



July 2025

Volume 60 Issue 07



<http://www.w1mv>



[https://www.facebook.com/w1mvmara /](https://www.facebook.com/w1mvmara/)



<https://twitter.com/search?q=Massasoit%20Amateur%20Radio%20Association&src=typd>

Next meeting is August 19, 2025 The BBQSO and meeting. Social hour 1700 meeting at 19:00pm. Talk-in is on 147.180+ The BBQSO is at 135 Wareham St the Town of Middleborough from the center of town .9 miles from the four corners. Parking is in the back of the yard. Entry through the side door. We meet on the deck. Please RSVP to Rick KB1TEE at kb1tee@gmailcom. Please bring a side dish to share. Beverage of your choice is still open. Please be responsible and don't forget to bring what you are going to eat. The grill will be open and hot during the event.

**ON THE AIR** Tuesdays at 2000 (8pm) conversations

### **Presidents Notes:**

### **SECRETARIES REPORT** By Phil N1XTB

MARA minutes 17 June 2025

Meeting called to order by John N1BSO at 1831 at the Bridgewater Library meeting room.

Attendees

N1BSO John, KB1WCK Joe, KC1TLT Wendy, N1UMJ John (via zoom), N1XTB Phil, KA1YL Connie, KM1TWL Jim

Treasurer and Repeater report for presented and accepted. John discussed the work that he and Jeff were doing investigating the repeater controller configuration.

Secretary report as presented in newsletter - accepted

Jim KM1TWL was voted in as a new member. Welcome Jim!

No Old Business

## New Business

19 July 2025 WARC open house. MARA was invited to have a table. John N1BSO will attend and asked for volunteers. Asked for MARA club banner handoff before the event

BBQQSO is lieu of regular August meeting at Rick's house.

N1XTB Phil asked what people had for field day plans. John N1BSO will be at the E Bridgewater Y at the WARC field day site. Pilgrim club (Taunton) will stage at the Swansea Fire Department.

September outdoor park radio event mentioned by Tom WA1TOM at the last meeting - Date TBD

John NB1SO says he needs more apparel orders to make the minimum order requirements.

Meeting adjourned at 1840

Post meeting - Wendy KC1TLT mentioned she would forward information on a POTA event.

Phil N1XTB mentioned that the last Saturday Skywarn net had 15 attendees.

## WARC Open House Sat July 19'th Whitman K of C WA1NPO

Hello WARC members and friends. This is a reminder that this Sat July 19'th 8 to 12 at the Whitman K of C is our Open House to promote Amateur Radio.

The more Setups the better. We can get in between 6:30 and 7AM There might be some antennas put up on Friday night. Knights of Columbus #347 Whitman, MA 1195 Bedford St,



I hope a good number of you can make it. Also please forward the flyer on anyone you know that might be interested in becoming a HAM. If you could post the flyer on your local Town Facebook page I would appreciate it.

**Marshfield Fair.** Please review the calendar and let us know what shifts you can work. The sooner the better is highly appreciated,





## International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend - ILLW

Normally held on the 3rd full weekend in August

it will run from 00:01 UTC on Saturday, August 16th, to 24:00 UTC on Sunday, August 17th

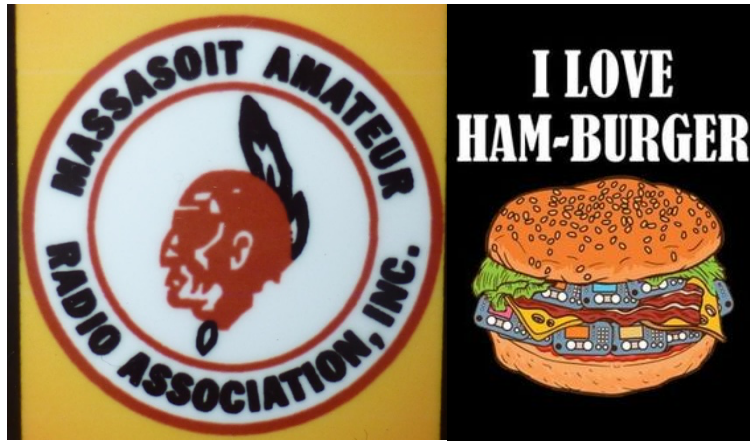
For some reason or other August seems to have become the international weekend for lighthouses. Countries all over the world have become involved in one for or another of lighthouse activity. Some years ago the United States Congress declared August 7th as their National Lighthouse Day and during that first week in August amateur radio operators in America set up portable stations at lighthouses and endeavour to make contact with each other. This event is known as the US National Lighthouse Week.

In Britain the Association of Lighthouse Keepers, [ALK](#), conducts International Lighthouse Heritage Weekend on the same weekend as the ILLW in August. Their objective is to encourage Lighthouse managers, keepers and owners to open their lighthouse or lightstation and related visitors centres to the public with a view to raising the profile of lighthouses, lightvessels and other navigational aids, and preserving our maritime heritage.

However, the major event which takes place in August is the International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend, [ILLW](#), which came into being in 1998 as the Scottish Northern Lights Award run by the Ayr Amateur Radio Group. The history of this event can be found elsewhere on this site. The ILLW usually takes place on the 3rd full weekend in August each year and attracts over 500 lighthouse entries located in over 40 countries. It is one of the most popular international amateur radio events in existence probably because there are very few rules and it is not the usual contest type event. It is also free and there are no prizes for contacting large numbers of other stations. There is little doubt that the month of August has become "Lighthouse Month" due largely to the popularity and growth of the ILLW.

<https://illw.net>

The objective is to promote public awareness of ham radio and lighthouses; to contribute to the recognition that lighthouses, lightships, and their keepers deserve; to foster camaraderie within the ham fraternity; and to provide fellowship among the members of the Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society.



BBQSO and MEETING AUGUST 19<sup>th</sup> STARTING at 5PM

BBQSO 2022 the MARA club will be having its annual meeting with a BBQ. This event is open to all HAMS it is not just open to members. Talk in will be on the 147.180 PL 67 repeater please come on over. The address is 135 Wareham St Middleborough, MA. I will have the gas grill fired up and the wood grill will be burning. You must provide whatever you wish to eat (**you will cook your own**) and please bring something for the pot luck for everyone to share. Cooking utensils and plastic knives, forks, and spoons with paper plates will be available. Coffee will be on. I use Dunkin Donuts. I will have hot and cold drink cups, cream, milk, sugar and sugar substitutes. Adult beverages are allowed. Please do so responsibly.

**Bring your own seat**

Thank you Rick KB1TEE





Past BBQSO photos



Just a little joy from Gilligan's Island





## Northeast HamXposition

**2025 DATES! – August 22-23-24, 2025 in Marlborough, MA.**

The [Northeast HamXposition](#), aka [HamX](#), is held at the Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel & Trade Center, 181 Boston Post Road, [Marlborough, MA](#) on the fourth weekend of August. The event attracts hobbyists, makers, science and STEM enthusiasts, school and scout groups, and amateur radio operators from all over New England. Your admission ticket is good for all three days. Come join us!

We are working hard to improve HamX by bringing in more vendors, more sponsors, better forums, a better flea market, and great prizes. We also need help from clubs to promote HamX within the local clubs. We need more participation that gets more vendors excited to attend.

For example, the Friday night DX themed banquet is sponsored by DX Engineering this year. DXE has donated a \$3300 Icom IC-7610 HF transceiver.

As of now, there is \$8000 of door prizes to be awarded and we expect more. If you attend Saturday night's banquet, you could win a Yaesu FT-710 Field. There are some great prizes that will be awarded at Sunday afternoon's door prize drawings, too.

# NEAR-Fest

## New England Amateur Radio Festival

NEAR-Fest XXXVIII - October 3 & 4, 2025

Hillsborough County 4H Fairgrounds  
17 Hilldale Lane  
New Boston, NH

Gates open at 8 am on Friday and 7 am on Saturday. Advanced ticket holders can get in early starting at 7 am! Closing ceremonies at 2 pm on Saturday

## Thank You for a Fantastic NEAR-Fest XXXVII!

To all of our attendees, vendors, volunteers, and supporters – **thank you** for making NEAR-Fest XXXVII such a memorable and successful event!

Your enthusiasm, dedication, and community spirit are what make NEAR-Fest so special. Whether you traveled near or far, set up a table, lent a helping hand, or simply came to enjoy the camaraderie, you helped make this edition one of our best yet.

We're incredibly grateful for your continued support and can't wait to welcome you back for NEAR-Fest XXXVIII on October 3 & 4.

Stay tuned for updates right here at [near-fest.com](http://near-fest.com), and until next time—**73!**

—The NEAR-Fest Team

### Amateur Radio Volunteers Serving During Texas Floods

Volunteer amateur radio operators in the ARRL® [Amateur Radio Emergency Service®](#) (ARES®) are embedded with local served agencies in the areas of central Texas affected by devastating floods.

The needs and assignments have been changing, but ARES volunteers are stepping up to the dynamic needs of their communities. "This is a very fluid situation. It changes by the hour," said ARRL South Texas Section District 7 Emergency Coordinator Terry Jones, K5LGV.

The trained ham radio operators were activated starting on Friday, July 4, 2025. Radio amateurs are providing communications capabilities to agencies whose primary systems were damaged in the flooding event or where they suffer poor connectivity due to the terrain.

ARES members helped the American Red Cross with setup of a reunification shelter in response to the floods. Ten hams were assigned to search-and-rescue teams.

## **Massasoit Amateur Radio Association Executive Board**

**President : John Laiosa president**

**Vice President: Tom Luckman WA1TOM**

**Secretary: Philip McNamara KC1JDN**

**Treasurer: Phil McNamara N1XTB**

**Call Sign Trustee: Phil McNamara N1XTB**

**Newsletter editor : Rick Emord KB1TEE**

**2M Repeater 147.180+ (Tone 67.0)**

**440 Repeater 444.550+ (Tone 88.5)**

**APRS Node Node 144.39 W1MV-1**

**Packet BBS 145.09 N1XTB-4**

**Packet Node Brockton 145.09 (BROCK)**

**MARA Web Page <http://www.w1mv.org/>**

**Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/w1mvmaral>**

**Newsletter Editor [maranews@w1mv.org](mailto:maranews@w1mv.org)**

**WARC Web Page <http://www.wa1npo.org>**

**Qsl via [www.eqsl.cc](http://www.eqsl.cc)**

**Skywarn <http://wx1box.org> and**

**[www.powersrvcs.org/w1gmf/skywarn.htm](http://www.powersrvcs.org/w1gmf/skywarn.htm)**

**Mailing Address P.O. Box 428 Bridgewater, MA 02324**

**Monthly meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of each month, for time being,**

**Tuesday Night Zoom meeting will be at 6:30pm.**

**Our Meetings-On-The-Air are held all other Tuesday evenings at 8PM on**

**147.180+ and has a new format.**

**The South Shore Skywarn Net is held every Saturday evening at 8PM local time on 147.180+ and is open to all hams.**

**VE Exams are held the 2nd Saturday of every month, in Braintree contact Steve Cohen, W1OD via email [w1od@arrl.net](mailto:w1od@arrl.net). Walk-ins are no longer permitted. We will be hosting VE exams at 8:45 If you know of anyone planning to take an exam, please have them drop a note to Steve to confirm a reservation**