



December 2013
Volume 52 Issue 12

MARANews



Secretary's Report

SECRETARYS NOTES – MARA MEETING 11/19/13 – Larry, K1LJK

OPEN: President Barry Kennedy opened the meeting at 6:36 pm, 11/19/13.

ATTENDANCE: 12 members were present including 4 elected officers.

N1EZH Barry Kennedy	K1LJK Larry Kenney	N1FY Carl Aveni
KB1CYV Roy Logan	KC1JET Jim Tynan	N1FDX Jay Zappulla
N1NVV Pete Curley	NR1FD Bill Burke	N1IQI Loren Pimentel
W1WCF Walt Fitzgerald	KB1TEE Rick Emord	N1XTB Phil McNamara

Motion to accept the minutes of the October meeting as printed in the MARA newsletter made by Carl N1FY. Motion seconded by Jim KC1JET. Motion passed vote by attending club members.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Phil, N1XTB presented the treasures report for last 2 months to the club members. Motion to accept the treasurer's report as read was made by Loren N1IQI. Motion seconded by Pete N1NVV. Motion passed vote by attending club members.

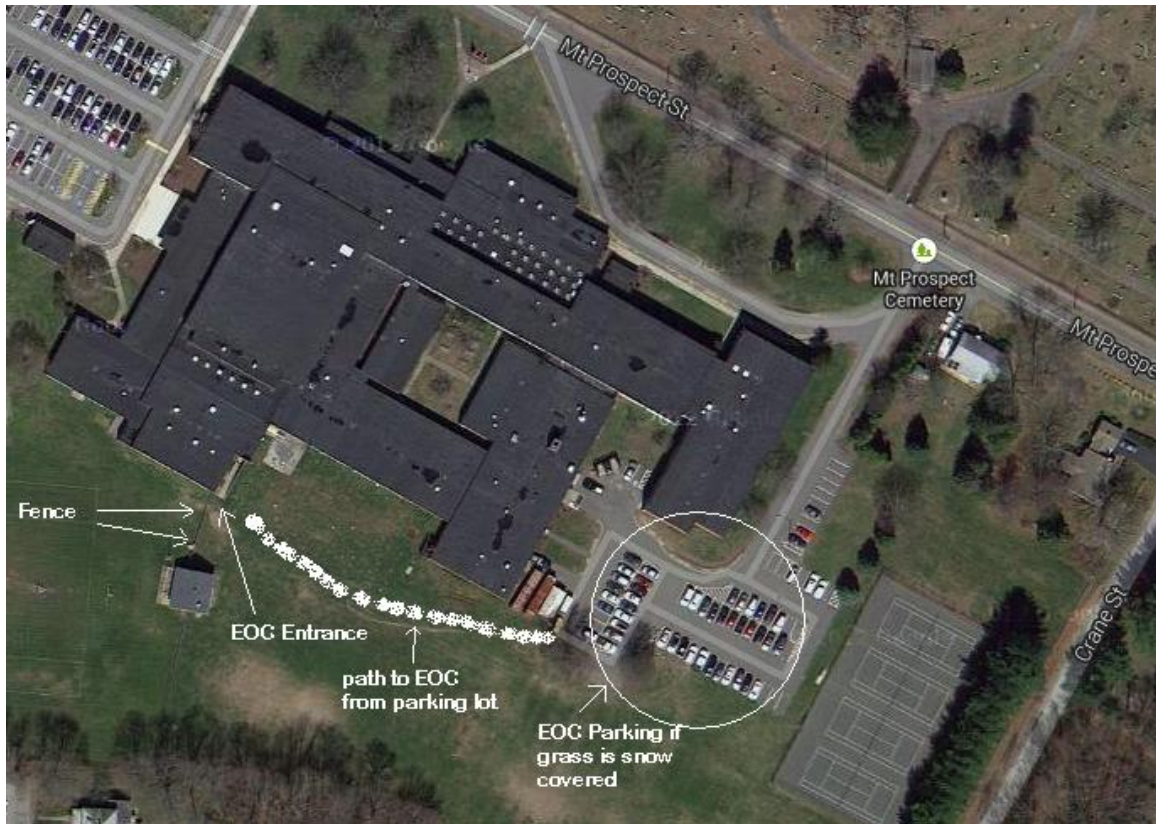
REPEATER UPDATE:

- Carl N1FY reports the Town of Bridgewater indicated antenna and hardline installation should be done by end of November. It's expected we'll have the antennas location back on the water tower as well. Phil N1XTB also helping w/the town to get this started. The antennas originally thought to be missing were actually stored in the shed at the repeater site by someone at the water dept. Phil and Carl discussed the need for a conduit for any coax that might be in use. It was also mentioned that Jeff N1ZZN has a 7Ah backup battery system ready for use. There still remains some Graziano equipment on site which may or may not be useful.

- Phil N1XTB reports the temporary antenna installation on the shack at the repeater site is still functioning ok, given the antenna height etc.
- Barry N1EZH thanked folks for all the hard work including Jeff N1ZZN and Gary W1GRC who were not at the meeting, for all the help in getting this worked out.

EOC report:

- Carl N1FY reports 98% of the EOC radio room is now ready. Some fine tuning of the 12v power distribution is still ongoing (powerpole work etc..). The area has new carpeting and modern cubicle style work areas (purchased second hand/used but looks to be in great shape). The room also includes (2) 42" wide screen TV's. There's currently a large open room beyond the radio room which requires renovation for it to be used for training and storage.
- Carl also reports all existing antennas and radios are now in place. One vertical HF antenna is in place and at some point; a long wire antenna for a second HF rig needs to be installed in the spring. Carl has a long wire antenna but needs help installing it. A 40meter test w/the Connecticut ARES group was only partially successful.
- Phil, N1XTB and Carl N1FY reports that Pilgrim power plant related training will take place at the new Bridgewater EOC on Dec 2nd and Dec 9th starting at 6pm. There is a Bridgewater EOC mailing list and if on this list, you should have received an email on Nov 12th w/the details. Anyone who wants to be added or dropped from the email list, please contact Phil N1XTB (N1XTB@powersrves.com)
- The Bridgewater EOC is located in the Bridgewater-Raynham secondary school at 166 Mt Prospect Street opposite a cemetery. The entrance is behind the school as shown on the map. Walk down the access ramp, into the building then up 2 flights of stairs. The radio room is in and immediately to the left.



New Business:

- Barry N1EZH circulated a sympathy card for all club members to sign regarding the passing of The Bruce N11X, intended for his sister Jean. The card also indicated the MARA club will be making a donation to the “Group for Living with Pulmonary Fibrosis” organization at the Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston. A motion to donate \$200 to this fund was made by Rick KB1TEE. Motion seconded by Jim KC1JET. Motion passed vote by attending club members. Phil N1XTB will facilitate the donation getting to the organization.
- Rick KB1TEE is organizing the MARA Christmas/Holiday party. This will be our January club meeting. It will be on January 21st, 1800-2000 hrs (6pm-8pm) at the new Bridgewater EOC. This is a pot luck dinner event so it will interesting to see what everyone brings. Please contact Barry – N1EZH@comcast.net with your Potluck item (Main Course, Side, Beverage, or Dessert) and if you will be bringing a guest(s) for an approximate headcount for our Annual Potluck Dinner Party. There is also confirmation that Rob Macedo KD1CY will be attending and give a SkyWarn presentation at our Party!
- Rick KB1TEE reports the USS Wisconsin will be on the air Dec 7th and Dec 8th commemorating Pearl Harbor as the N4WIS station. Rick will be operating Saturday Dec 7th from 10:00am-4:30pm on HF. Rick will send out a TXT MSG w/his operating frequency to Barry N1EZH and anyone else interested. Send

Rick an email if interested in a TXT MSG (KB1TEE@verizon.net) Last year they operated on 14.264 Mhz.

- Barry N1EZH reports that with the loss of The Bruce N11X, he is now the sole Amateur Radio Operator Group Leader at the Taunton EOC. If interested in helping out at the Taunton EOC as a Volunteer Amateur Radio Operator, especially to help man a Shelter in the event of an Emergency, please contact Barry – N1EZH@comcast.net for details.
- Barry N1EZH reports a new no-cost (except for the book- the Gordon West technician training book) amateur radio technician class is starting Nov 21st at the CranLand airport in Hanson Ma. Charlie Amico W1CBR can be reached for more details (email: sfccamico@gmail.com). The class will take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays. There will be a \$15 charge to take the test on Dec 17th.
- Carl N1FY reports there's been a request by Jean Spalding (region 5 medical) in Middleboro to run an amateur radio traing class in Wareham. 20 to 30 people are interested in amateur radio. Carl has arranged Merrick/DEC metro Boston to run this class. Most likely this will be in January 2014 sometime.
- Carl N1FY reports: The November South Eastern Massachusetts Emergency Management meeting is being held Thursday (Nov 21st) at the Taunton EOC.
- Carl N1FY reports: There's a Skyward coordinators meeting taking place at the National Weather service on Saturday Nov 23rd 10am-1pm. Coordinators review the past year and plan next years activities, including establishing training schedules. Rob Mecedo will then post the training schedule details.
- Carl N1FY reports: The Hospital nets are growing in Massachusetts. He was a recent presenter at a Massachusetts Medical Society meeting. Its possible Boston hospitals may get involved in this as well. Carl reminds us that John O'Neill K1JRO has accepted the new ARES created DEC position for the hospitals. He's planning a January now. More than likely this will be at the South Shore Hospital in Weymouth.
- Carl N1FY reports Bill Babcock was a meteorologist at the National Weather Service and the lead forecaster for SkyWarn. Bill has resigned his position with SkyWarn. A newer meteorologist Stephanie Dent is now the new lead forecaster. Carl also mentioned a SkyWarn refresher course is available on-line now.

Old Business:

- East Bridgewater road race: we were never contacted for comm support. Carl N1FY reports this typically takes place in October.
- FARAFEST (<http://www.falara.org/FleaMarket/Festflyer13.pdf>) on November 9th at the Upper Cape Vocational School in Bourne, Ma was well attended by many local area hams. Although not a large ham fest, several vendors did attend also. Barry N1EZH had a table w/items for sale and reports that his Kenwood TS-680S, AT250 Tuner and Vox4 station was sold!



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CLOSE: A motion was made by Carl, N1FY to adjourn the meeting. Pete N1NVV seconded the motion. Barry N1EZH closed the meeting at 7:16 pm 11/19/13.

Following the meeting close, Bill NR1FD and Rick KB1TEE gave great presentations on Fire Safety:



Bill NR1FD presenting fire safety info to MARA club members



MARA club members paying full attention to Bill and Rick's presentation
L to R: Pete N1NVV, Loren N1IQI, Jay N1FDX, Walt W1WCF, Larry
K1LJK, Jim KC1JET, Carl N1FY







Next Meeting

MARA's next meeting will be held on January 20, 2013
at the new Bridgewater EOC as part of the MARA Holiday Party

MARA Holiday Party

The MARA Holiday party is scheduled for January 20 at the New EOC building in
Bridgewater. Please look at the Secretary's Report above for details.

147.180 Repeater Back on the Air

As of September 24 2013 the MARA 2 meter repeater on 147.180 is back on the air.

using temporary equipment while we wait the arrival of permanent materials to replace what was damaged during the water tower repair.

Juno spacecraft receives Amateur Radio signals.

In a first-of-a kind for an interplanetary spacecraft, NASA's Juno spacecraft in October [was able to detect](#) Amateur Radio signals transmitting "HI" in coordinated, very slow-speed CW. More than a thousand radio amateurs around the globe greeted Juno October 9 as it looped past Earth for a gravity-assisted boost on its way to Jupiter. Participants were invited to spread out across 10 meters to transmit "HI" in very slow speed CW (1/25 WPM), sending 30 second dits punctuated by 30 second spaces and 90 seconds between the two characters.

"The second 'HI' was detected clearly," University of Iowa researcher and Waves Principal Engineer Don Kirchner, KD0L, told ARRL, noting that the distance to the spacecraft was about 37,500 kilometers (23,250 miles). "The signals were usually just at or above the noise level, although at closest approach the first three dits of the 'H' had significantly higher signal levels," Kirchner continued. "A possible explanation is that for a short time we were inside the ionospheric waveguide and, as we increased in altitude, went back above it for the last dit." Shortly after that, Kirchner said, the spacecraft went into safe mode, so outbound data were lost.

The experiment involved 16 identical transmission rounds or cycles and ran a bit longer than 2-1/2 hours all told (1800 to 2040 UTC). The object of the experiment was to see if Juno's onboard "Waves" experiment would be able to detect the collaborative RF. Spreading out participants on a wide range of 10 meter frequencies was intended to improve the chance of the Waves instrument's hearing the ham signals. The detector has a bandwidth of 1 MHz.

According to the University of Iowa, after the flyby the Juno team evaluated the Waves instrument data containing the messages. Kirchner notes that while previous space missions -- Galileo on its way to Jupiter, and Cassini headed for Saturn -- were able to detect shortwave radio transmissions during their Earth encounters, it was not possible to decode intelligent information using the data from those spacecraft.

"We believe this was the first intelligent information to be transmitted to a passing interplanetary space instrument, as simple as the message may seem," said Bill Kurth, a University of Iowa Researcher and Lead Investigator for the Waves instrument. "This was a way to involve a large number of people -- those not usually associated with Juno -- in a small portion of the mission."

Among stations participating were operators at the Virginia Tech Amateur Radio Club's K4KDJ, who posted [video](#) of their activity on YouTube.

Kurth said the activity raised awareness of the mission, adding that the University of Iowa already has heard from some who plan to follow Juno through its science mission at Jupiter. On December 10 during the fall meeting of the American Geophysical Union in San Francisco, Kurth and Juno Principal Investigator Scott Bolton of the Southwest Research

Institute of San Antonio took part in a news conference to discuss the science gathered during the Juno flyby as well as the success of the "Say HI to Juno" project.

Kirchner said the project originated when public outreach staff at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California, wanted to know if the UI receiver was able to pick up a voice message. Kurth and Kirchner came up with the idea that a slow Morse code message might work, and Kirchner enlisted the University of Iowa Amateur Radio Club to get involved, spreading the word via ham radio to raise awareness of the project. Plans call for Juno to orbit Jupiter 33 times. Among a variety of investigations, Juno will explore Jupiter's northern and southern lights by flying directly through the electrical current systems that generate them. NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, which manages the Juno mission for the principal investigator, posted a [mini-documentary](#) about the "Say HI to Juno" event on YouTube.

"We would again like to thank all amateurs who participated," Kirchner told ARRL. "At last report about 1400 had sent in a request for a Juno QSL." Anyone who took part can [request](#) a QSL card that acknowledges their help.

Mandela Special Event Station on the Air

To commemorate the life of the late former president of South Africa Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela, the South African Radio League ([SARL](#)) is sponsoring special event station [ZS9MADIBA](#) for a period of 30 days. "

" is Mandela's Xhosa tribal name. Mandela, who served from 1994 until 1998 as South Africa's first black president, died December 5 at the age of 95.

"The South African Radio League, its council and members join the world in mourning the loss of South Africa's greatest statesman, Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela," the SARL said on its website. "Let us continue to remember and be encouraged by the so many positive things for which he stood. While we mourn his passing, we celebrate his life and the lessons he taught us and the world."

Contacts will be confirmed via Logbook of The World ([LoTW](#)), and the SARL will issue a special QSL card. -- Thanks to [The Daily DX](#); SARL

Really Small Radio

Engineers have created what they are billing as the world's smallest FM transmitter. It transmits at 100 MHz, and is made from a sheet of carbon atoms bonded together in a thin film that is only one atom thick. N1HTS asks, "Would you call this QRPpppppp?" Read about it at <http://tinyurl.com/q5phubz>.

New England Area Flea Schedule– Courtesy of W1GSL

New England Area Ham - Electronic Flea Market *** DATES *** 2014 P 1 of 2
All events are Ham Radio/ Electronic related except ~ _____~

2014	Contact	Source
1 Feb	Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Indoor	John 860 673 0518 +
8 Feb	Springfield VT CVFMA @Cong Ch	Steve N1QDT 802 885 8110 A+
15 Feb	Marlborough MA AARC @MS \$5@9 \$20/T@6:30 Bef 9 Tim KA1OS 508 919 6136 +	
16 Feb	Westford MA NEARC RadioXVL 8AM@Regency \$10 antique Bruce 603 772 7516 F+	
22 Feb	S Burlington VT HAM-CON @HI I89x14 \$8@8 \$15@6 Mitch W1SJ 802 879 6589	
2 Mar	Hicksville NY LIMARC @Levittown Hall	Richie K2KNB 516 694 4937 A+
15 Mar	Dayville CT ECARA 8A @StJosephCh	Paul KE1LI 860 928 5147
16 Mar	Southington CT SARA \$5@8A @HS \$20/T@6:15 eve Norm W3IZ 860 584 1403 F+	
28,29 Mar	Lewiston ME AARC ME Conv @Ramada @8	Ivan N1OXA 207 784 0350
6 Apr	Framingham MA FARA @Keefe Tech \$5@9 \$25/T@7:30 Bev N1LOO 508 626 2012 +	
12,13 Apr	Wakefield MA Photographica @AmericalCtr ~photo~	John 781 592 2553 F+
12 Apr	Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Outdoor	John 860 673 0518 +
18 April	S.Portland ME PAWA @AmLegion \$6@8 \$10/T@6:30John W1JLB 207 776 2288 W+	

LAST UPDATE 12-16-13 de W1GSL <http://swapfest.us> P 1
 List is normally updated twice a month - look for the latest version

Additions/ Corrections via e-Mail w1gsl@mit.edu <- SUBSCRIBE
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 28,29 Mar Lewiston ME AARC ME Conv @Ramada @8 Ivan N1OXA 207 784 0350
 12,13 Apr Wakefield MA Photographica @AmericalCtr ~photo~ John 781 592 2553 F+
 12 Apr Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Outdoor John 860 673 0518 +
 18 April S.Portland ME PAWA @AmLegion \$6@8 \$10/T@6:30John W1JLB 207 776 2288 W+

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New England Area Ham - Electronic Flea Market *** DATES *** 2014 -> ***
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 from the paper version.

2014	Contact	Source
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LAST UPDATE 12-16-13 de W1GSL P 3

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Just Ahead in Radiosport

Dec 20-Jan 1 -- Lighthouse Christmas Lights QSO Party
 Dec 20 -- QRP Fox Hunt (80 meters)
 Dec 20 -- NCCC Sprint

Dec 20 -- Russian 160 Meter Contest

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DX News

BAHRAIN, A9. Fawaz, A92AA and Ely, A93LT are QRV as A91MCAT until the end of 2013 to celebrate the capital Manama as the Capital of Arab Tourism. QSL via IZ8CLM.

MINAMI TORISHIMA, JD1. Take, JG8NQJ is QRV as JG8NQJ/JD1 from Marcus Island, IOTA OC-073, until mid December while on work assignment. Activity is on 17, 15, 12 and 10 meters using only CW in his spare time. QSL to home call.

ARGENTINA, LU. Look for L73D to be a Multi/Single entry in the ARRL 10 Meter contest. QSL via operators' instructions.

LITHUANIA, LY. Vilmantas, LY3BY is QRV as LY2013SAT until December 24 to commemorate the first Lithuanian nano-satellite LituaniaSAT-1. QSL via LY3BY.

CURACAO, PJ2. Mark, N5OT, Dave, W6DR, Yin, N9YS and Mike, NT6X are QRV as PJ2/home calls, along with Geoff, W0CG who is QRV as PJ2DX. They will be active as PJ2T in the ARRL 10 Meter contest. QSL PJ2T direct via W3HNC and all others to home calls.

SEYCHELLES, S7. Igor, UA3DJY is QRV as S79ACR from Mahe Island, IOTA AF-024, for a month long holiday. He is active holiday style on the HF bands. QSL to home call.

CHAD, TT. Elvira, IV3FSG is QRV as TT8ES from Doba until December 20 while working with the Franciscan Sisters Alcantarins mission. Activity is in her spare time on HF using SSB and digital modes during her early mornings and late evenings. QSL via IK3GES.

EUROPEAN RUSSIA, UA. Special event call R2014CC is QRV until March 1, 2014 to commemorate the 2014 Winter Olympic Games. QSL via operators' instructions.

UKRAINE, UR. Special event station EN100ZKM is QRV to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Nikolaev's regional museum. QSL via UT5ZY.

BRUNEI, V8. Special event station V84BNJ is QRV until December 15 to commemorate the 4th Brunei National Scout Jamboree. Activity is on all bands using CW, SSB and PSK31. QSL via operators' instructions.

LAOS, XW. Champ, E21EIC is QRV as XW0YJY until December 17. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using CW. This includes being an entry in the ARRL 10 Meter contest. QSL to home call.

INDONESIA, YB. Burkhard, DL3KZA is QRV as YB9/DL3KZA from Lombok Island, IOTA OC-150. Lately he has been active on 20 and 15 meters using SSB. His length of stay is unknown. QSL to home call.

NICARAGUA, YN. Scott, K7ZO is QRV as YN5Z until December 18. Activity is on 20 to 10 meters. This includes being an entry in the ARRL 10 Meter contest. QSL to home call.

ST. HELENA, ZD7. Daniel, ZS1BBT is QRV from school station ZD7PAS until December 23. QSL via operator's instructions.

SOUTH AFRICA, ZS. Members of the South African Radio League are QRV with special event call sign ZS9MADIBA for the next 30 days to commemorate the life of Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela. QSL via operators' instructions.

CHILE, CE. A group of operators are QRV as XR150CBS during the month of December to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the Santiago Fire Department. Activity is on all HF bands using SSB and various digital modes. QSL via XQ7UP.

NORTHERN IRELAND, GI. Special event station GI100RSGB is QRV until the end of 2013 during the final leg in the RSGB's centennial celebrations. Activity is on all bands and modes. QSL via M0VFC.

DJIBOUTI, J2. Christian, F5MBF is QRV as J28NC for another two years. He is active on 80 to 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via F5RQQ.

BULGARIA, LZ. Members of the Radio Club Blagovestnik are QRV as LZ867MWB during December to honor St Mihail Voin. QSL via LZ1KCP.

ROMANIA, YO. Special event station YP95GU is QRV until the end of 2013 to commemorate the 1918 unification of Transylvania, Banat, Crisana and Maramures into Romania. Activity is on 40, 20 and 15 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via bureau.

CANARY ISLANDS, EA8. Andrea, IK1PMR and Claudia, PA3LEO are QRV as EA8/home calls until January 7. Activity is on the HF bands and 6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL to home calls.

AUSTRALIA, VK. Special event station VK2013TDF is QRV until the end of the year to commemorate the Tour de Freedom cycling event being held between Esperance and Perth. QSL via operators' instructions.

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 maranews@w1mv.org

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.