



# **PROSPECT HILL INTERMOD**

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WALTHAM AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

[WWW.WALTHAMARA.ORG](http://WWW.WALTHAMARA.ORG)

SUMMER/FALL 2022

## ***Special Election at September 28 WARA Meeting***

Rich Comer K1RBC and Eliot Mayer W1MJ

The September 28, 2022, meeting of the Waltham ARA will include a special election. We are doing this because three positions were left vacant after the last election. We still hope that some of you will step forward for these roles. The good news is that we have a candidate for President - Eric Balles, W1ENB. He introduces himself to us in this issue of PHI. We still need candidates for the open Vice President and Secretary positions. These are 1-year terms, with an option to run for re-election. Anyone interested in these positions should contact Rich Comer, K1RBC, at [rich.comer@live.com](mailto:rich.comer@live.com).

Meeting logistics were not finalized as this newsletter went to press. There will definitely be an online option, and there may also be an in-person option. The details will be published on [www.walthamara.org](http://www.walthamara.org) and to our groups.io list, <https://groups.io/g/WARA64>, prior to the meeting.

## ***Candidate for Club President***

Eric Balles, W1ENB



*W1ENB enjoying some QRP operation*

As a kid, I was interested in all things electronic growing up in Philly during the late 60s and early 70s. I came to Boston for college in 1976 and have lived here ever since. I squeaked out a few engineering degrees from MIT, but most importantly, I meet my wife while in school and together we raised and launched four kids.

I was licensed in 1994 and played mostly in the VHF part of the spectrum. Kids, house, and career (in a mix of automotive and energy sectors) sort of kept me from being very active – I know, not a good excuse. I did pick the hobby up again 25 years later with a nudge from my wife, advanced to General and gave HF a try. I was tickled that basic equipment with just a few watts of power could reach half-way around the world and I advanced to Extra.

I operate QRP with an FT-818 and put most of my technical efforts into simple and efficient wire antennae. I also revived from dead my original IC-706 and recently started to explore SDRs with an IC-7300. At home, I use any one of the three HF radios depending on conditions, antenna configuration, and my mood. The antenna 'farm' is modest at best and consists of a few vertical antennae and a handful of wire antennae spread out in the front, side and back of our house. I also have a small collection of decades-old VHF/UHF mobile and handheld radios, surprisingly still in working order.

I most enjoy operating QRP portable from higher terrain – combining radio with my interests in hiking and bicycle touring. Being mostly retired from work now, I have more time available for a range of volunteer activities, including ham radio related ones such as communications support for community events or emergencies, as well as local club support. I look forward to the opportunity of actively helping WARA continue its long history of supporting amateur radio operators and the surrounding communities.

73,

Eric

## ***QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo September 17-18***

Eliot Mayer W1MJ

As this issue of PHI goes to press (figuratively), the QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo is fast approaching. This relatively new event has provided a safe alternative to in-person hamfests and conventions during the pandemic. I believe that the upcoming event is their fourth, and I have attended all of them so far. Despite some technical glitches, I have enjoyed these events from the comfort of my ham shack. The expo's web page says, "Like a real convention center, we have a lobby, ... exhibit hall, ... and a virtual auditorium where our speakers provide live and "semi-live" presentations with live Questions and Answers, [and] video lounges". Admission is \$10, with tickets available from: <https://www.qsotodayhamexpo.com/>

## ***Volunteers Needed: 2022 Cycle for Life***

The 2022 Cycle for Life is coming up on Saturday October 1st, 2022 and I am in need of Amateur Radio Operators to volunteer for SAG (Support & Gear) operations and if there is sufficient quantity of volunteers we will also be staffing the rest stops.

For those who have not worked this event before, it is a charity bicycle ride starting and finishing in Holliston Massachusetts. Funds raised benefit the [Cystic Fibrosis Foundation](#) in their quest for a cure.

There are 3 routes. A 12 mile, 30 mile and 62 mile loop and 4 rest stops traversing several towns around Holliston.

If you are available to help out please fill out this [Volunteer Sign Up Form](#) and I will be in touch with more details as the date gets closer.

Thank You,  
Dave Gilman KC1DDH  
Course Safety & Communications Coordinator  
[KC1DDH@Gmail.com](mailto:KC1DDH@Gmail.com)

## ***Waltham A.R.A Repeaters***

| <b>Input</b> | <b>Output</b> | <b>Tone In</b> | <b>Tone Out</b> | <b>Notes</b>   |
|--------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|--|
| 146.040      | 146.640       | 136.5          | 136.5           | NAC 293 for P25 use<br>EchoLink W1MHL-R Node: 490278 |
| 223.34       | 224.94        | None           | None            |  |
| 444.075      | 449.075       | 88.5           | None            |  |
| 902.1375     | 927.1375      | 131.8          | 100             | Linked to NEAR 900 Network via IRLP                  |