



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



Growing wiser?

Send us your birthday to include in the newsletter!



Next Meeting:
Field Day Planning



New Website!
We have launched a new website!

Club Birthdays

24th - Jim Fraser, KB1SDK

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!

President's Message

Jason Cote - W1WDW

Welcome to September and welcome back everybody! As we get ready to say goodbye to summer, I wanted to take this opportunity to say that our field day operations in June were another great success. While we didn't have as many contacts as we have in the past, it was still great fun and a good opportunity to spend time together as a club and use our equipment in a meaningful and fun way. Many thanks to club veteran Peter N1AKP and also Meghan for their hospitality out at the farm.

I also want to take this opportunity to ask and encourage anybody reading this newsletter to take a couple hours out of their busy schedules on the first Wednesday of each month to join us for the monthly PAWA business meetings. We have seen a steady decline in attendance over the past 2 years and it's becoming increasingly difficult to conduct business without enough people to hold a vote. I am going to be suggesting a few ways to make conducting business easier at the next meeting, and because it involves some amendments to our club's bylaws, it is important that we get as many people to attend as possible.

Looking forward, I plan on inviting some local folks in to talk about various topics of interest, and I hope to be able to bring regular programs back

to the menu at the monthly meetings. However, with my busy work schedule, this may prove difficult. If anybody has a topic they'd like to present to the club, please volunteer. (I think each of us is an expert in something!)

We normally hold a "welcome back" BBQ-type event for the yearly September meeting, however I am going to postpone this until we start having a solid attendance as it's a lot of work for just 4 or 5 people.

I'm hoping to have a special guest from the Red Cross at our next meeting to introduce herself and hopefully talk to us about what the Red Cross is doing these days and how we can become involved more. I hope to see you all there, and as always, I 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 DOOR IN THE REAR PARKING LOT.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, September 4th, 2019 - 7pm
2401 Congress Street, Portland
American Red Cross - Southern Maine Chapter

Contests/Events:

8th	North American CW Sprint
14-16th	ARRL September VHF Contest
21-22nd	ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest - Round 2
28-29th	CQWW RTTY Contest



Treasurer's Report

August 2019	
Beginning Balance	\$345.95
Income	\$60.00
Expenses	\$373.00
Ending Balance	\$32.95

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

I hope everyone has had a wonderful summer! As the club does not meet in July and August there are no minutes to report on. Hope to see you all on Wednesday, September 4th!

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.

Can you copy at 20 words per minute by hand?

Dan Romanchik - KB6NU

About a month ago, this email from the ARRL was send to the CWOps mailing list:

From: Fusaro, Norm W3IZ [mailto:w3iz@arrl.org]

Sent: Monday, July 1, 2019 4:00 PM

Subject: W1AW Code Proficiency Certificate

Greetings Morse Code Enthusiasts.

I have some exciting news that I want to share with you! The ARRL has reinvigorated the W1AW Code Proficiency Certificate program. Several things have changed beginning with our new sponsor, Vibroplex, a legend in Morse telegraphy equipment. If you see Scott Robbins W4PA and the Vibroplex team at a hamfest or convention please be sure to thank him for his support. The Vibroplex logo will appear on the newly designed certificates (see below) and in the award recipient page that will appear every month in QST.

That's right, each month in QST we will publish the most recent recipients of the W1AW Code Proficiency Certificate, beginning with all the 2019 recipients. As a bonus, we are sending all the 2019 CPC holders a new certificate at no cost to replace their older style award.

The award is available to anyone who copies one solid minute of code during the qualifying runs. Complete program details can be found on the web at <http://www.arrl.org/code-proficiency-certificate>.

And to make the award available to more people we will double the number of opportunities to copy the CW text. Beginning September 2019, the qualifying runs will increase from twice per week to four times per week.

I am sharing this advanced notice with the Morse code clubs so that you can share it with your members. I have attached PDF files of the new certificate and the announcement that will appear in August QST, available in digital format July 8. I hope you are as excited about this as I am.

In closing, I want personally thank all of you who promote the use and proficiency of Morse code on the air waves and ask that you challenge your club members to submit their copy for the W1AW Code Proficiency Certificate.

73,

Norm Fusaro, W3IZ

Director of Operations

Almost immediately after I posted this to my blog (at KB6NU.Com), my friend, Paul, KW1L, replied, "How does one copy legibly at 40 wpm?" When I replied, "Typing," he countered, "On page 98 of the July 2019 QST, it says, 'Legibly copy at least 1 minute of text by HAND...'"

To this, I replied, "Well, I guess you and I are both screwed then. I can't copy by hand at 20 wpm, and

it's really not worth it to me to practice and get that fast. I'm guessing that I'm not alone in this regard. The upshot is that the ARRL is going to be sending out a lot fewer of these Vibroplex certificates than they think."

I then emailed W3IZ for a clarification. He shot back, "By hand is to mean not using a code reading machine." I suggested that he clarify this, both on the ARRL website and in QST. Of course, they haven't yet taken my suggestion, and the website still reads, "Copy one of W1AW's qualifying runs and submit one minute of solid copy (legible)."

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/), and is one of the presenters the [ICQPodcast \(ICQPodcast.com\)](http://ICQPodcast.com). Feel free to reply to his CW CQs at any speed you so choose.