

Port City Amateur Radio Club

March 4, 2026

**PortCityARC@groups.io – Main
Communications Channel**

www.W1WQM.org

**Sunday 10 AM Seacoast Net – 3895
kHz – General Discussion Rounds**

**Sunday 7 PM 2 M Net – W1WQM
Repeater – New Ham Comms**



Please Set Cell
Phones to Silent



Officers & Members Introduction

- **Mark – K1RX – President, Trustee NM1JY**
- **Thom - K1TKT - Vice President**
- **Bonnie - N1IIM - Treasurer**
- **Mark – KC1UKO – Secretary**
- **Ken – N1RP – Trustee, W1WQM**

- **NEW VISITORS**
- **Around the room introductions with your:**
 - **Name**
 - **Call (use phonetics)**
 - **Home Location**
 - **Club Office Held (if any)**



Coming Up Tonight

- **Donation Dinner – Fund Raising Event - Thanks!**
- **Announcements**
- **Club Calendar**
- **Treasurer's Report**
- **Old Business**
- **New Business**
- **Seacoast Flea Market – KC1ILT**
- **Main Topic – New Ham Talk – Open Forum**
- **Lightning Rounds**
- **Intermission – 50/50 Tickets on Sale!**
- **Lightning Rounds**
- **50/50 Drawing**
- **Motion to Adjourn**



Announcements

- **Member License Upgrades**

Coming Up Soon – Club Calendar

- **VE Test session – Mar 7 starts at 2 PM**
- **ARES**
- **POTA Activity**
- **Lab Night – Mar 25 – TBD**

Old Business

Searching for a New Treasurer – Nominations Open

Special Services Club – Applied

Portsmouth Market Square Day - update



New Business

Any other NEW Business?



Seacoast Flea Market – Saturday, April 11

- Spring Clean Out Opportunity
- Open to public at 8 AM
- Setup (Kitchen, Indoor Tables, PA) starts at 6:30 AM
- Entrance fee \$5.00 (door prize ticket, NO limit)
- Indoor and Outdoor areas
- 50/50 Drawing every hour
- Hourly Door Prize Drawings
- Where? St. James Lodge 77 Tide Mill Road, Hampton

- VE Session following clean up starts at 1 PM

- <https://w1wqm.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/2026-FLEA-MARKET-FLYER.pdf>

Main Topic

New Ham Forum

by Mark, K1RX

Open Discussion

Propagation

HF Antennas – Expectations

QRP, Medium and High Power – Operational Expectations

Radios – New, Used

Computer Interface

Lightning Rounds
PCARC History
Ken, N1RP



THE Callsign History of the Port City Amateur Radio Club



Reference Sources:

The Radio Amateur Callbook, various issues, 1948 through 1997

The PCARC Longwire Newsletter, various issues

The Portsmouth Herald Newspaper, 1910-1970s various issues

The FCC ULS

AI citations from:

OpenAI Chatgpt “*ChatGPT can make mistakes. Check important info.*”

Google Gemini “*Gemini is AI and can make mistakes.*”

Amazon Alexa “*Alexa may not always get it right*”

Microsoft Copilot

"Fake it till you make it"

W1WQM Callsign History

[AI] The FCC's post-war callsign blocks were assigned in predictable sequences. The **W1WQx** block was issued in the late 1940s to early 1950s, immediately after WWII licensing resumed. That means the original W1WQM was licensed **no earlier than 1946**, and almost certainly received the call **between 1947 and 1951**. [/AI]

W1WQM Callsign History

Portsmouth Herald, November 8, 1952

Amateur Radio Club Given Call Letters

Call letters W1WQM have been awarded the Port City Amateur Radio Club by the Federal Communications Commission. It was announced at the monthly business meeting of the group Thursday.

The new call letters will be used by all ham members when using club transmitters.

An emblem to be used on club stationery and membership cards were discussed, and it was decided to have members each design an emblem to bring to next month's business meeting.

John Singleton and John Barry are in charge of a program in which awards will be given to members for contacting all 48 states with their ham rigs, all continents, or 100 countries. Written confirmation of the contacts must be presented before the awards will be given.

A planning committee was named to meet tomorrow at 10 a.m. in the Civil Defense headquarters on Porter Street to discuss plans for moving the club's equipment from the Community Center to the new Civil Defense rooms.

Call letters **W1WQM** have been awarded to PCARC by the FCC

Will be used by all ham members when using club transmitters

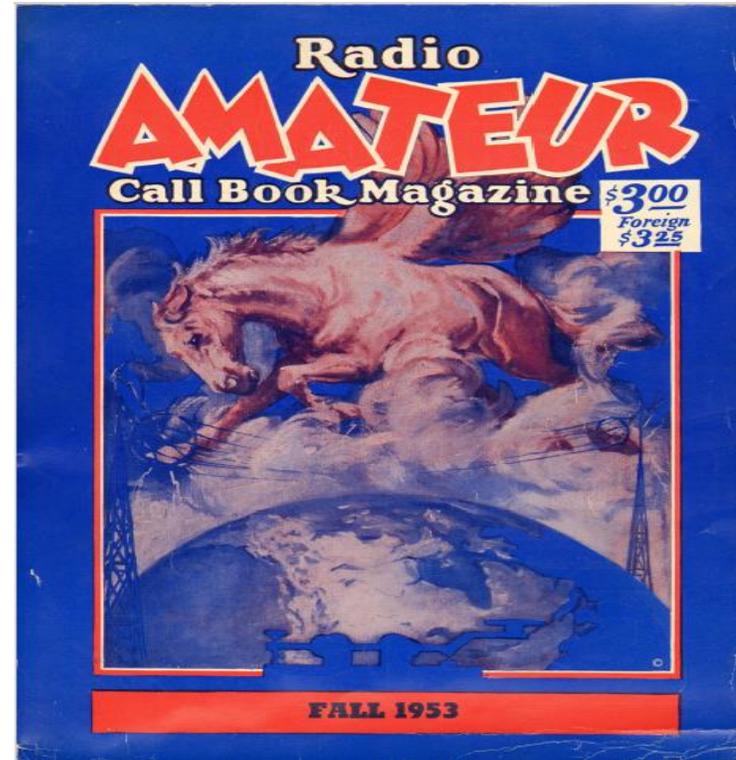
Each member will submit a design for club stationery and membership cards

John Singleton and **John Barry** will manage Awards given to members for contacting all 48 states, all continents, or 100 countries

Committee named to meet in Civil Defense headquarters to plan moving club equipment from the Community Center (Daniel St) to the new Civil Defense rooms (Health Center on Porter St).

W1WQM Callsign History

*Radio Amateur
Callbook, Fall 1953*



W1WQK	Gustave D. Balacos, 73 Gorham Avenue, Hamden, Conn.
W1WQL	Richard L. Deans, Post Office Box 2, Hollis Depot, N. H.
W1WQM	The Port City Amateur Radio Club, John C. Barry, Trustee, 4 Sylvester Street, Portsmouth, N. H.
WN1WQN	William P. Mueller, 53 Westminster St., Pittsfield, Mass.
WN1WQO	Peter D. Mosca, 389 West Street, Pittsfield, Mass.
W1WQP	John A. Hackett, Long Sands Road, York Village, Maine

W1WQM Callsign History

The lineage of Trustees of the callsign.

Years	Trustee	Callsign	Address
1953-54	John C. Barry	W1POK	4 Sylvester Street, Portsmouth,
1955-65	Not identified		Porter St, Portsmouth, NH (Likely used as the Comfort Station address, on the corner of Church and Porter Streets)
1966-67	David M. Evans	K1ZOF	18 Island Av, Kittery, ME
1968-71	Norman R. Cain	KISDL	229 Willard Av, Portsmouth NH
1972-76	Richard C. Wilder	W1GGA	3 Walker Bungalow Rd, Portsmouth
1977-88	Not identified		1 Church St, Portsmouth NH (no such address exists, likely used as the Comfort Station address, on the corner of Church and Porter Streets)
1989-94	Frederick S Brown	KE1T	190 Whipple Rd, Kittery ME
1992-2003	Bruce Stevens	W1OB	205 Birth Hill Rd, York ME
2003-08	Mark Pride	K1RX	Kensington, NH
2008-17	Thomas Dubek	AA1CA	Hampton, NH
2017-23	Igor Kosvin	N1YX	Salisbury, MA
2023-today	Kenneth Gehalo	N1RP	Fremont, NH

NM1JY Callsign History

- The PCARC was responsible for the restoration of the USS Albacore's original radio equipment.
- In 2001, the club decided to apply for a second club callsign, which was to be linked to the USS Albacore submarine.



Payoff time! With the RT-618 and AM-3007 reinstalled in Albacore's radio room, Alex establishes a 20-minute CW contact with UA1CJX in St. Petersburg, Russia.

Alex, AI2Q sits at the restored radio station in the USS Albacore.

NM1JY Callsign History

April 2001 Longwire:

- Restoration Project. In this case, we're trying to get the Albacore back on the air with a slightly modified version of her original call.
- the **Albacore's official call was (is) NMJY.**
- Nonetheless, those of us involved with the Albacore project think it would be really cool if the radio room onboard the ship could operate with the ham call NM1JY in honor of the official callsign. Getting that call is a two-step process.
- First, you apply to one of the club-callsign administrators and get the next sequential call. In this case, I filed paperwork with the ARRL, and as of late March the call KB1GLZ is assigned to the PCARC. The second step is to apply to the FCC for a modification of that license, in this case requesting for a vanity call

NM1JY Callsign History

September 21 Minutes [Longwire]

We are also in the process of obtaining the callsign, NM1JY for the submarine special event station. **The submarines original navy call sign was NMJY.** Frank, W6FC has that action item.

June 2002 [Longwire]

The club made 496 QSOs during the Subs-on-the-Air event from the USS Albacore. Kriss will send the logs to the SOTA coordinator to receive our participation certificate. For the July "Ships-on-the-Air" event we expect to have the NM1JY vanity callsign. Frank, W6FC, continues to work this action item with the FCC. Kriss would like to see more participation this year for this fun event.

Ooops..

The actual Naval callsign for the USS Albacore (AGSS-569) is **NYMJ**



Payoff time! With the RT-618 and AM-3007 reinstalled in Albacore's radio room, Alex establishes a 20-minute CW contact with UA1CJX in St. Petersburg, Russia.

Alex, AI2Q sits at the restored radio station in the USS Albacore.

NM1JY Callsign History

The lineage of Trustees of the callsign.

Years	Trustee	Callsign	Address
KB1GLZ March 21, 2001 – July 24, 2002	Bruce Stevens	W1OB	10S Birth Hill Rd, York ME
June 5, 2002-2008	Bruce Stevens	W1OB	10S Birth Hill Rd, York ME
2008-2017	Thomas Doubek	AA1CA	Hampton, NH
2017-today	Mark Pride	K1RX	Rochester, NH

IT'S
INTERMISSION
TIME!



Visit Our *Snack Bar!!*

Buy your 50/50 Tickets
Return in 20 Minutes

Lightning Rounds

Contests

Mark, KC1UKO

March Contests

- **ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB** **00Z Mar 7 to 24Z Mar 8**
- South Africa Field Day (SARL) 08Z Mar 14 to 10Z Mar 15

State/Province QSO

Oklahoma	15Z Mar 14 to 02Z Mar 15 and 15Z to 22Z Mar 15
Idaho	16Z Mar 14 to 04Z Mar 15 and 14Z to 02Z Mar 15
Wisconsin	18Z Mar 15 to 01Z Mar 16
Virginia	14Z Mar 21 to 04Z Mar 22 and 12Z to 24Z Mar 22

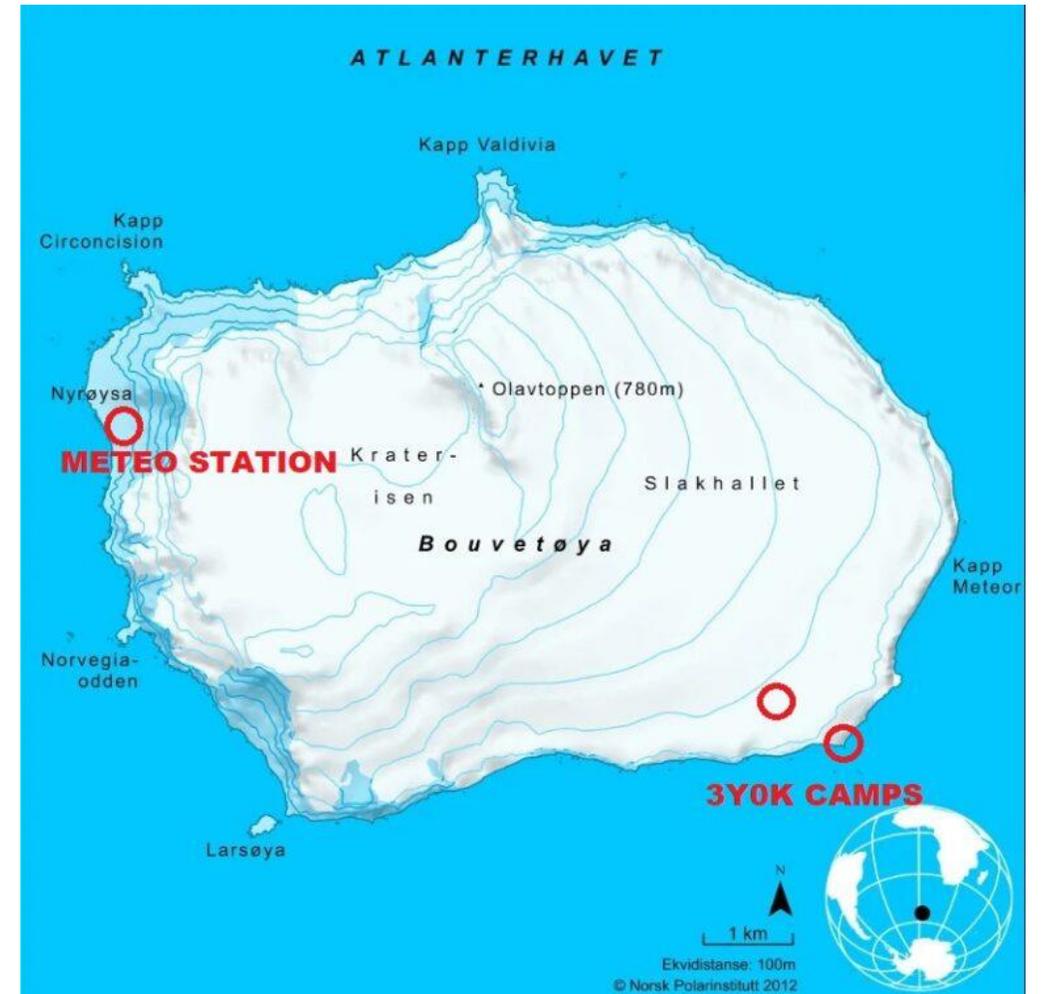
Plus many others. Checkout www.contestcalendar.com for more information.

Lightning Rounds

*Bouvet Island
Most Wanted DX #10
On the Air NOW*

Mark, K1RX





Location

Bouvetøya is located at 54°25'S, 3°20'A, 2500 kilometres southwest of South Africa. The island is not part of Antarctica, which is defined as the area south of 60 °S.

The island measures only 49 square kilometres, and is almost entirely covered by ice. Steep cliffs on all sides of the island make it extremely difficult to go ashore there. Olavtoppen, 780 metres above sea level, is the highest peak on the island.

- **Operation – Call Sign 3Y0K**
- www.3y0k.com
- [Estimate Cost: \\$1.7 M 16 ops +](#)
- <https://www.youtube.com/@3Y0KDXpedition>
- YouTube KT8X Co-Leader
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=saLXXJW2k_o

Lightning Rounds
DX Operating Techniques

Mark, K1RX

Ken, N1RP

DX'ing

- What is DX (DX'ing)
- What is a DXEpedition?
- Contacting a DX Station

DX'ing

- DX'ing – contacting a another station that is not in your country
 - CQ DX (General call for any DX station)
 - CQ DX Japan (or a region, Asia, Pacific, Europe)

Finding the DX....

DX Summit.fi is popular

Learn the Prefixes

DX'ing

- What is a DXEpedition?
 - A trip taken by amateur radio operators to an exotic, remote, or rare geographical location for the purpose of contacting other operators
- Examples – on the air NOW (March, 2026)
 - KP5/NP3VI Desecheo Island
 - J51A Guinea-Bissau
 - 3Y0K Bouvet Island (budget \$1.7m)



Rank	Prefix	Entity Name
1.	P5	DPRK (NORTH KOREA)
2.	KH3	JOHNSTON ISLAND
3.	KH7K	KURE ISLAND
4.	CE0X	SAN FELIX ISLANDS
5.	FT5/X	KERGUELEN ISLAND
6.	BS7H	SCARBOROUGH REEF
7.	3Y/P	PETER 1 ISLAND
8.	YV0	AVES ISLAND
9.	BV9P	PRATAS ISLAND
10.	3Y/B	BOUVET ISLAND
11.	KH4	MIDWAY ISLAND

DX'ing

- Contacting a DX Station (CW and SSB)
 - Often using 'split' frequency – why do they do this?
 - DX Station is transmitting on one frequency, and listening on another frequency
 - Example:
 - DX Station is transmitting SSB on 18.146 MHz
 - DX Station is listening SSB on 18.151 MHz
 - You listen on 18.146 MHz and transmit on 18.151 MHz
 - DX station will often say 'listening up', or 'up 5-10'
 - Typically up 5 kHz for SSB
 - Typically 1-2 kHz for CW
 - Modern radios often have a 'SPLIT' button
 - After setting it up, re-check it (Radio or Logging Software will tell you)

DX'ing

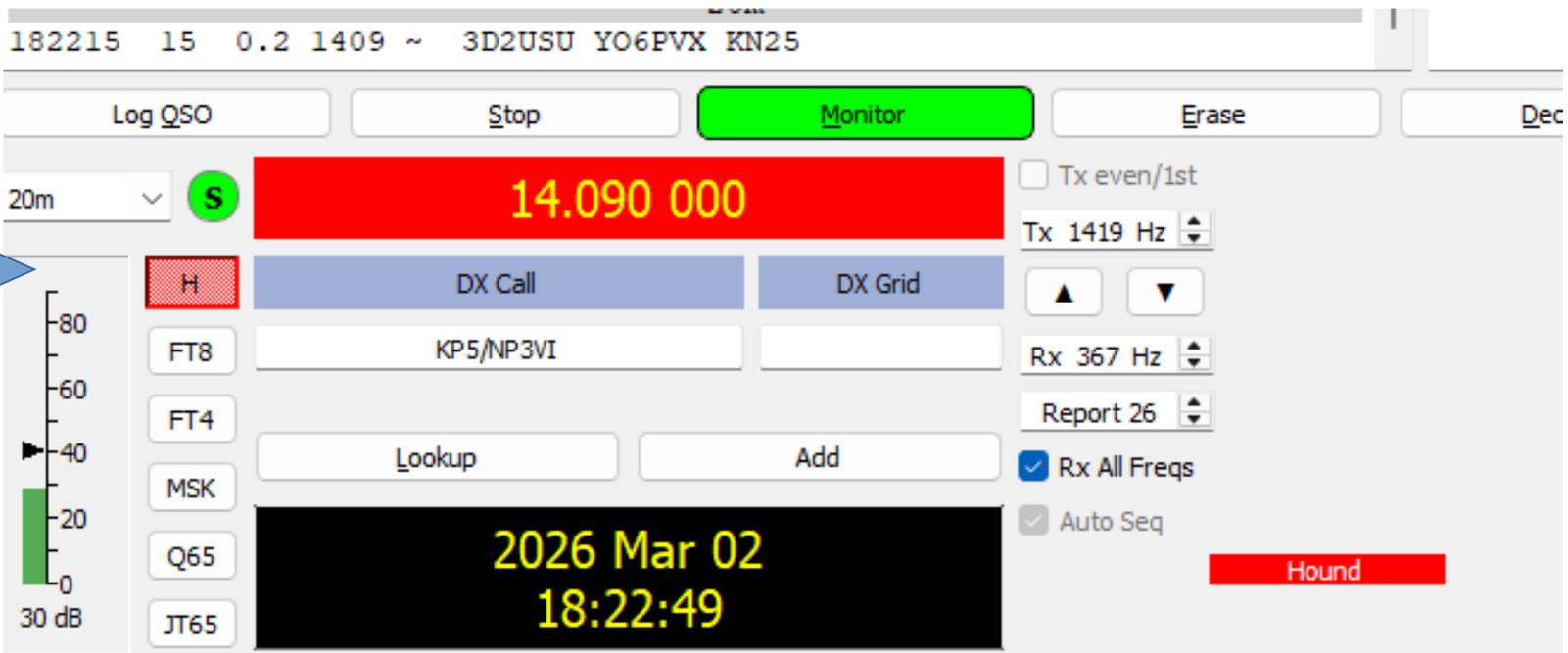
Yaesu FTDX101D

- Pressing and holding 'SPLIT' will automatically go up 5kHz



DX'ing

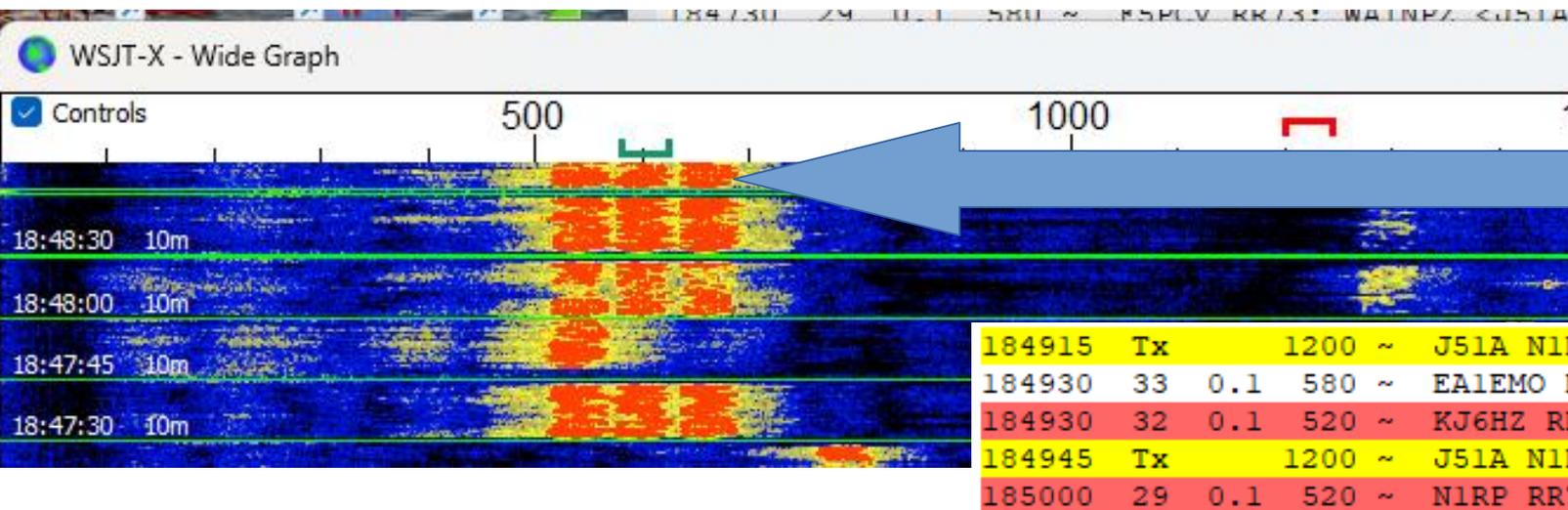
- Contacting a DX Station (FT8)
 - Typically using 'Fox/Hound' Mode
 - Fox (DX station) usually transmits below 1000
 - Hound (you) usually transmits above 1000
 - When DX replies to you, software will move you to 500-1000
 - You don't transmit 73



The screenshot shows a software interface for FT8 DXing. A blue arrow points to a signal strength indicator on the left, which is a vertical bar with a scale from 0 to 80 dB. The interface displays the frequency 14.090 000 MHz in a red box. Below the frequency, there are fields for 'DX Call' (KP5/NP3VI) and 'DX Grid'. The interface also shows a 'Monitor' button in green, a 'Log QSO' button, and a 'Stop' button. The date and time are displayed as 2026 Mar 02 18:22:49. The mode is set to FT8. The interface also shows a 'Hound' label in a red box at the bottom right.

DX'ing

- Contacting a DX Station (FT8)
 - 'Fox' station can transmit more than one stream
 - You will see multiple replies on a single line



DX transmitting multi-stream

An aerial photograph showing a white pickup truck on the left with a large, complex lattice tower structure mounted on its bed. To its right is a white sedan. The vehicles are parked on a grassy area with some power lines visible in the background.

50/50 Drawing

Motion to Adjourn

Please set your cell phones to “annoy me” once again.