



September 2023

Volume 60 Issue 09



<http://www.w1mv>



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



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

Next meeting is September 19, 2023 Social hour is from 1800 meeting starts at 1830. Talk-in is on 147.180+ meeting will be at the Bridgewater public library. Search Dogs Northeast will be at the meeting. Bring a friend. Meet the dogs.

ON THE AIR Tuesdays 1st Oct 3rd, 2nd Oct 10th, and 4th 24th 5th Oct 31
Happy Halloween. Tuesdays at 2000 (8pm) news line and conversation. October meeting is on October 17th

Presidents Message

Summer is winding down and fall is coming, time to get back into more radio operating. I am looking forward to our presentation next Tuesday after the meeting. I am still looking for suggestions for updating the Tuesday night net. Also anybody interested in club apparel, I believe the items are on the web site. Send your selection to me. I need a minimum of 10.

Newsletter editor Rick Emord KB1TEE

I am looking forward to presenting the newsletter every month I could use some help with events. If you hear or know about events please forward them to me kb1tee@gmail.com

FLEA AT MIT

The monthly MIT flea market (a.k.a. "Swapfest") returned starting April 16, 2023.

See <https://w1mx.mit.edu/flea-at-mit/> for more info.

PROJECT BIG E 2023 IS RAMPING UP!

Yes, Project "Big E" is back again for 2023 and doing another booth at the Big E this year. Changes will be made to how the booth will be arranged and presented to the public.

2023 dates are Friday, September 15 thru Sunday, October 1. Organizers have received a grant again this year, so they will reimburse you for admission and parking if you come staff the booth.

Last year was a lot of fun for everyone and we hope you will join again for another Big E.

Stay tuned to this section of the newsletter for updates as we get closer.

Just Ahead in Radiosport

Yearlong -- [ARRL Volunteers On the Air](#) (VOTA). See the State Activations Schedule for weekly [W1AW Portable Operations](#), including:

- September 16 - 22 -- Vermont W1AW/1
- September 16 - 22 -- Oklahoma W1AW/5



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

MARA News desk

The September 19th meeting will be a visit from Search Dogs Northeast. The dogs will be there for a meet and greet before the meeting starts. At the moment 3 dogs will be on site we will move out to the back area for the blood hound to show how they pick people out of the pack. Franki and Diamond will do the demonstration. This event is open to the public please bring a friend.

Search dogs northeast is an all-volunteer organization that works with public safety personnel. We get a call out from the authority having jurisdiction in any state mostly New England. Our dogs are trained in different styles of search such as Live find with on lead and off lead. We train two to three times a week we are always looking for subjects who would like to go out and sit. Our subjects hide in the open and behind objects. **COME ON DOWN AND TALK TO OUR DOGS!**



Frankie and Diamond doing certificate training
USS Massachusetts on the air

The NE1PL USTNR group will be on the air Saturday September 23rd celebrating the launch anniversary of the ship. We are looking for anyone who would like to come down to operate from the ship.

Special event station

WELCOME

USS Massachusetts BB 59
Celebrating the launch anniversary



The K7RA Solar Update

Tad Cook, K7RA, of Seattle, Washington, reports for this week's ARRL Propagation Bulletin, ARLP036:

Seven new sunspots emerged this week: one on September 2, two on September 3, two more on September 4, one on September 5, and one on September 6.

The average daily sunspot number was up from 78.7 to 95.4, while the average daily solar flux decreased from 140.9 to 137.6.

Geomagnetic activity was higher. On September 2, the planetary A index was 38 when Earth moved through a high-speed solar wind. In Alaska, the college A index at Fairbanks was 59.

Solar disk image taken September 7, 2023. [Photo courtesy of NASA SDO/HMI]

The average daily planetary A index increased from 7 to 15.4, and the average middle latitude A index rose from 8.9 to 16.3.

Predicted solar flux is 150, 155, 155, and 150 on September 7 - 10; 140 on September 11 - 13; 145, 150, 150, and 155 on September 14 - 17; 150, 155, and 150 on September 18 - 20; 145 on September 21 - 22; 150 on September 23 - 24; 145 on September 25; 140 on September 26 - 27; 135 on September 28 - 30; 130, 135, 130, and 135 on October 1 - 4, and 140 on October 5 - 6.

Predicted planetary A index is 12, 10, 5, and 5 on September 7 - 10; 8 on September 11 - 13; 10, 8, 12, 8, and 8 on September 14 - 18; 5 on September 19 - 22; 12 on September 23; 5 on September 24 - 27; 8, 12, 5, and 12 on September 28 through October 1; 12, 10, 12, and 10 on October 2 - 5, and 5 on October 6 - 10.

I observed some interesting 12-meter propagation via PSK Reporter while using FT8 at 1745 UTC on September 4. My signal was received only over a narrow, 300-mile band hugging the east coast from Maine to Florida. The signals were between 2,200 - 2,500 miles away, and nowhere else.

Three hours later, at 2045 UTC, the reception reports along the coast expanded to 600 miles, and then 2,000 - 2,600 miles.

Later, at 2300 UTC, there was the same pattern, but it was a 200-mile band spanning 2,300 - 2,500 miles wide.

The next day, at 1700 UTC, there was an arc from Virginia to south Texas stretching 1,700 - 2,300 miles wide. At 1715 UTC, it drifted to a coverage of 1,750 - 2,600 miles.

Before FT8 and PSK Reporter, there was no practical way to observe propagation.

Sunspot numbers for August 31 through September 6, 2023, were 77, 83, 77, 79, 100, 121, and 131, with a mean of 95.4. The 10.7-centimeter flux was 139.9, 135.8, 131.2, 130.5, 136, 142.9, and 147.1, with a mean of 137.6. Estimated planetary A indices were 6, 12, 38, 25, 8, 11, and 8, with a mean of 15.4. Middle latitude A index was 8, 15, 25, 28, 14, 14, and 10, with a mean of 16.3.

From the ARRL

USA Radio Orienteering Team Brings Home Silver and Bronze Medals

At the 21st International Amateur Radio Union World Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) Championship in Liberec, Czech Republic, held August 27 through September 2, 2023, USA competitors won a silver medal for an individual competition, as well as two bronze team medals.

ARDF, also known as radio orienteering, is a multi-skill sport that involves running and navigation using only a map and compass.

Competitors use a 2-meter (144 MHz) or 80-meter (3.5 MHz) radio receiver to locate multiple transmitters hidden in a forest. The sport directly applies to important activities such as search and rescue, wildlife tracking, airborne and seaborne navigation, and communications. The competition at the championship in Liberec involved mountainous terrain, intricate navigation challenges, periods of rain, and elite racing.

The USA fielded its largest team ever, including 21 athletes, with seven competing in a world championship for the first time. The (IARU) and Czech Radio Club hosted the event in the mountainous region of North Bohemia, with 28 countries and nearly 400 racers attending.

Ruth Bromer, WB4QZG, won a silver medal in the W65 category during the 3.5 MHz "foxoring" event that combines orienteering and transmitter (fox) hunting. Nadia Scharlau, KO4ADV, and Natalia Leoni earned a bronze team medal in the W55 category 144 MHz classic competition. Several USA athletes also finished within the top 10 results in nearly all the classes, including two fourth - place finishes by Scharlau.

Scharlau was thrilled with the results. "All our newcomers performed beyond our expectations. The courses were extremely hard. We all got along and supported one another. Most importantly, almost everyone expressed their determination to improve and come back to compete again," said Scharlau.

ARRL's ARDF Committee Chair Charles Scharlau, NZ0I, who also raced, echoed the positive take on the USA team, stating, "They successfully navigated well-designed courses on rugged terrain against a field of skilled

and experienced competitors. The Czech Republic is an ideal place to hold the world championships. They have great maps, excellent venues, and they know how to put on a world-class event," he said.

The USA Radio Orienteering Championship will be held in Michigan on October 7 - 13, 2024. Team USA will select its team members for the 2025 USA Championship, and that team will travel to Lithuania in 2025 to compete in the 22nd World ARDF Championship.

A complete list of the 2023 results can be found at <https://vysledky.ardf2023.cz/>.

Thanks to ARRL ARDF Committee and Event Director Joseph Burkhead, KE8MKR, for the information contained in this story.

September is National Preparedness Month

September 2023 has been proclaimed National Preparedness Month to raise awareness of the importance of being prepared for sudden disasters and emergencies.

President Biden's proclamation issued on August 31, 2023, stressed the need to work together to help prepare for and recover from disasters.

The proclamation stated, "In America, we pride ourselves on emerging from every crisis stronger than when we entered it. That is because our people are resilient -- and when we invest in preparing them for disasters seen and unforeseen, we can meet every challenge together."

[Read President Biden's full proclamation for National Preparedness Month here.](#)

ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston, KE5MHV, said National Preparedness Month is a good time for hams to make sure they are ready for emergencies. Johnston offered the following advice: "During the month of September, we encourage hams to check their preparedness and ensure they are ready for any type of event. Check your go-kit, charge your batteries, and ensure everything is working properly and ready to go if the need arises. The need could be right at home, and your backup gear or go-kit may be all you have to get on the air."

Johnston also advised hams to check more than radio gear, stating, "Make sure you have enough food and water to get by for a period of



Flooding from Hurricane Idalia in Keaton Beach, Florida. The storm resulted in flooding and damage throughout the communities of Florida's Gulf Coast. [SSG Cassandra Vieira, FLANG, photo]

time. Have your medications listed, and pack that list in your go-kit or somewhere you will have it available. Prepare for anything. It is important to make sure your family is safe before you begin any possible activation."

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has announced that their 2023 Ready Campaign's theme, "Take Control in 1, 2, 3," focuses on preparing older adults in communities that are disproportionately impacted by all-hazard events.

FEMA Administrator Deanne Criswell stated, "With the Atlantic hurricane season now underway, it is imperative that we advocate for the well-being of our nation's older adults and champion them as valued, honored, and respected members of our communities."

Emergency managers, and all those who work with and support older adult communities, now have access to new FEMA web pages in English ([Ready.gov/older-adults](https://www.ready.gov/older-adults)) and Spanish ([Ready.gov/es/adultos-mayores](https://www.ready.gov/es/adultos-mayores)). For information on helping people with disabilities prepare for disaster events, visit [Ready.gov/disability](https://www.ready.gov/disability) (English) or [Ready.gov/es/discapacidad](https://www.ready.gov/es/discapacidad) (Spanish).

New Hampshire QSO Party

New Hampshire QSO Party Rules Objective: The New Hampshire QSO Party is sponsored by the Port City Amateur Radio Club (PCARC) to promote amateur radio activity within the State of New Hampshire and is open to all licensed amateur radio operators worldwide.

NH Stations contact as many participants in states, provinces, and DXCC countries during the contest period. Stations outside of New Hampshire contact as many New Hampshire stations as possible during the contest period.

Contest Period: Third weekend in September 2023: September 16 – 17, 2023 Time: 1600Z to 2200Z each day Total operating time is twelve (12) hours over contest period. Frequency Bands: 80 meters through 10 meters, excluding 12, 17, 30, and 60 meters.

Suggested frequencies: CW 35 kHz up from bottom edge of band SSB US General Band. Modes: CW Digital Phone Classes: Single transmitter QRP, low, and high power Unassisted or assisted Single transmitter, multi-operator Low and high power Unassisted or assisted Multi transmitter, multi-operator Low and high power Power Categories: High: >100 watts to legal limit Low: ≤ 100 watts QRP: ≤ 5 watts



Maine's Premier International HF Contest

Mission: The Maine QSO Party is designed to encourage Maine stations to expand their knowledge of DX propagation on the HF and MF bands, improve their operating skills, and improve station capability by creating a competition in which W/VE, and DX stations have the incentive to work Maine.

Contest Period: 1200 UTC Saturday, September 23 to 1200 UTC Sunday, September 24, 2023.

Bands and Modes: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10, CW, and phone (SSB, FM, AM).

Exchange: Stations in Maine send signal report and county. Stations outside of Maine, but within either the United States or Canada, send signal report and state/province. DX stations send signal report and "DX."

QSO's: Contacts with stations in Maine are worth 2 points. Contacts with stations outside Maine are worth 1 point.

Multipliers are the same for all participants: Use Maine counties (16), States (50), Canadian Provinces (14), and DXCC entities as multipliers. You may work any station once on each of the two modes, on each of the six contest bands.

Multiplier notes: For U.S. states, DC and MD will be counted as a single multiplier. For Canadian Provinces, use the following abbreviations: NB, NS, QC, ON, MB, SK, AB, BC, NT, NF, LB, YT, PE, NU. Please note that Newfoundland (NF) and Labrador (LB) will count separately.

Maine County Abbreviations: Sixteen in total, (Maine's counties). Each multiplier may be counted once on each mode on each of the six contest bands. The counties are: Androscoggin (AND), Aroostook (ARO), Cumberland (CBL), Franklin (FRA), Hancock (HAN), Kennebec (KEN), Knox (KNO), Lincoln (LIN), Oxford (OXF), Penobscot (PEN), Piscataquis (PSQ), Sagadahoc (SAG), Somerset (SOM), Waldo (WAL), Washington (WAS), York (YOR).

Cross-mode, cross-band, and repeater QSO's are not permitted.

Use of a DX spotting system, including Skimmer and similar technologies or any type of Packet Cluster network during the contest is encouraged.

It is prohibited to make CW contacts in the conventional phone sub-bands and phone contacts in the conventional CW sub-bands. Soliciting QSO's through a repeater during the contest period is not allowed.

New Jersey QSO Party

QSO Party Rules

Objective

- Contact as many NJ amateurs in as many NJ counties as possible.
- NJ stations contact as many amateurs in the US, Canada and the world as possible.

Date/Time

- **September 16, 2023**
- **Sat. 1200 (noon) EDT** (1600 UTC) to **2359 EDT** (0359 UTC)

Bands

- 80 , 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters ONLY.
- Suggested frequencies:

Band	CW	Phone
80M	3.550	3.825
40M	7.050	7.190
20M	14.050	14.250
15M	21.050	21.400
10M	28.050	28.400
Digital - Freqs. associated w/mode		

Entry Categories

- Single Operator
 - High power (150 W or more)
 - Low power (<150 W)
 - QRP (5 W or less)
- Multi-operator
 - High power (150W or more)
 - Low power (<150 W)
 - QRP (5 W or less)
- Mobile/Rover/Portable
 - Low power (<150 W)
 - QRP (5 W or less)
 - NJ stations, operating in more than one NJ county, must append a slash and the county abbreviation to their call.
 - Non-NJ stations, operating in more than one state or province should append a slash and their state or province abbreviation to their call.
 - Mobile or portable stations that change geographic area (county for NJ stations or S/P/DX for others) are considered to be a new station and may be contacted again for QSO points and multiplier credit. No station may claim simultaneous operation in more than one county, state, or province.
- Rookie
 - Licensed within 1 year of date of the NJQP.
 - Rookie operators should select "Rookie" in the overlay category.
- Remote Station
 - Remote station is defined by the location of the transmitter and receiver.
 - For example, if the transmitter and receiver are in NJ then it is an in-NJ station, regardless of where the operator is located. If the transmitter and receiver are out of NJ then it is an out-of-NJ station, again regardless of operator location.

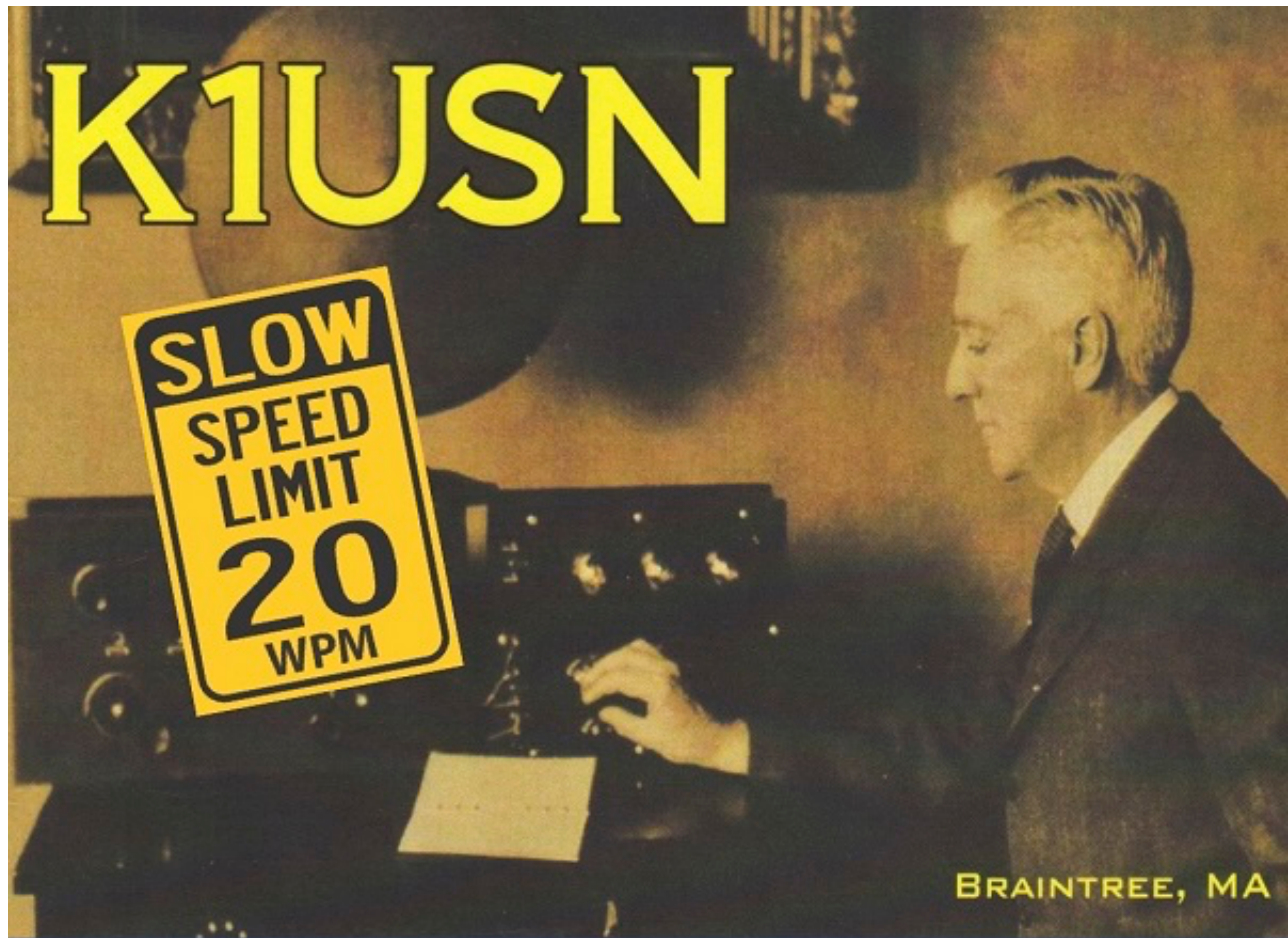
Modes

- CW and Phone.

- Digital – Any mode capable of completing a QSO with the NJQP exchange will be considered a valid digital contact.
- No repeater or internet modes.



Open house at the Library MARA display



K1USN SST

Weekly CW **S**low **S**peed [Con]**T**est

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Members of the K1USN Radio Club, who are also members of the [CW Operators' Club \(CWops\)](#), run a one-hour *slow speed* CW “contest,” called the SST.

For those who prefer a more leisurely CW pace or are new CW operators or testers, this just might be what you're looking for!

*****US is now on Daylight Savings Time (DST)*****

SST UTC times do not change

Fridays 20:00-21:00 UTC: 4-5pm EDT

Mondays 00:00-01:00 UTC: 8-9pm EDT Sunday

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/>

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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 be at 7:00pm. Allen will advise if we can go to in person for next month's.

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



QSL card of the month