

Volume 60 Issue 06



Next meeting is July 18th, 2023 Social hour 1830 meeting at 19:00pm. Talk-in is on 147.180+ Meetings are at the Town of Bridgewater library in the center of town, 15 South St Bridgewater MA. Parking is in the back of the building. Entry through the side door. We meet in the basement classroom.

**ON THE AIR** Tuesdays 1<sup>st June 6th,</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> June 13th, and 4<sup>th June 27th.</sup> Tuesdays at 2000 (8pm) news line and conversation

President: Acting N1BSO John Laiosa Vice President: open Secretary: Open acting WA1TOM Tom Luckman Treasurer: N1XTB Phil MacNamara Trusties: N1XTB Phil MacNamara

#### **Presidents Notes:**

MARA Meeting Minutes 20 June 2023 - Bridgewater Library meeting room Meeting called to order by John N1BSO acting president at 1839

Attendees, John N1BSO, Phil N1XTB, Loren N1IQI, Ray KC1RAB, Connie, Allen WA1BEE, John N1UMJ via Zoom Wendy KC1GTR via Zoom

Treasurer report given and voted OK. Repeater report given by N1BSO Secretary report provided via the newsletter Discussion - July meeting will be at Library. August meeting will be at Rick's house for the barbecue. Library will be the meeting place again in September. New member Michael Kotarba KB1WAM voted in.

Discussed field day plans. MARA members are welcome at the WARC field day site.

Discussed possibly doing another Ham Radio open house at the Library.

Discussed Rick KB1TEE doing a presentation on Search and Rescue dogs.

Discussed club apparel. Need to put together a reasonable minimum quantity

for the next order. Will put Apparel link on website with John as contact.

Allen mentioned that FCC is considering a GMRS frequency allocation for CERT.

Discussed that ZOOM checkin will be online at 6:30 pm.

Meeting closed shortly after 7 PM.





### International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend - ILLW

Normally held on the 3rd full weekend in August

This year 00.01UTC 19th August to 24.00UTC 20th August 2023 (48 hours)

Next year: 00.01 UTC 17th August to 24.00 UTC 18th August 2024 (48 hours)

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, <u>ALK</u>, 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, <u>ILLW</u>, 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.



# BBQSO and MEETING AUGUST 15<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



## Northeast HamXposition, ARRL New England Division Convention

08/25/2023

Start Date: 08/25/2023 End Date: 08/27/2023 Location: Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel 181 Boston Post Rd. Marlborough, MA 01752 Website: http://hamxposition.org/ Sponsor: FEMARA Type: ARRL Convention Talk-In: 147.27/146.2, 223.94/103.5, 449.925/88.5 Public Contact: Michael Raisbeck , K1TWF 85 High St. Chelmsford, MA 01824 Phone: 508-574-5432 Email: k1twf@hamxposition.org



NEAR-Fest XXXIV

October 13 & 14, 2023 Gates open at 9:00 AM Friday 7:00 am Saturday

Deerfield, NH Deerfield fairgrounds 34 Stage Rd

## The K7RA Solar Update

At 2256 UTC on June 16 the Australian Space Weather Forecast Centre issued a geomagnetic warning: "The solar wind speed on UT day 15-Jun has increased as the Earth entered a coronal hole wind stream after 15/0545UT. Increased geomagnetic activity is expected for 16-Jun with isolated periods of G1-Minor level activity."

Earlier in the day I checked the NOAA planetary K index page, and it showed a jump from K index of about 1.8 at 1200 UTC to about 4.1 at 1500 and again at 1800 UTC, then about 4.5 at 2100 UTC and 5.5 at 0000 UTC on June 16. At 0300 UTC it was down a bit to 5.

See, https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/products/planetary-k-index .

Solar activity declined this week, with average daily sunspot numbers dropping from 139 to 122, while average daily solar flux decreased from 166.8 to 154.8. This compares the current reporting week of June 8-14 against the previous seven days.

Average daily planetary A index decreased from 7.3 to 5.7, and average daily middle latitude A index from 8.6 to 6.7.

On June 14 <u>Spaceweather.com</u> reported two new sunspot groups emerging across the Sun's southeastern horizon.

Forecasters Cundiff and Trost of the U.S. Air Force 557th Weather Wing predict solar flux at 155 on June 16-17, 160 on June 18-19, then 155, 160 and 165 on June 20-22, 170 on June 23-25, then 168, 165 and 162 on June 26-28, 160 on June 29 through July 4, 165 on July 5, 170 on July 6-8, then 155, 157, 153 and 160 on July 9-12, 150 on July 13-14, 155 on July 15-17, then 160 and 165 on July 18-19, and 170 on July 20-22.

Predicted planetary A index is 18, 12 and 8 on June 16-18, 5 on June 19-20, 8 on June 21-22, 5 on June 23-26, 12 on June 27-28, 5 on June 29-30, then 12 and 8 on July 1-2, 5 on July 3-7, 12 on July 8-10, then 5, 5, and 12 on July 11-13, and 10 on July 14-15, and 5 on July 16-23.

These predictions look great for ARRL Field Day, which is June 24-25. Why? Solar flux peaks at 170 on June 23-25, and the predicted planetary A index is a nice quiet 5 on June 22-26. Next week we will present an updated forecast just prior to Field Day weekend.

Massasoit Amateur Radio Association Executive Board President : John Laiosa acting as president Vice President: OPEN Secretary: OPEN 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 W1JOE-7 (BROCK) MARA Web Page http://www.w1mv.org/ Facebook https://www.facebook.com/w1mvmara/ Newsletter Editor kc1gtr.mara@gmail.com ARC Web Page http://www.wa1npo.org Qsl via www.eqsl.cc Skywarn http://wx1box.org and 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 start at 6:30pm.

Our Meetings-On-The-Air are held all other Tuesday evenings at 8PM on 147.180+ and includes the Westlink News Report with the latest news about happenings in the world of Amateur Radio.

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. Walk-ins are no longer permitted. We will be hosting VE exams at 8:45 at the Watson building. If you know of anyone planning to take an exam, please have them drop a note to Steve to confirm a reservation