update your address books and bookmarks as the club's old site has not been updated and is defunct. Again, the club's official webpage is located at: www.pawa-maine.org. we also have a presence on social media using the information at the top of the newsletter's front page.



Learning about batteries

Dan Romanchik - KB6NU

I often say that getting an amateur radio license is as much getting a license to learn as it is getting a license to operate on the amateur radio bands. Lately, I've been learning about batteries, LiPo batteries to be exact.

It all started when I purchased a Morserino (http://morserino.info/). The Morserino is a Morse Code learning aid that has a number of unique features. For example, in addition to helping you learn the characters, it's also supposed to help you learn how to copy in your head. It also has a built-in touch keyer function, and a LoRa interface that lets you send and receive code from other Morserino units.

I'll be writing more about the Morserino in a future column, but let's get back to batteries. The kit did not come with a battery. Instead, it was suggested that one purchase a 600 mAh LiPo battery commonly used for powering drones.I found this battery on Amazon , and purchased a six pack of them, thinking that I'd find uses for the other five in some project or another.

Well, sooner than expected, I did find another application for one of the batteries. I'm building a little Arduino project for a client, and I reckon that this, or one with more capacity, will make a great power source for the project.

Now, I have two immediate challenges:

1. Figure out how to charge the battery.
2. Figure out how to connect it to the Arduino.

On the Morserino, the battery plugs directly into a connector on the bottom of the computer board (the white board with the LED display). I knew that connecting the 5V line from the USB connector directly to the battery was a no-no, but I'd lent out the Morserino to a friend, and I didn't have the schematics for the board. So, how they managed to charge the battery from the USB port was a bit of a mystery.

I emailed Willi, OE1WKL, the designer of the Morserino, and he sent me a wealth of information. There actually is a battery-management IC, the TP4054, on the board:

He also gave me the part number for the battery's mating connector. He said, "The mating connector for the Molex connector on the battery is a Molex 51006. It is sometimes referred to by vendors as 51005 female, but 51005 is the connector on the battery." You can, of course, buy pre-made cable assemblies on Amazon (https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B07P54QTR8).

You can also buy lithium battery charging modules (https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B01LZSC7I8). These modules have a TP4056 on them, which is similar to the TP4054. It's amazing to me that you can purchase ten of these things for less than seven bucks.

So, that's where I'm at right now. Once I get the modules and cables, I'm going to hook it all up and get the Arduino system running from the battery. The next step will be to integrate a small solar panel and run the whole thing from solar power, hopefully.

Dan Romanchik, KB6NU, is the author of the KB6NU amateur radio blog (KB6NU.Com), the "No Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides (KB6NU.Com/study-guides/), and one of the hosts of the No Nonsense Amateur Radio Podcast (NoNonsenseAmateurRadio.Com). He often wonders if he can learn things fast enough.