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<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 November 18, 2024 Social hour is from 1800 meeting starts at 1830. Talk-in is on 147.180+ meeting will be at the Bridgewater public library. No in-person meeting in December. See you in January.

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkh, Happy Kwanzaa, Happy Holidays, and Happy New Years

ON THE AIR Tuesdays 1st Dec 2, 2nd Dec 9th, 3rd Dec 16th, 4th Dec 23th and 5th Dec 30th
Happy Holidays. Tuesdays at 2000 (8pm)

Presidents Message John N1BSO

We had another good meeting last month, good turnout. The Tuesday night nets are going well with good topics and participation. We briefly discussed the possibility of having our open house at the park in Bridgewater again next year. The club is still looking for possible estate sales to generate some revenue for the club. We missed out on a small one due to me being tied up that week. We discussed getting our Facebook site more activity to give the club more visibility and I have seen some activity on our page. We are getting to that time of year when we get a lot of storms and possible power outages. If there is a widespread power outage in the area there is good chance the repeaters are on battery backup. During this time please refrain from using the repeater unless it is an emergency or SkyWarn reports.

This will be the last meeting of the year since we do not have a meeting in December. Our next meeting will be in January. For those who will not be able to attend the November meeting, on behalf of the club, have a great holiday and happy new year.

John Laiosa

Secretary report Phil N1XTB

MARA minutes 21 Oct 2025.

Meeting called to order by John N1BSO at 1825 at the Bridgewater Library meeting room.

Attendees

N1BSO John, KC1SJS Allen, KC1TNH Adam, KB1WCK Joe, KC1TLT Wendy, N1XTB Phil, N1IQI Loren, WA1TOM Tom, KA1YL Connie, KM1TWL Jim (via zoom), N1UMJ John (via zoom)

Secretary report as published in the newsletter accepted.

Treasurer and Repeater report presented and accepted. Discussion on gate lock at the repeater site.

Discussion of digital operation on 2 meters.

Old Biz

Thanks to those who participated in the Stanley Iron Works park event in Bridgewater

New Business

Lost out on estate equipment donation. Short time window.

Radio nets are going well

Discussed that the Pilgrim club is very active. 5 recent new members.

Wendy and Tom suggested that the MARA club facebook page might be a good vehicle to drum up interest in the club POTA activities and potential new members. Phil will follow up with Barry on posting access.

Phil will also check and add a link on the MARA website to the MARA facebook page.

Meeting adjourned at 1843

73,

Phil McNamara

Newsletter editor Rick KB1TEE

No recent news from other clubs. Please send me your other club news to include here

At the end of this newsletter I am posting pictures from over the year of 2025

WinterFest 2026 Saturday Jan 17, 2026

It's that time of year to get your tables for WinterFest 2026.

Our PayPal link is set up on the [WA1NPO.ORG](https://www.wa1npo.org) website.

Tables are \$15

Admission is \$5

Heather has agreed to provide delicious hotdogs and Homemade Chili Etc...

We have great Raffle prizes again! Xiegu G90 and 6 HT's as well as assorted gift certificates from the ARRL and other vendors.

Please let me know if you want to volunteer or if you have any questions.

Images from Space Celebrate 25 Years of Ham Radio on the ISS

[Amateur Radio on the International Space Station \(ARISS\)](#) will mark two major milestones this month with a special slow scan television (SSTV) event aboard the International Space Station (ISS). From November 12 through November 20, the station will transmit a series of 12 commemorative SSTV images, pausing only for a scheduled educational contact.

The “SSTV Spacetacular” will highlight both the recent World Scouting movement’s [Jamboree-on-the-Air \(JOTA\)](#) and the 25th anniversary of ARISS ham radio operations on the ISS.

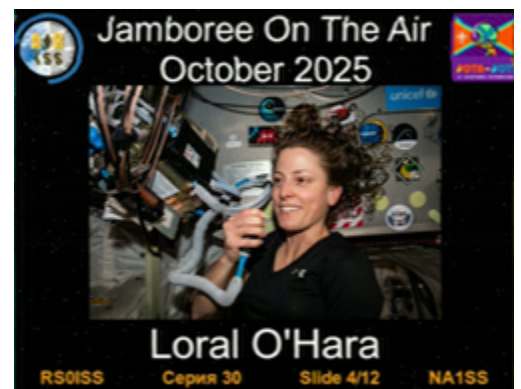
ARISS first went on the air on November 13, 2000, when the ISS Expedition 1 crew made the inaugural ham radio contact using an Ericsson VHF radio. That same year, the first scheduled school contact linked ISS Commander Bill Shepherd, who had call sign KD5GSL, with students at Luther Burbank School in Burbank, Illinois. Since then, ARISS has connected an estimated 200,000 students, educators, and enthusiasts each year with astronauts living and working aboard the orbiting laboratory.

For this month’s event, scouts, educators, students, and amateur radio operators worldwide are invited to receive and decode the transmitted images. Participants may upload their received pictures to the [ARISS SSTV gallery](#) to earn a commemorative electronic award certificate.

In ARISS’s most recent SSTV campaign — held in early October to celebrate World Space Week — nearly 9,000 images were submitted by more than 3,600 participants on all continents, including three from Antarctica.

For the latest SSTV schedules, frequencies, and event details, follow ARISS on [Facebook](#), [X](#), and [Instagram](#).

Thanks to ARISS for the information in this news release.



This SSTV image transmitted from the International Station Station, and celebrating Jamboree-on-the-Air, was captured by Zhanh, BI6PUW, from the People's Republic of China, on November 12, 2025. Pictured is NASA Astronaut Loral O'Hara, KI5TOM.

Radiogram Changes

Participants in National Traffic System® (NTS®) message nets will soon be noticing two changes in ARRL Radiograms. For the first time in 45 years, a new message “precedence,” or priority level, is being introduced, and the list of numbered “ARL” radiogram texts has been updated and expanded. The new “C,” or “CERTIFIED,” precedence joins the long-standing list of E (EMERGENCY), P (PRIORITY), W (WELFARE), and R (ROUTINE) message categories. It is to be used for unique messages to specific individuals with known contact information and must be delivered within 48 hours of origination. The “C” precedence may not be used for bulk messages, such as those sent to welcome new amateurs to the hobby. It is the first new precedence established since the WELFARE (W) category was introduced in 1980.



In addition, the list of standardized ARL Numbered Radiograms has been updated and expanded to keep up with changing technology and messaging needs during disasters and emergencies. The use of "ARL" in a message alerts the receiving operator to expect ARRL NUMBERED RADIOGRAM(s) in the message text. For example, the new ARL THIRTY FIVE is a shortened form of telling the recipient that the sender is “Evacuating to family member/friend’s house,” and ARL NINETY TWO is shorthand for “Widespread disruptions to internet service at this location.” There are many more new ARL Numbered Radiogram Texts. Anyone involved in traffic nets is encouraged to download the complete list from either the [NTS 2.0 website](#) or [Radio Relay International](#) (RRI).

The changes are part of ongoing efforts to modernize the National Traffic System and result from a memorandum of understanding establishing a closer working relationship between NTS and RRI. More details are available in the November issue of [The NTS Letter](#).

Please read to the bottom and check out our pictures from this past year



History of Ham Radios | The Henry Ford's Innovation Nation TV show

On Facebook

May 17, 2019 [HENRY FORD MUSEUM](#)

Mo Rocca speaks to Kristen Gallerneaux about the history of Ham radio and its operators. Ham radio can be thought of as the Walkie-Talkie of yore. Ham radio, a type of two-way radio, got its start circa 1927 when the U.S. Government dedicated a certain amount of the radio spectrum to amateur operators. Radio operators would search for an open frequency and try to communicate with other people across the country and world.

Check out some of our radio artifacts: <https://www.thehenryford.org/collection>

Explore the fascinating history of ham radio, from its 1927 beginnings to its modern uses. A curator discusses the hobby's origins and how operators find and communicate with each other across vast distances. The video also features vintage equipment and compelling personal stories.

I took these pictures off of Facebook



This was a great production if you get a change check it out



Steve's New Portable Vertical Antenna System

[October 29, 2025 Thomas Witherspoon](#)

Vertical antennas are now extremely popular for portable operations. The market has exploded with assorted brands and variations of antenna models. There are diverse types of radials, whips, ground planes, resonators, and configurations. I would not even begin to convince someone which model is better than any other. This comes down to personal preference, time to set up, the amount of space one has to activate, and other variables.

Back in 2022, I submitted a field report showing my homebrew mount attached to the Hustler resonating antennas. I was using a flat piece of aluminum with an 11-meter SO-239 mount. I added screws to the plate for attaching ground radials and for insertion into the ground. It was effective but crude and lacked portability. The Hustler antennas have worked great for me. Once tuned, they are always spot-on SWR every time I set up.

Last year, I found the tripod mount GABIL GRA-ULT01 on Amazon. It folds up nicely at 6 inches and weighs around 5 pounds. The tripod included a 3/8-24 to BNC connector, a UHF (SO-239) connector, and ground radial rings. I purchased a second tripod this year for my NC location. The latest GABIL tripod features recent updates and is sold as the MK3. The most noticeable update in the MK3 is replacing the grounding rings with ground radial connectors on both the 3/8-24 and UHF connectors.

Being a retired Army Air Defender, I always enjoy seeing how fast it takes me to get on the air when I arrive at a POTA location. Deploying the ground radials for a vertical antenna can be time-consuming. For this report, I will omit the ongoing debate about the required number of ground radials. Using the MK3 tripod, I have gone from four to six radials, and I am able to deploy them in about the same amount of time.

Initially connected via Powerpoles, I am now using three thirty-three-foot 18-gauge silicone wires, each connected to banana plugs.



Multiple Antennas

The GABIL tripod is versatile in that I can operate with several different vertical antennas and even use a long wire connected to a binding post. My primary antenna system is the Hustler Resonators and MO-3 base. The MO-3 connects directly to the 3/8-24 on the tripod. I have pre-tuned my Hustlers to the lower end of each band for CW and digital modes. I have a resonator for all bands from 80 to 10 meters. The 10–20-meter resonators are small enough to carry in hand or in a small bag. The 30 and down resonators do get a little long and awkward. I have never had to adjust the tuning on one of these at a new site. They are right where I want them every time. I can get on the air quickly without having to drag out an antenna analyzer and tools. That is why I am a huge fan of the Hustler antenna.

I have two or three other verticals, including the GABIL 80–6 meter vertical antenna, GRA-7350TC. It has a laser-etched adjustable coil as well as a separate attachable coil for 80 meters. To speed up tuning, I created a cheat sheet of approximate coil settings for each band. I have a 7.5-foot foldable whip with an M10 adapter that works well with the 7350TC. I also have an older MFJ-1880 vertical, which works as well.

Continue reading at QRPer.com October 29, 2025 Thomas Witherspoon



Read *QST*'s Free Article of the Month, "Anatomy of a POTA Rove," to learn about Marc P. Sullivan's, W4MPS, two-day, nine-park radio adventure in North Carolina. [Read QST](#)

Maybe someone can help me!

My Uncle lee N1ALL had a stroke a few years back and he had a Sentinel Hex Beam antenna that he never put together. I am attempting to put it together but have a few snags in the attempt. He has no paperwork that I can find and the wires for the elements are not around. According to Ham Radio Outlet in Salem NH it is a Sentinel. I have tried contacting the company and the phone is disconnected the emails have gone unanswered. I need someone to help me put it together I looked up things on the internet as for approximate length for the wires. If you know someone that may have the manual or knowledge please let me know. I am planning to work on it this spring



This is all I have just need the wires

ARRL Foundation Scholarship Program

The 2026 ARRL Foundation Scholarship Program is now accepting applications! This year, 170 scholarships—ranging from \$500 to \$25,000—are available to licensed amateur radio operators pursuing higher education. Students can apply by visiting the ARRL website. [Apply Now](#)

Massachusetts Railroads Frequencies in Massachusetts

Known railroads and their operations for Massachusetts are listed here. Subdivisions that cross state lines will only contain information and GPS ranges to approximately the state line to prevent unnecessary overlap.

Due to operational changes, mergers and general changes, some railroad radio channels may be reused by the same or adjacent railroads. However, if using RadioReference aware scanners or software, you can reduce seeing or duplicating this information by scanning just the subdivisions or locations that you are interested in.

Frequency	License	Type	Tone	Alpha Tag	Description	Mode	Tag
160.620		BM	CSQ	CSXT34 Road	Road	FMN	Railroad
160.980		BM	CSQ	CSXT58 Disp	EA Dispatcher	FMN	Railroad
161.235		BM	CSQ	CSXT75 MOW	Maintenance of Way	FMN	Railroad

Bay Colony Railroad

Operations

The BCLR operates in the Millis, Milford, Needham Corridor
AAR CH13 is the Watuppa Track - North Dartmouth to New Bedford (Former Conrail)

Frequency	License	Type	Tone	Alpha Tag	Description	Mode	Tag
160.305		RM	131.8 PL	BCLR13 Ops	Watuppa Track Operations	FMN	Railroad

Cape Cod Central Railroad

Operations

Operates summer excursion trains with Massachusetts Coastal Railroad

Frequency	License	Type	Tone	Alpha Tag	Description	Mode	Tag
160.245	WQFL207	BM		CCCR09 Ops	Operations	FMN	Railroad

Middleboro Subdivision

MP 0 (Amtrak Connection) to MP 21 (Taunton/MBTA). This is the former CSXT Middleboro Subdivision

Frequency	License	Type	Tone	Alpha Tag	Description	Mode	Tag
160.425		BM	CSQ	MC21 Middleb	Road	FMN	Railroad

Just for you railroad fans I found this recently

https://www.radioreference.com/db/aid/9099?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAR3_KMIKqs_1Tbozr0BNd6-BFGwVIJYNk2K6DYkTZztQLUm78WBlwC4cTt8_aem_LUbYv3TGaVodMPhWtKFRag

Massasoit Amateur Radio Association Executive Board

President : John Laiosa N1BSO

Vice President: Tom 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 W1MV-7 (BROCK)

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

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/w1mvmara/>

Newsletter Editor maranews@w1mv.org

WARC 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. Zoom is available.

Our Meetings-On-The-Air are held all other Tuesday evenings at 8PM on 147.180+ with a new discussion 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. 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



Left John N1BSO Adam KC1TNH John WI1G / Right John WI1G Wendy KC1TLT and Joe KB1WCK



Rick KB1TEE trailered tower set up spring open house and fall open house Whitman club





Photos from the BBQSO 2025 by Phil N1XTB



Stanley Iron works open house Connie KA1YL, John N1BSO, Wendy KC1TLT, Joe KB1WCK, Phil N1XTB