



April 2014
Volume 53 Issue 04

MARANews



Editor KB1TEE Rick Emord

I would like to thank Pete Curley N1NVV who was the editor of our newsletter for many years he did such an awesome job finding and editing this informative newsletter and getting it out to us in a timely manner. If you have any information you would like put into the newsletter please email me at kb1tee@gmail.com I am going to try to do the same great job that Pete did for us, I make no attempt at saying I can do as well. I will do my best.

THANK YOU PETE!

Secretary's Report K1LJK Larry Kenney

SECRETARYS NOTES – MARA MEETING 03/18/14 – Larry Kenney, K1LJK

OPEN: President Barry Kennedy N1EZH opened the meeting at 6:38 pm, 03/18/14.

ATTENDANCE: 19 members were present including 4 elected officers. In addition, 4 guests were

present.

N1EZH Barry Kennedy KB1TEE Rick Emord K1LJK Larry Kenney KB1CYV Roy Logan WA1UMT David Darois K1WGU Bob Bass AG1B Richard Metcalf N1JCW James C. Wolf N1FY Carl Aveni N1ZZN Jeff Lehmann KC1JET Jim Tynan N1FDX Jay Zappulla N1EDM Bob Mandeville N1IQI Loren Pimentel W1WCF Walt Fitzgerald N1UMJ John Miller N1NVV Pete Curley N1MXH Alan Smallhoover N1XTB Phil McNamara Guest KC1ACF Mark Vess Guest W1GRC Garry Cumiskey Guest K1UFO Bill Robinson Guest KC1ACG Fred Birtwell

MEETING MINUTES:

Motion to accept the February 2014 MARA meeting minutes/secretary report as published in the February 2014 MARA newsletter made by Roy KB1CYV. Motion seconded by Bob K1WGU. Motion passed vote by attending club members.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Phil, N1XTB read the past months treasurer's reports. Motion to accept the treasurer's reports as read made by Jeff N1ZZN. Motion seconded by Carl N1FY. Motion passed vote by attending club members.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Barry N1EZH reminded us that its time for the MARA 2014 membership renewal. This is a friendly reminder that club dues are now due. Please bring your checks/cash along to our next meeting or send it to the clubs PO box. (P.O. Box 428 Bridgewater, MA 02324). Barry also collected dues at the meeting and will forward to Phil N1XTB..

UPCOMING LOCAL PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS:

Barry N1EZH reviewed the following public service events. Amateur radio volunteer support is requested.

- o April 26th @8am: **Search Dogs Northeast** annual all-team training exercises held at the Freetown State Forrest. Rick KB1TEE noted that this years event will be much larger and more spread physically out than previous years. The dog teams will be encouraged to communicate with the amateur radio operators in their sector to relay information back to base. This is an important training element as search teams are often far from a repeater and info must be relayed from operator to operator. This year even more volunteers are needed for this event. Rick suggests you could volunteer to relay info (bring a chair). Walking through the woods is optional. For more info and to volunteer, contact Rick KB1TEE (email: KB1TEE@Verizon.net).

- o June 7th @9am :Woody's Walk/5K/10K road race at YMCA Camp Yomechas Rt28 in Middleborough. Please contact Carl N1FY (email: caave@peoplepc.com).

- o July 13th @8am: Triathlon at YMCA Camp Yomechas Rt 28 in Middleborough. Please contact Carl N1FY (email: caave@peoplepc.com).

UPCOMING AMATEUR RADIO EVENTS:

- o Jeff N1ZZN passed along details again this month regarding the July 17-19th

ARRL National Centennial Convention in Hartford Connecticut. More details can be found at <http://www.arrl2014.org> or call the ARRL at 860-594-0200. Jeff advises Thursday is expected to be mostly training and the other events including the indoor Flea market take place on Friday and Saturday.

- o Jeff N1ZZN also reminded us NEARFest in Deerfield NH is coming up May 2nd and 3rd

.For more details, go to: <http://www.near-fest.com:8084/nearfest/>

o Carl N1FY will be manning the Bridgewater EOC on April 21st during the Boston Marathon. The Bridgewater EOC runs the Eastern Mass ARES command center as a backup for the Boston Marathon event. All are welcome. Please stop by. The large screen TVs are working so folks can view the event.

MARA CLUB REPEATER UPDATE/OLD BUSINESS:

- Carl N1FY reports meeting with Chief Rogers (EMA director) and a representative from the antenna company last week at the water tower and clearly described what needs to be done to repair and re-install all the antennas and hardline coax. They hope to have all work completed before the upcoming FEMA exercises on Wednesday April 30th

Replacement of the bent pipe as noted by Jeff N1ZZN will also be done. The price quote for the work includes the cost of new hardline at approx \$7-\$8/ft and rental of a cherry picker for the actual installation. The quote was reviewed by Carl, Phil N1XTB and Jeff N1ZZN and appeared correct. Carl reports the cost will be split between the Town of Bridgewater's water dept., the EMA and the original company who damaged the MARA equipment. There should be no cost to the MARA club. Hopefully by this time next month, this work will be completed.

- Roy KB1CYV inquired about possibly getting a new antenna. Carl N1FY and Jeff N1ZZN discussed the state of several antennas. Phil N1XTB noted the radials on one of the Station Master antennas are somewhat banged up. Jeff N1ZZN confirmed the radials are not critical however and should not affect performance. Jeff N1ZZN warns however that the RFS/Station

Master antenna is of the same era as the one recently in use on the Whitman repeater which developed intermittent performance problems (aka 'crunchies'). Jeff remembers this antenna had this problem during heavy wind and rain and suggests an older black antenna would be a better choice at this time. Coordination w/the installation folks to assure the correct antennas are installed is crucial. Carl N1FY will be coordinating this; He will be contacted when the actual install takes place.

- Carl N1FY reports the remaining Graziano equipment still on site should be evaluated for either use or be discarded along with our old repeater shed. This also includes a very old antenna previously used by the phone company. The antenna is starting to fall down. There will an effort to pull it down safely before it does actually fall down.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Carl N1FY reports the WRTC2014 folks will be holding an informational session at the Bridgewater EOC, Tuesday night, 3/25/14 at 6pm. The WRTC folks would like representatives from all area clubs to attend. They will review this summers WRTC2014 radio sport event taking place in Eastern Massachusetts and to discuss the need for individual and possibly entire club volunteering. For more info, go to: <http://www.wrtc2014.org/>

- Carl N1FY reports he and Rob Macedo met with the National Weather Service and reviewed a new Skywarn training slideshow. The new training will be 2.5 hrs rather than 3 hrs. The 2014 Skywarn training schedule is now posted at:
<http://www.erh.noaa.gov/box/officePrograms/skywarn/skywarnTraining.shtml#>

- Barry N1EZH reminded us that our Pot Luck dinner/January meeting was postponed due to bad weather. Barry suggests we could hold our May MARA club meeting at the EOC and hold our Pot Luck dinner at that time. A general discussion took place and it was proposed the May 20th

MARA club meeting will be a Pot Luck dinner meeting held at the Bridgewater EOC. A motion to accept this was made by Bob N1EDM. Motion seconded by Roy KB1CYV. Motion passed vote by attending club members.

- Rick KB1TEE has asked the Coast Guard to come to a future MARA meeting and give a talk/ demonstration on their radio operations. The team would come from either Boston or Woods Hole. The attending members thought this was a good idea and worth perusing.

- Rick KB1TEE is trying to arrange a field trip to the Cape Cod Canal control center. Bob N1EDM commented he's been involved w/some of their operations and it's very interesting. The attending members thought this was a good idea and worth perusing. Rick will attempt to set this up for the June MARA club meeting.

- Rick KB1TEE and Barry N1EZH announced Rick will be taking over the newsletter editor position from Pete N1NVV. Roy suggested we all give Pete a very big thank you for all the hard work on the newsletter. Thanks Pete! Always a great job done w/the newsletter!!

CLOSE: A motion was made by Jeff N1ZZN to adjourn the meeting. Carl N1FY seconded the motion.

Barry N1EZH closed the meeting at 7:02 pm 03/18/14.

Barry N1EZH introduced our guest speaker Mark Vess KC1ACF. Mark presented a program regarding vacuum tube operation and testing. Mark has a museum of antiquated technology in Hanson and is also a member of the Whitman amateur radio club. Several MARA club members and guests participated in using the tube testers Mark brought with him.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of MARA will be held on Tuesday April 15, 2014 at the Bridgewater EOC at 6:30 pm. SEE BELOW!

May Meeting (Holiday Party)

The May meeting of MARA will be held on Tuesday May 20, 2014 at the Bridgewater EOC at 6:30 pm. This will be our Holiday party please bring something to add to the food presentation please contact Barry N1EZH with what you would like to bring

Presidents notes N1EZH Barry Kennedy

Presidents Monthly Message from Barry – N1EZH:

First of all, I would like to thank Pete – N1NVV for his many years of dedicated service to our Club. As many of you know, Pete served as our MARA President for several years along with becoming our MARA Newsletter Editor and Webmaster for our Website. Pete contributed a lot of information to our Newsletter from upcoming Ham Radio Contests, Special Events on the air, and Flea Markets along with the articles that many of us would send him from time to time. Thanks again Pete for the great job, we really appreciate all you have done for us!

With this in mind, Rick – KB1TEE has volunteered to continue our Newsletter and recently got together with Pete – N1NVV to receive the information needed in order to do so. Thank you Rick for taking over this challenging task, and we look forward to upcoming editions of the MARA News!

As some of you know, I began a Massasoit Amateur Radio Club Facebook Page recently and was able to find several photos from some of our Club Events including our Road Races/ Marathons, BBQSO, etc., along with information about our W1MV – MARA Bridgewater Repeater, Weekly On The Air Nets, Monthly Club Meetings, etc. My hope is that it will become another avenue for us in which to spark interest in our club and keep members informed of what we are doing outside of our Club Meetings and in our Community. Please send Rick – KB1TEE@gmail.com or myself – N1EZH@comcast.net any articles, or photos you would like to see in our MARA Newsletter or on our Facebook Page.

We would like to thank Carl – N1FY, Phil – N1XTB, Gary – W1GRC and Jeff – N1ZZN for the great job in keeping us informed and helping with our Repeater and Antenna projects at the Water Tower which we hope will be completed soon, and at our New EOC which really looks great! We had a wonderful meeting there a few weeks ago in regard to the upcoming WRTC in July, basically a once in a lifetime chance for this type of an event in our area.

We have several events coming up that will need the support of our members that include some local Road Races/Marathons, Search Dogs Northeast, a Graded Exercise for the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Plant Evacuation Drill that helps to bring money in for our Club from our Members Participation, along with Field Day the last full weekend in June.

In closing, we have a lot of upcoming events and our Club Officer Elections are in June as well! Nominations will be due in May with Voting to take place at our June Meeting, so please think about Members you would like to Nominate for Officer positions during the upcoming year.

73 de Barry – N1EZH President Massasoit Amateur Radio Association

Membership Renewal

With the beginning of each year comes the time for membership renewal and the payment of dues. We make this reminder because some of us need to be jolted out of the winter doldrums. You can bring your check to the next meeting or send it along to our post office box at MARA, P.O. Box 428, Bridgewater, MA 02324.

SKYWARN

Hello to all

The following is a special announcement regarding the new NWS Taunton web site and web link change. Special thanks to NWS Taunton Warning Coordination Meteorologist, KB1GHX-Glenn Field, for allowing retransmission of this information via the SKYWARN email list and WX1BOX web page, Facebook and Twitter feeds.

As many of you have probably noticed already, yesterday the NWS eastern region offices' homepages transitioned to the new one -- ours is <http://www.weather.gov/boston> (or <http://www.weather.gov/box>) . This has replaced our old webpage at <http://www.erh.noaa.gov/box> . That link still works, but it brings you to the new homepage.

We have added two more SKYWARN Training sites to the SKYWARN Training Schedule for 2014. SKYWARN Training classes have now been confirmed for Lynnfield, MA and Plymouth, MA. Details on the 2 new classes are on the web links for the SKYWARN Training Schedule as listed below (if they are not listed on the NWS web site link, they will be posted within 24-48 hours of this update). Additional Training sessions are still being planned for later this summer into the fall and will likely be scheduled over a longer period of time. This will likely be the last update on the SKYWARN Training 2014 schedule for a few weeks. The SKYWARN Training 2014 Schedule can be seen via the following links:

<http://www.wx1box.org/node/36>

<http://www.weather.gov/box/skywarnprogram#tab2>

Upcoming Events

From Carl N1FY

Mark your calendars for later this year. I have three support events where your help is needed. We received this request to support this event as we have in the past (knowing that many will also be involved with the Boston Marathon)? Please pass this on to others on this list. I am reaching out the **Brockton Y is holding our Annual 5K on April 19th at 9:00am**. I was wondering if your group was available for the race again this year. Carl, N1FY **Woody's Walk and 5K/10K Road Race on June 7, 2014 at 9:00 am**. The third is **The YMCA Triathlon on July 13, 2014 at 8:00 am**. Both events are to be held at **Camp Yomechas Rte 28 in Middleboro**. If you can help contact **Carl N1FY**. As we get close to each event Carl will announce details of when and where we will meet.

ARRL Centennial

In conjunction with the ARRL Centennial Party, W1AW/1 will be QRV from Western MA beginning April 4. And in October 2014, W1EBI will

coordinate a W1AW/1 effort from Eastern MA. Says George: "It would be great to have more ops willing to sign W1AW/1 from their home stations during that week. All bands and modes are in play, although most of the activity so far has understandably been on the HF bands via CW, SSB and RTTY. Continuous operation is not expected, but more ops means more action." If interested in participating, contact W1EBI at <george.harlem@gmail.com>

Amateurs will provide communications for the Good Friday Walk on April 18 in Hingham, from Plymouth River School into Wompatuck State Park and back. "It's a great opportunity to participate in a low-key public service event," says Anne, WB1ARU. If you can assist, contact her at <enoaru@gmail.com>.

Search Dogs Northeast

SDNE will hold their annual all team training event at the **Freetown State Forest on April 26, 2014 at 8:00 am**. Communication assistance will be needed. Details regarding time and place will be announced later. For further information please contact Rick KB1TEE. kb1tee@verizon.net

EOC Bridgewater April 30th

Carl N1FY needs help for the graded exercise on April 30th at the EOC contact Carl to get the details this event the *Entergy* group gives the club money to use the repeater so please help out

NEARFEST

NEAR-Fest XV – May 2 and 3, 2014 – Deerfield, New Hampshire

Dayton Hamvention 2014

May 16-18 2014

Technician Course

The Genesis Amateur Radio Society is pleased to present an "Introduction to Ham Radio" Technician Course, on May 10 and May 17 from 9 AM-3 PM at the Middleborough Public Library. Visit <<http://ema.arrl.org/node/2046>> for more information.

MSOTA 2014

MUSEUM SHIPS WEEKEND 2014 0000Z June 7 through 2359Z June 8, 2014

South Shore Hospital Radio club

Wompatuck State Park Hingham race starts at 9am and we gather at 8 am in the Visitors Center Parking lot. We usually use a 2 meter simplex frequency.

We will send out more info as the date gets closer.

Contact

John O'Neill

K1JRO

Taunton Area Communications Group

The TACG club is announcing the third annual BBQSO this year we are changing the name of the BBQSO to the NI1X BBQSO celebration to be held on August 16th 2014 1000 – 1600 at KB1TEE's QTH in Middleborough

World Radiosport Team Championship(WRTC)

Excitement is building for the World Radiosport Team Championship (WRTC) to be held in Massachusetts July 12-13, 2014. Like the Olympics or the Boston Marathon, this event draws the "best of the best" from around the world. Fifty-nine two-operator teams will be set up with Field-Day-style stations on 16 properties around the Route 495 corridor, from Pepperell in the north to Plymouth and Taunton in the south.

The WRTC2014 organizers need volunteers to help with this once-in-a-lifetime event. The biggest need at the moment is for people to help set up and keep an eye on the stations and provide local transportation for the teams between the headquarters hotel in Westborough and the sites.

Please visit <<http://www.wrtc2014.org/volunteer>> to sign up and tell us how you would like to help make this exciting event a success.

April Meeting Speaker

Change of location we will be meeting at the Bridgewater EOC on Mt Pleasant St
Bridgewater

Directions:

From Route 24 take the Route 104 exit towards Bridgewater. About 1.5-2 miles down Route 104 you will come to the new Bridgewater police station at a set of traffic lights. Keep going straight. Take the third left (Union St) from the police station. Go to next stop sign and turn left. The school is about 200 yards on left. Go in first driveway to back parking lot.

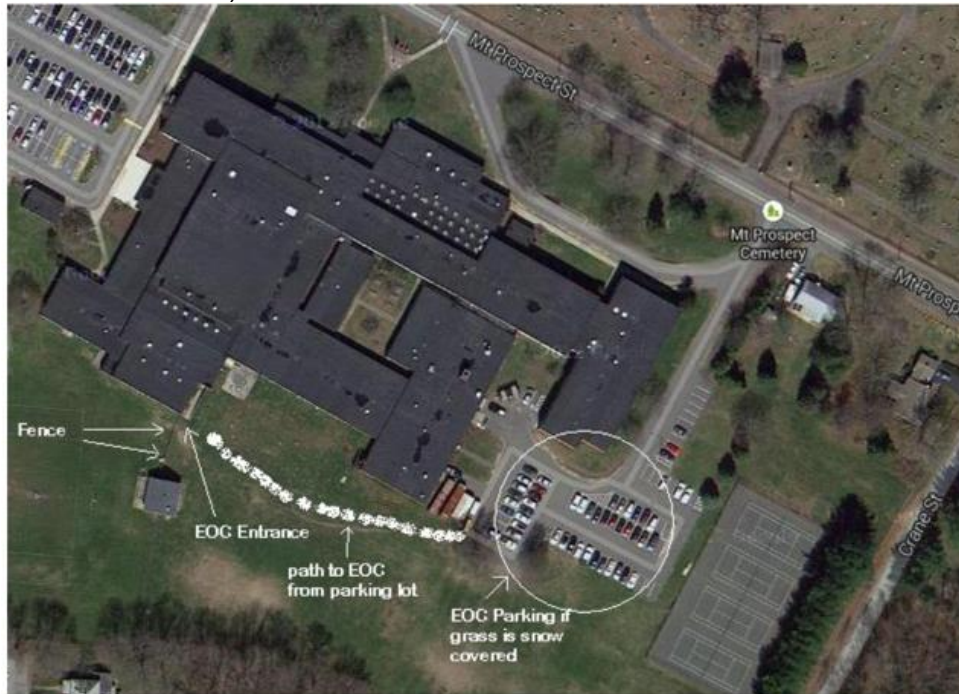
The entrance is behind the school as shown on the attached map. Walk down the access ramp, into the building then up two flights of stairs. The radio room is in and immediately to the left. (Not sure whether our meeting will take place here, or in a conference room.)

Directions:

From Route 24 take the Route 104 exit towards Bridgewater. About 1.5-2 miles down Route 104 you will come to the new Bridgewater police station at a set of traffic lights. Keep going straight. Take the third left (Union St) from the police station. Go to next stop sign and turn left. The school is about 200 yards on left. Go in first driveway to back parking lot.

The entrance is behind the school as shown on the attached map. Walk down the access ramp, into the building then up two flights of stairs. The radio room is in and immediately to the left. (Not sure whether our meeting will take place here, or in a

conference room.)



Search Dogs Northeast will be at the April meeting to show how they work with their K9 partners. There will be an informative talk about how they perform their tasks what each type of dog does for work. Afterwards there will be a demo outside of how the dogs work so please come dressed for this.

New England Area Flea Schedule– Courtesy of W1GSL

19 Apr S.Portland ME PAWA @AmLegion Bryce K1GAX 207 415 0498
20 Apr Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Third Sunday April thru October
26 Ap Gales Ferry CT RANSON Auction@FireHs Gary WT1SND 860 884 4218 W+
26 Apr Brookline NH NEARC Antique \$5@8:30 \$10@7:30 Bruce 603 772 7516
27 Ap Middletown NY OCARA @CommCtr Neil AC2O 914 490 2001
2,3 May Deerfield NH NEARfest XV @FG Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235
10 May E Greenbush NY EGARA@FireCo Tom KC2FCP 518 272 1494 W
18 May Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Third Sunday April thru October
31 May Goshen CT SBARC @FG Rt63 Marc K1CTT 860 672 2659

Just Ahead in Radiosport

Monthly Newsletter

Club Officers and Committeemen

President: Barry Kennedy N1EZH
Vice President: Rick Emord KB1TEE
Treasurer: Phil McNamara N1XTB
Secretary: Larry Kenney K1LJK
Call sign Trustee: Phil McNamara N1XTB

Repeater Trustees: Carl Aveni N1FY., Lou Harris N1UEC, Bob Mandeville N1EDM

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/>

Newsletter Editor kb1tee@gmail.com

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

Qsl via www.eqsl.cc

Skywarn 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 at 6:30PM at the Bridgewater Public Library in Bridgewater Center. Talk-in is on 147.180+

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 Bill Needham, K1WN, at 781-843-4400 or via email at k1wn@aol.com Walk-ins are no longer permitted. We will be hosting VE exams at 8:45 at the Watson building. This is the new exam location for the Braintree Radio Club sponsors. If you know of anyone planning to take an exam, please have them drop a note to Bill - k1wn@aol.com to confirm a reservation.