

June 2022

The

Volume 3 Issue 2

Messenger 2.0



Blackstone Valley Amateur Radio Club's Quarterly Newsletter

W1DDD.org

SnapShots

A Peek Through the BVARC Archives



Field Day
June 25-26th
Sat. 2 pm-Sun. 2 pm

Gaspee Days
Sunday, June 12
11 am- 4 pm



A collage of BVARC field days of yesteryear. How many members do you recognize?

From Our President

Hello Fellow BVARC Members,

When you think of Amateur Radio what's the first thing that comes to mind? A hobby, working DX contacting a distant station on a tropical island or block of ice in the South Pacific? Or is it more in line with getting involved, helping others to enjoy the hobby, participating in club events or teaching someone who doesn't know how to work a station in Fox and Hound mode how to do so? Regardless what your personal motivation is, I'd like to address these few words toward those who feel getting involved and participating in club events can be very rewarding.

During the next few weeks, BVARC will host or participate in a few events that wouldn't have come about without the dedication of some, sometimes many, of our fellow "Hams" giving a bit of their time to as Captain Picard would say, *"Make It So"*.

Your personal time and involvement in these events make all the difference. And sometimes, it's a first time for you so you'll take it slow. Others are seasoned volunteers and jump right in to help out. But regardless of your experience level, your participation is the point. No matter if it's just being in the room, offering a different opinion on something, or taking on an entire project or program, your singular action to help out will make all the difference to everyone around you.

Case in point, a few months ago Bob Janus approached me to discuss his idea to have a daylong trip to the Vintage Radio and Communications Museum in Windsor, CT. I told Bob that I would help him as much as possible but he would have to do the calling to the museum to setup this event. Bob and I worked well together to get it done. The museum was a place that I and many others hadn't heard of before, but I'll bet that it's not the last time BVARC visits this museum. It was fantastic, ask anyone who went. But my point is that it started with just an idea, and grew overtime into a grand day out for those who went.

As you know, we have a couple of additional

events planned in the month of June. I hope you will consider stopping in at these events. These events take time and effort to put together and I think you might just enjoy yourself if you were to get involved.

June 12th: The 250th anniversary of the burning of the HMS Gaspee event on June 12th starting at 11:00 a.m. to setup and at noon the station will be on the air. We will shut down approximately 4:30 p.m. This event is headed principally by Bob Beaudet, W1YRC, Jim Johnson, K1GND, Mickey Callahan K1WMC, and Teri Diiorio, W1PUP. This is a first time event and could be an annual event if we all enjoy ourselves. The only way to know that is to show up and participate!

GPS Location: Pawtuxet Park 2 E View St., Warwick, RI.

June 24-26: With continued participation from many BVARC volunteers we have once again organized a Field Day 2022 event for your enjoyment. Led principally by Jim Johnson, K1GND, Mickey Callahan K1WMC, Mike Kenney, K1ETA, Bruce Wood, W1BRU and many others, this is an annual event that can always use your individual help and participation. Speak with those on the committee as to how you can make a huge difference even if you only have a few hours to help out.

GPS Location: 1315 Chopmist Hill Road, North Scituate, RI.

Make a difference in BVARC. Get involved. Work with a seasoned volunteer or just let me know that you're interested in helping out somehow. I assure you that there is a job that everyone can do that will make all the difference in the world to the entire club.

If everyone does only one thing, there won't be anything left to do but to have fun!

Thank you and enjoy your summer!

73,

Ken Trudel —N1RGK

President & CEO, BVARC

BVARC Field Day 2022

MICKEY CALLAHAN – K1WMC

Like Christmas, Field Day comes around once a year as amateur radio operators head to the fields, hills and everywhere in between. In this annual event, which is being conducted from Friday, June 24 thru Sunday, 26, BVARC will once again set up several HF and VHF stations at the Chop Mist Hill location in Scituate, RI.

The club's Field Day Committee has been working and planning behind the scenes to once again make this another successful event. As always, the committee can't do it all and needs the entire club's participation to make it work. Starting June 24 at noon and June 25 at 9 a.m., we'll need volunteers to help set up wire antennas and shelters that will be used throughout the weekend.

The event officially begins Saturday at 2 p.m. for making as many contacts as possible up until 2 p.m. Sunday. Radio operators will be needed as well. The club will be setting up at least two HF and one VHF stations dedicated to SSB, CW, and possibly FT-8. In addition, we'll have a "Get On the Air" (GOTA) HF SSB station to demonstrate amateur radio operations to visitors, guests and new hams.

Field Day is an event that is not only fun with radios designed to simulate operating under emergency conditions, but also affording club members a chance to socialize while enjoying the great outdoors.

This year's plan includes sandwiches for lunch on Saturday provided by the club and prepared through the generous contributions and efforts of Ann and Jim Johnson (K1GND). The Saturday evening meal will be a "potluck" dinner. All who attend will be asked to bring a dish or two that will be shared by all. Beware, there will be no gas BBQ grill. Instead, several limited-use propane camp stoves will be available to heat up items. It's possible, but not confirmed as of this writing, that electrical power will be available if one needs to power a crockpot-type appliance. We also plan to have water and soft drinks on ice available throughout the weekend.



Since this is a 24-hour event, we hope that some club members will spend as much time as possible helping to operate the radios and be available to help take down and clean up on Sunday afternoon. I for one am planning to camp out over Saturday night. Hopefully we can get a few more diehards to join in the fun.

I hope all can come out and enjoy the fun and camaraderie with fellow club members, along with family, guests and friends. To be successful, it takes as many members as possible to participate and contribute. In addition, let's not forget that safety is our highest priority. If you have any questions regarding FD22, please don't hesitate to contact me at mick@comcast.net. As far as bringing a potluck dish, additional information and a sign-up sheet will be forthcoming on the club's website at www.W1DDD.org.

Committee Lead – Mickey Callahan

Committee Members:

Marc Caouette	Bruce Wood
Tim Connell	Ed Fox
Teri Diiorio	Buddy Byron
Jon Foster	Mark Hofstra
Jim Johnson	Paul Fontana
Mike Kenney	Bob Beaudet
Ken Trudel	



A 'REVOLUTIONARY' BVARC EXPERIENCE

BOB BEAUDET – W1YRC

Exactly 250 years ago, American colonists lured a British revenue schooner, the HMS Gaspee, onto a sand bar at low tide in RI's Narragansett Bay and destroyed her. They allowed the British crew to leave the ship but shot the skipper. He recovered from that shot and was made an admiral the following year.

BVARC is commemorating this event by teaming with the Gaspee Days committee and setting up a station at the site of the burning. Mickey Callahan, K1WMC, is letting the club use his "QSO-A-GOGO" radio trailer to serve the needs of the special operation from the site. They will use the special call, W1G.

The station will be positioned near the area where the public will visit. Hopefully, we can interest some into our hobby. Jim Johnson, K1GND, and Bob Beudet, W1YRC, will activate their KW stations on HF bands, mostly 40, 20 and 15 meters. SSB will be the mode used mostly because it will permit the operator to talk about the Gaspee and its significance to American history.

Popular US history tells readers that the Boston Tea Party which occurred Dec. 16, 1773 is considered the first shot of the American Revolution. The Gaspee Days and BVARC teams will point attention to the fact that the burning of the Gaspee took place June 10, 1772, more than 18 months **before** the Tea Party. Logically, the Gaspee affair can more truthfully be seen as the first rebellious act which led to the Revolution.

The motivation of the colonists who torched the Gaspee was to show tangible and viable objection and resistance to the British practice of



Rhode Island • USA

The 250th Anniversary of the Burning of the HMS Gaspee

Awarded To:

Blackstone Valley Amateur Radio Club Inc. DATE: _____



levying taxes on all goods delivered to the colonies. In many ways, the British practice of imposing taxes motivated the colonists toward independence.

The Gaspee Days team will sponsor a parade, fireworks, foot race, ecumenical religious service and many more events. See <http://www.w1ddd.org/gaspeedays.html> for details about all activities.

From June 4 until June 20, K1G and W1G will be on the air making contacts around the country and the world. Anyone wanting a QSL for their contact need only send an SAE (no stamp is requested) to W1YRC, Bob Beudet, 30 Rocky Crest Road, Cumberland, RI, 02864. Anyone who works **both** K1G and W1G during their on-air period (any mode) will receive a beautiful certificate which depicts the Gaspee burning. The certificate and QSL card design was created by Teri Diiorio, W1PUP. Those wanting the certificate will need only to wait for the US Postal Service to deliver it. They do not need to apply for or request it. BVARC members who wish to operate

Random thoughts from an old DXer

BY BOB BEAUDET—W1YRC

Making contact with distant ham stations is just one of the activities that attracts people into our wonderful hobby of Amateur Radio. We call it DX. Ever since the founders started keeping logs or records of their on air work, it was always something rather special when contact was made with someone very far away. Someone with vision saw that we would likely benefit from doing this within some sort of structure, keeping and comparing records and establishing goals and competitive activities that would encourage us to attain them through a formal process that would recognize special performance of stations and operators.

It became evident early in ham radio evolution that DXers, as these competitors were called, would need to learn and abide by rules dictated not by man but by nature. Just as sports participants do, DX chasers would need how to keep score. There would have to be some sort of metric by which achievements could be measured and compared.

A standard listing of places on earth that were contacted by radio was developed and a process to reward those who contacted them was born. It was called the DX Century Club based upon the basic award for making one hundred contacts with different countries.

A QST article written by ARRL staffer, Clinton B. DeSoto, W1CBD was published in 1935 which gave birth to the DXCC

program that we have now. The DXCC List is based upon this landmark QST article, **"How to Count Countries Worked, A New DX Scoring System"**. DeSoto's article discussed problems DXers had in determining how to count the DX, or entities, they had worked. He presented the solution that stood the test of time and worked successfully for succeeding generations of DXers.

The DXCC award is widely considered the gold standard of Amateur operator awards. Attaining membership in DXCC requires enough skill to make it challenging but easy enough to reach by ordinary people who happen to have good operating skill. DXCC has levels or degrees that recognize greater levels of skill and ability so the ham radio community can appreciate how special the Honor Roll is and how very special it is to reach the top of the Honor Roll.

Not every ham possesses the same skills. Some are content to spend their days monitoring some VHF or UHF repeaters and talk about the news of the day with others like themselves. Not much skill is required and consequently, those hams never become very skilled as operators. It is the opinion of this old timer that DXing will sharpen an operator's skill over time and keep the operator's brain sharp. Medical science has told us that stretching our mental tasks and forcing our brain to learn and sharpen new skills is the best way to fight the onset of



Alzheimer's disease or dementia. Participating in on-air contesting will also provide a means to keep the brain sharp, but it also requires special personality traits such as competitiveness and desire to beat others. A true DXer does not feel any need to beat others. His/her only competition is with him/herself.

DXing was revolutionized recently when Dr. Joe Taylor, K1JT, invented new digital modes categorized as Weak Signals JT. The most famous and widely used mode is FT8 which has taken over DXing world wide. More people use FT8 at any given time than all other modes combined. Advantages to getting a signal through noise or under weak signal conditions are too numerous to list. But, it's not an overstatement to say that FT8 has revolutionized DXing. It has made possible making DX contacts from 100 watts stations with wire antennas. Of course, those with towers and beam antennas will do better.

A group called True Blue DXers <https://www.tbdxc.net/> has emerged to voice an opposing view to using FT8 to work DX. They prefer the traditional modes such as CW which has been in use since the days of Marconi. They feel that working DX and especially earning DXCC awards

Continued on Next Page

either W1G or K1G should contact W1YRC or K1GND directly and make arrangements for day and time to operate.

Although not requested, some will provide donations to the BVARC effort. We shall apply any contributions toward the postage and envelope bill. This not a fund raising club activity. BVARC is teaming with Gaspee Days in order to help spread the information and promote the celebration of America's earliest action as a free country-to-be.

The Gaspee event is only two weeks before Field Day. It will be good practice and a warm up for field day which will gather points toward a winning score. Thanks in advance for all you support. Be sure to get on the air and contact both K1G and W1G on some band and mode. You have more than two weeks to do it. Propagation shouldn't be a problem for most BVARC members, possibly with the exception of KD5QHV and W1KEN. Good luck and have fun.

using digital modes such as FT8 is cheating and taking the easy way out. It's "dumbing down" the DX Chase.

There are huge technical advantages that FT8 has over SSB and even CW. It's signal is very narrow, just as CW is, but the big advantage is its software's ability to decode very weak signals that are below, even well below the noise floor and our ability to hear the signal. There are some who say this is cheating, that claiming a contact with a station that you cannot even hear is simply wrong. Others claim that using a computer to make the contact is fake radio. Of course, RTTY has been used since World War II using mechanical and later electronic methods to encode transmitted and decode received signals. I imagine that every time a technological improvement was introduced, the traditionalists raised opposition and wanted to keep everything as it was. When single sideband entered the scene, I recall how critical the phone operators were, claiming it sounded like Donald Duck and was hard to understand.

Well, it's safe to say that FT8 and FT4 are here to stay. Thousands of operators around the world use these modes every day and at

any hour of the day, many times more hams are using these weak signal WSJT modes than CW, SSB and all other modes combined. It is popular beyond anything that Joe Taylor ever imagined.

Late breaking news: The Southwest Ohio DX Association just presented Dr. Joe Taylor with its 2022 DX Achievement Award at the Dayton Hamvention. This award is given annually to the person who advanced the art of and made a significant impact on DXing. They chose to award their 2022 award to Dr. Taylor for creating digital communication modes that have totally revolutionized DXing.

As I said earlier, the DXCC award is the gold standard of operating awards, not only within the US but world-wide. Since 1947 when the present DXCC program was founded, tens of thousands have reached 100 DX stations worked and confirmed, earning membership into DXCC. From this group, many hundreds have reached Honor Roll status, meaning that they stand within ten of working and confirming every entity on earth. There are presently 340 entities and those who have confirmed contacts with every one of these earn "Top of The Honor Roll" status. This is

extremely difficult to obtain since some entities have no residents, no Amateurs or currently have restrictions on landing or operating a radio.

On a personal view, I received my first FCC license in June 1953, before many readers of this article were born. Ham radio has changed over these 69 years but the thrill of making an on-air contact with someone further away than I can shout or see or ever be able to hit a baseball is still the same. I'm on the air every day and love doing it. I cannot understand why other hams don't find the same enjoyment. Now, we're being asked to pay a \$35 fee for a ten year renewal of our license. Our license was always free of charge since we exist in the public's interest. I guess that has changed. Most countries charge for issuance of a ham license, some a large amount. That has discouraged licensing in some places. Let's hope it doesn't discourage too many in the US from renewing their licenses.

Sunspot Cycle 25 is starting its climb up toward its peak which will happen in about 2025-2026. HF band conditions will be improving, so get on the air and enjoy you hobby. See you on the air.

Lost In the Noise Crossword

BY BOB JANUS—KA1EMH

DOWN

- C2 Voice operated switch
- C5 Lois Armstrong had several & so do microwave HAM operators
- D10 Operated by HAMs in the armed forces
- A15 Full wave _____
- G13 Frequency or wavelength fingerprint of an electromagnetic source
- D7 Propagation across northern and southern hemispheres
- N5 Coulombs/second
- G2 Type of digital radio communication
- J17 Can Eliminate common mode current & Red Sox playoff chances
- P3 When disaster strikes this HAM group does its job
- M9 What a transceiver and a misbehaving teenager should be
- Q13 Where QSOs are recorded
- O15 A type of keyer

ACROSS

- B9 EM call letters belong to this country
- D1 Famous RI institution for HAM education
- D12 Narrow, Broad, Notch and Band Pass
- G2 3.1415.....
- G13 He made a clever nomograph for transmission line analysis
- K1 BVARC members check into one of these on Wednesday nights
- L10 You talk into this
- M6 Abbreviation for a hand held radio
- P3 The "A" in AM
- P14 British term for vacuum tube
- S1 Contact all 50 and get this certificate
- R11 Wish my yard was big enough for one of these antennas
- I2 Elevated ground plane for a vertical antenna
- K7 The band above VHF

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
A																			
B																			
C																			
D																			
E																			
F																			
G																			
H																			
I																			
J																			
K																			
L																			
M																			
N																			
O																			
P																			
Q																			
R																			
S																			
T																			

The Blackstone Valley Amateur Radio Club Bylaws

A Review and Updating of Our Foundational Document

BY KEN TRUDEL — N1RGK

Dr. Stephen R. Covey, in his popular book *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People* coined the phrase, “Begin with the end in mind.” What some people don’t know is that he went on further to say, “To begin with the end in mind means to start with a clear understanding of your destination. It means to know where you’re going so that you better understand where you are now and so that the steps you take are always in the right direction.”

Dr. Covey’s advice was on my mind when, just after the monthly April 2019 BVARC meeting then President, Matt Penttila, NA1Q pulled me aside asking me to begin to look into revising and updating our existing BVARC Bylaws.

Returning home that evening I began to do research as I was also invited to the May 11, 2019 BVARC Board of Governors meeting at the home of Ray and Patty Vilnit. This didn’t give me much time but I wanted to be prepared and have as much information as possible for this important first meeting.

At this board meeting, it was unanimously decided to advise Matt Penttila to appoint me chairman of the Bylaws Committee that would be responsible for recommending any updates or revisions to the club’s existing bylaws.

After progressing with several recommended changes to the bylaws, and given that BVARC was still meeting in person at the Congregational Church, it was decided that I would put together a presentation to provide an overview of how the existing bylaws were initially structured and how

the updated and revised bylaws were not all that different. BVARC would still be governed by its membership as it was in the past and that it was to remain as such in the future. Edits were beginning to be smaller and real progress was being made during our many in-person meetings.

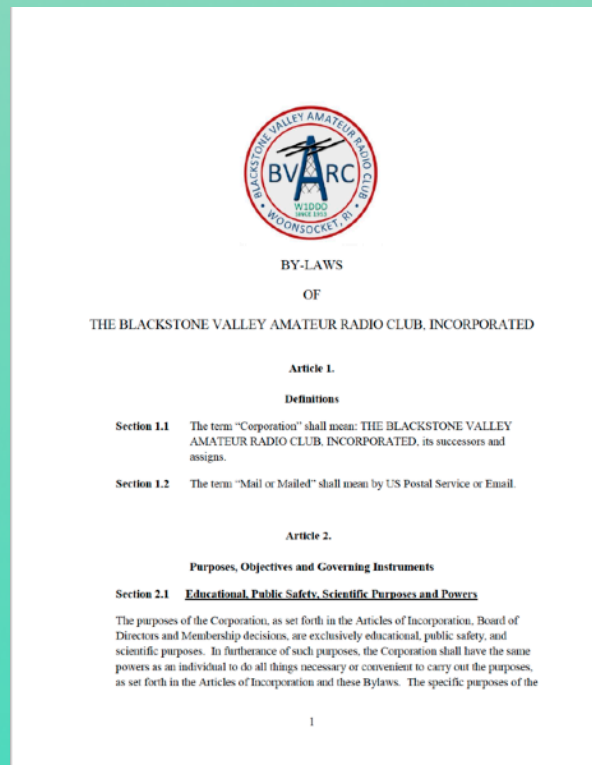
I had thought then that the process would be a straight forward one with several updates and that we would be done well within my estimated year timeline. Then on Dec. 12, 2019, within the Wuhan, Hubei Providence, in China, the COVID19 breakout was in the news. Then on Jan. 20, 2020 the CDC reported the first case in the United States. This event began the total derailment of our ongoing in-person meetings. But the board and I shouldered on as best we could having meetings on Zoom in order to work on each page, each paragraph and sometimes each sentence or word to finally arrive at a board- approved document to put before the

entire BVARC membership on 9/27/2021 for your comments and questions.

This process was a long one for many reasons and at times I recognize the frustration and repeated questioning by many BVARC members as to “why is it taking so long”.

On Jan. 31, 2022 the new revised bylaws were unanimously approved by the BVARC membership in good standing and was immediately signed by the officers to take effect without further delay.

Thank you to all of the members of the then Board of Governors, officers and the entire BVARC membership for your continued support and focus to create a new set of bylaws that will hopefully support the vision of our founding members and looks forward into our future.



Across THE Spectrum

BVARC FIELD DAY

June 25 and 26, on the grounds of the Scituate Senior Center, Route 102, Scituate. Set up day, Friday June 24, noon

GASPEE DAYS

June 12-11am-4pm Pawtuxet Park, Narragansett Parkway, Cranston, RI (Set-up 9AM)

NORTHEAST HAMXPOSITION 2022

August 26 - 27 - 28 at the Best Western Royal Plaza in Marlborough, MA.

BVARC SIMPLEX NET

Every Wednesday at 7 p.m. on 146.565.

SKYWARN:

Every Wednesday at 7 p.m. on the NB1RI repeater network.

Website: <http://www.wx1box.org>

RI SWAP AND SELL NET

Net: Saturdays 9 a.m. on the NB1RI repeaters

Website: RISWAP.NET

A place where RI amateur radio operators can swap and sell items free!The net runs on Saturday mornings at 9 a.m. on the NB1RI network.

SKYWARN:

Every Wednesday at 7 p.m. on the NB1RI repeater network.

Website: <http://www.wx1box.org>

RI ARES NETS

Repeater net every Tuesday 7 p.m. on the W1RIA repeater network.

VHF Simplex is held every second and fourth Tuesday on 147.420 starting at 7:45 p.m. The HF net is held every first and third Tuesday of the month at 7:45 p.m. on 3.980 MHz +/- 5 KHz

Website: www.riares.org

Lost In the Noise Crossword ANSWERS

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
A															R					
B									U	K	R	A	I	N	E					
C		V			H										C					
D	C	O	N	S	O	R	T	I	U	M			F	I	L	T	E	R	S	
E		X			R	R				A					I					
F					N	A				R					F					
G		P	I							S			S	M	I	T	H			
H		A					S						P		E					
I		C	O	U	N	T	E	R	P	O	I	S	E		R					
J		K						Q						C				C		
K		N	E	T				U	H	F				T				H		
L		T					A				M	I	C	R	O	P	H	O	N	E
M						H	T		G					U				K		
N					A	O		R					M					E		
O					M	R	O								I					
P			A	M	P	L	I	T	U	D	E				V	A	L	V	E	
Q			R				A		N				L		M					
R			E				L		D			R	H	O	M	B	I	C		
S	W	A	S						E				G		I					
T									D						C					

April 2022 Field Trip

BOB JANUS-KA1EMH & JUDSON MITSOCK-W1JMZ

Nine BVARC members enjoyed a visit to the Vintage Radio and Communications Museum (VRCMCT) in Windsor, CT, on April 30th.

We were greeted by museum officer, John Ellsworth, and received a guided tour of the museum's vast collection of electro-mechanical wonders. Many of the items are in working condition and have been painstakingly restored by the museum staff.

Early phonographs, an extensive variety of radios, spanning several decades, including a refrigerator with a radio, as well as singing, blinging jukeboxes were among the items on display. In the back rooms were many works-in-progress, including several large AM transmit amplifiers retired from commercial broadcast stations.

The museum is also home to the VRCMCT amateur radio club. Their station, W1VCM, occupies a room inside the museum. Club president, Bob Allison, WB1GCM, described the club's activities and collection of HAM equipment. For many years, Bob was the ARRL technical evaluator for the new products reviewed in QST. He showed us his latest acquisition, a hand crank powered lifeboat distress radio.

A truly amazing place!



And
the
story
isn't
over...

Search for the Gaspee

Group looks to finance RI underwater exploration in hopes of discovering lost historical British ship

By JOHN HOWELL

A group interested in raising \$50,000 to conduct a thorough search for whatever remains of the HMS Gaspee that colonists set a fire off Namquid Point on June 9, 1772, is scheduled to meet Thursday morning at the Aspray Boat-house in Pawtuxet Park to hear Dr. Kathy Abbass of the Rhode Island Marine Archeology Project.

Dr. Abbass of the Rhode Island Marine Archeology Project is no stranger to the discovery and identification of colonial era wrecks in Rhode Island waters, having identified a hull off Goat Island in Newport as the Endeavour that was later named the Earl of Sandwich. The Endeavor was the vessel sailed by Captain Cook who is credited with the discovery of Australia.

Locally, Dr. Abbass headed up the Not the Gaspee Project that over the past five years has sought to identify two clearly visible wrecks off Gaspee Point during moon low tides. What's left of the ships - one is on what remains of Greene Island and the other is in the shallows of the point - have served as the training grounds for about 40 people who have taken Dr. Abbass' course.

On March 15, Dr. Abbass outlined efforts to document the vessels during a presentation at the Warwick Public Library. Rep. Joseph McNamara, who she described as the "sparkplug" of the project, served as the master of ceremonies and is now one of the core group seeking to

fund a search for the Gaspee on the 250th anniversary of what has become known as the "first blow for freedom."

Dr. Abbass has submitted a detailed request for funding on the General Assembly website including a \$32,000 budget for rental of equipment and vessels for 10-day exploration of Gaspee Point.

She is not entering this project with any illusions.

As Dr. John Concannon said at the library meeting, the morning following the burning of the Gaspee, the Beaver was dispatched to salvage what it could from the Gaspee including canon and other hardware. From documents dating to the time, Concannon said there are reports of a local farmer also retrieving planking from the ship.

Abbass agrees there may be little to find, the boat having burned and whatever remained having been quickly picked over. Observing that as a vessel burns it becomes lighter and hence more exposed, she suggested all that may remain, if anything, are some charred timbers preserved in the silt or scattered ballast stones. Offering hope is a side sonar scan taken of the point last summer indicating two targets. Abbass scheduled dives on the sites last fall but that had to be canceled because of the weather.

Gov. Dan McKee, who has an interest in Rhode Island history, is expected to attend the Thursday meeting, McNamara said. Already

the group has received more than \$12,000 in commitments to underwrite the search.

Whether remains or the Gaspee are found or not, the search as the nation gears up to celebrate 250 anniversary of the Declaration of Independence has the potential of shining a spotlight on the story of the burning of the Gaspee. The Gaspee was in pursuit of the colonial ship Hannah and ran aground on the shoals off Warwick. The Hannah proceeded to Providence where the word was quickly spread the British ship was aground. John Brown rallied about 60 volunteers to row long boats to confront her. Despite King George's handsome reward, no one divulged who was responsible. The Gaspee crew and its captain William Dudingston who was shot during the incident were taken ashore. A colonial surgeon cared for Dudingston's wound. Following an inquest of the incident to went on to command another ship.

Assuming the funding is secured, the search for the Gaspee could start as soon as May and coincide with this year's 250th celebration that is highlighted with the parade June 11 starting 10 a.m. and the burning of the Gaspee the following day.

The celebration starts May 21 with a proclamation and includes and village walking tour and arts and crafts festival the following weekend with block party. A symphony in the park will be held June 4 that will close with fireworks.