



November, 2019  
Volume 57 Issue 11



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**No December meeting, Happy Holidays everyone. Next meeting is January 21, 2020 at 6:30am at the Bridgewater Public Library in Bridgewater Center. Talk-in is on 147.180+**

### Membership

The website has been updated with our current roster of paid members. If there are corrections, please drop an email to [maranews@w1mv.org](mailto:maranews@w1mv.org)

### Presidents Notes

MARA Facebook page: Our Massasoit Amateur Radio Association Facebook page with club events, meetings, photos, etc. are occasionally updated so that it may be another resource for us on which to spark interest in our club, amateur radio and keep members informed of what we are doing outside of our club meetings and in our community. If you go to the "about" tab on our page you can find our <http://www.w1mv.org/> web page for our present and past newsletters and other club information. Please send Phil N1XTB [n1xtb@powersrvcs.com](mailto:n1xtb@powersrvcs.com) or Wendy KC1GTR [kc1gtr.mara@gmail.com](mailto:kc1gtr.mara@gmail.com) any articles or photos you would like to see in our MARA newsletter, W1MV-MARA Website and Facebook page. Jeff N1ZZN has created a link to twitter to help get the word out even more!

### Secretary's Notes - MARA Meeting 11/19/2019 - Wendy White-KC1GTR

**Open:** WA1BEE - Allen Hiltz called the meeting to order at 6:34pm

**Attendance:** 8 were present including 2 elected officers.

**President** - WA1BEE - Allen Hiltz      **Vice President** - N1ZZN - Jeff Lehmann

**Secretary** - KC1GTR - Wendy White      **Treasurer** - N1XTB - Phil McNamara

WAITOM - Thomas Luckman Jr.  
AG1B - Richard Metcalf  
N1RTS - Robert Sisson

N1IQI - Loren Pimentel  
KA1YL - Connie Franciosi  
KC1CFO - Denise Sisson



### **Secretary Notes - KC1GTR - Wendy White**

Members roster was incorrect on the newsletter with “Becki’s” name was spelled incorrectly. Motion to accept Oct 2019 MARA Secretary’s report was made by WAITOM – Tom with the correction. Motion was seconded by KC1CFO - Denise. All in favor, 0 opposed.

**Club Treasurer** - Phil - N1XTB, not present – will go over the report at the next meeting.

Repeater - N1ZZN – Jeff Lehmann – not present, no new information for the repeater.

No new member applications.

WA1BEE - Allen cannot get into the distribution email list, no one is attending the meetings, and none of the experienced HAM operators are helping or attending meetings. Whitman club has 40-50 members attend.

WAITOM -Tom suggested using the EOC with approval. This was agreed to by all. Jan or Feb meeting will be the held in the EOC. N1XTB - Phil and WAITOM -Tom have a key. KC1CFO – Denise made a motion to have WAITOM -Tom investigate and gain approval. Motion was seconded by N1IQI – Loren. All in favor, 0 opposed.

WA1BEE - Allen would like to get Winlink back up and running.

Rob Macedo – Skywarn Class, any news on a local class? Find out about getting one local.

Need better communications, WA1BEE - Allen would like to have access to the distribution email list.

WA1BEE - Allen asked WAITOM -Tom to let him know about the EOC in Bridgewater.

No more new business.

WAITOM -Tom paid his dues.

Allen - WA1BEE asked if anyone had any further business to discuss, all said no, closed the meeting at 7:25pm.



## The K7RA Solar Update

01/17/2020

Cycle 25 sunspots persisted for the first two days (January 9-10) of this reporting week, January 9-15, with daily sunspot numbers of 14 and 11. That brought the weekly average daily sunspot number from 8.4 last week to 3.6. Average daily solar flux edged up from 71.8 to 72.5.

Average daily planetary A index declined from 6.3 to 5.6, and average middle latitude A index went from 5.3 to 3.7.

Predicted solar flux for the next 45 days is 72 and 71 on January 17-18, 70 on January 19 through February 7, 72 on February 8-22, and 70 on February 23 through March 1.

Predicted planetary A index is 5 on January 17-18, 8 on January 19-20, 5 on January 21-31, 8 on February 1-2, 5 on February 3, 10 on February 4-6, 5 on February 7-9, 10 on February 10-11, 5 on February 12-22, 8 on February 23-24, 5 on February 25-27, 8 on February 28-29 and 5 on March 1.

Geomagnetic activity forecast for the period January 17 until February 12, 2020 by F.K. Janda, OK1HH.

Geomagnetic field will be

Quiet on: January 18, 29-30, February 6-9

Quiet to unsettled on: January 19-21, 24-28, February 1, 4-5, 10-11

Quiet to active on: (January 17, 22-23, 31, February 2-3, 12)

No unsettled to active periods predicted.

No active to disturbed periods predicted.

Solar wind will intensify on: January (17, 22-24,) February 2 (-5)

Parenthesis means lower probability of activity enhancement.

The predictability of changes is lower again

N8II wrote, concerning his report in last week's bulletin, "I forgot to mention that the January 9 contact with LA5MIA was on 20-meter SSB vs the Es contacts on 10 meters."

Also, from Jon Jones, N0JK, "Jeff, N8II, mentioned conditions on 160 meters in the Stew Perry contest 'January 28-29.' I am sure he meant December 28-29, 2019. ([https://www.kkn.net/stew/stew\\_rules.html](https://www.kkn.net/stew/stew_rules.html)) His 10-meter Es reports correlate with the 6-meter Es occurring. I'm hoping for more winter Es."

Jon Jones, N0JK noted in an email titled "more corrections": "I made some boo-boos, too. K1SIX is in grid FN43. KN4NN is in grid EM70."

N0JK shared late on January 16: "Six-meter Es seemed to vanish after the strong openings the second week of January. A brief Es opening between Florida and Ohio was noted January 13 around 1800z by KD4ESV in EL87, KW4BY in EL96, and others. AA5B operated MSK144 meteor scatter January 15 from rare grid DM63. The January VHF contest this weekend."



It seems we have crossed a threshold. Though solar activity remains low, recent history shows no Cycle 24 sunspots, only Cycle 25 activity. I remain optimistic. Also, with historically low geomagnetic activity, this is a great time to enjoy 160 meters.

Here is the latest video from WX6SWW: <https://bit.ly/389wQWI>

If you would like to make a comment or have a tip for our readers, email the author at [k7ra@arrrl.net](mailto:k7ra@arrrl.net).

For more information concerning radio propagation, see <http://www.arrrl.org/propagation> and the ARRL Technical Information Service at <http://arrrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. For an explanation of numbers used in this bulletin, see <http://arrrl.org/the-sun-the-earth-the-ionosphere>.

An archive of past propagation bulletins is at <http://arrrl.org/w1aw-bulletins-archive-propagation>. More good information and tutorials on propagation are at <http://k9la.us/>.

Monthly propagation charts between four USA regions and twelve overseas locations are at <http://arrrl.org/propagation>.

Instructions for starting or ending email distribution of ARRL bulletins are at <http://arrrl.org/bulletins>.

Sunspot numbers for January 9 through 15, 2020 were 14, 11, 0, 0, 0, 0, and 0, with a mean of 3.6. 10.7 cm flux was 74.4, 72.8, 73.5, 71.9, 71.5, 71.9, and 71.2, with a mean of 72.5. Estimated planetary A indices were 12, 7, 6, 4, 3, 3, and 4, with a mean of 5.6. Middle latitude A index was 8, 6, 4, 2, 2, 2, and 2, with a mean of 3.7.

**New England Area      Ham - - - Electronic Flea Market DATES 2020 – to follow**

## **HAM RADIO LOCAL AREA NETS**

Any additions or corrections, contact John – N1UMJ at: [N1UMJ@arrrl.net](mailto:N1UMJ@arrrl.net).

All Frequencies are in MHz and 6 Meters (50.0 MHz and up.) are FM Mode unless otherwise noted.

Sunday:

8:30 AM WA1NPO – WARPSN Net, Whitman ARC Rptr, 147.225 +, PL 67.0

8:45 AM New England phone net, 3.945 +/- LSB

Daily:

7:00 PM NE Cracker Barrel Net, Matt – W1AEM, NCO, 3.921.00 MHz LSB Pilgrim Amateur Wireless Assoc. 10 Meter Net

7:00 PM 28.375.0 USB Cape & Island Traffic Net, Mon. Tue. Thur.

7:00 PM Plymouth N1ZIZ Rptr, 146.685 – PL 131.8

7:30 PM Falmouth N1YHS Rptr, 147.375 + PL 110.9 Genesis ARC CW Training Net

8:00 PM Eastern MA 2 Mtr Traffic Net, Boston W1BOS Rptr, 145.230 – PL 88.5

8:00 PM Norfolk County Radio Association Net, , Walpole Rptr, 146.895 – PL 123.0





Monday:

- 6:00 AM Cape and Islands Weather Net, M-S, Dennis K1PBO Rptr, 146.955 – PL 88.5
- 8:00 PM Fairhaven Weather Net, SEMARA Rptr, 147.000 + PL 67.0
- 8:00 PM Norfolk County Emergency Preparedness Net, Walpole Rptr, 146.895 – PL 123.0
- 8:30 PM New England DMR net, DMR-MARC repeaters talk group 3181 New England Falmouth ARA Net, Falmouth K1RK Rptr, 146.655 – PL 88.5
- 9:00 PM Boston ARC Rag Chew Net, Boston W1BOS Rptr, 145.230 – PL 88.5

Tuesday:

- 7:30 PM Plymouth N1ZIZ Rptr, 146.685 – PL 131.8
- 8:00 PM Fairhaven Weather Net, SEMARA Rptr, 147.000 + PL 67.0
- 8:00 PM Massasoit ARA Net, , Bridgewater W1MV Rptr, 147.180 + PL 67.0 (Except 3rd Tue!) Genesis ARC 2 Mtr Rag-Chew Net,
- 8:00 PM Norwood Amateur Radio Club Net, Norwood Rptr, 147.210 + PL 100.0 220 MHz Day! Try to find a 220 Repeater near you and give a call out!

Wednesday:

- 7:00 PM Blackstone Valley ARC, 2 Mtr Simplex Net, 146.565
- 8:00 PM Cape and Islands ARES Net, Dennis K1PBO Rptr, 146.955 – PL 88.5
- 8:00 PM Fairhaven Weather Net, SEMARA Rptr, 147.000 + PL 67.0
- 8:00 PM Whitman ARC 10 Meter Rag-Chew Net, 28.333.0 USB - Except 1st Wed!
- 9:00 PM Waltham Wranglers Swap Net., Waltham W1MHL Rptr , 146.64 – PL 136.5

Thursday:

- 7:00 PM Genesis ARC CW Training Net, Plymouth N1ZIZ Rptr, 146.685 – PL 131.8 10 Mtr
- 8:00 PM Fairhaven Weather Net, SEMARA Rptr, 147.000 + PL 67.0
- 8:00 PM General Class Rag-Chew Net, 29.470.0 FM
- 8:30 PM Sturdy Mem. Hosp. ARC ARES Practice Net, K1SMH Rptr, 147.195 + PL 127.3 900 MHz Day! Try to find a 900 Repeater near you and give a call out!

Friday:

- 8:00 PM Fairhaven Weather Net, SEMARA Rptr, 147.000 + PL 67.0

Saturday:

- 8:00 PM South Shore Skywarn Net, Bridgewater W1MV Rptr, 147.180 + PL 67.0

\*VKEMCOMM\* Echolink Conference node: 270177/IRLP 9508 (due to \*WX-TALK\* Echolink conference node: 7203/IRLP 9219 outage) Refer to: <http://www.voipwx.net/>



### **Massasoit Amateur Radio Association Executive Board**

President - Allen Hiltz - WA1BEE

Vice President Jeff Lehmann - N1ZZN

Secretary Wendy White - KC1GTR

Treasurer: Phil McNamara N1XTB

Call Sign Trustee: Phil McNamara N1XTB

<b>2M Repeater</b>	147.180+ (Tone 67.0)
<b>440 Repeater</b>	444.550+ (Tone 88.5)
<b>APRS Node</b>	Node 144.39 W1MV-1
<b>Packet BBS</b>	145.09 N1XTB-4
<b>Packet Node Brockton</b>	145.09 W1JOE-7 (BROCK)
<b>MARA Web page</b>	<a href="http://www.w1mv.org/">http://www.w1mv.org/</a>
<b>Facebook</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/w1mvmaraf/">https://www.facebook.com/w1mvmaraf/</a>
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	<a href="mailto:kc1gtr.mara@gmail.com">kc1gtr.mara@gmail.com</a>
<b>ARC Web Page</b>	<a href="http://www.walnpo.org">http://www.walnpo.org</a>
<b>Qsl via</b>	<a href="http://www.eqsl.cc">www.eqsl.cc</a>
<b>Skywarn</b>	<a href="http://wx1box.org">http://wx1box.org</a> and <a href="http://www.powersrvcs.org/w1gmf/skywarn.htm">www.powersrvcs.org/w1gmf/skywarn.htm</a>

**Mailing Address** P.O. Box 428 Bridgewater, MA 02324

**Monthly meetings** are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month, in Braintree contact Steve Cohen, W1OD via email [w1od@arrl.net](mailto: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.

<http://www.hamradiolicenseexam.com/index.html>



## In the News

Courtesy ARRL

### YOTA Month Reported a Success in the Americas

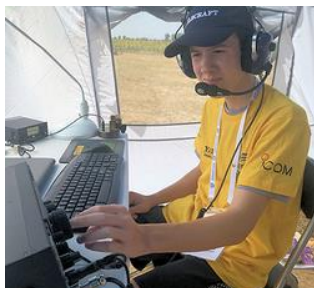
For several years now, Youngsters on the Air ([YOTA](#)) has sponsored [YOTA Month](#) each December, primarily involving young radio amateurs in Europe and Africa. In December, youth-operated amateur radio stations in the Americas picked up the ball to contribute more than 12,000 contacts to the worldwide event. Eighteen operators aged 25 or younger deployed special event 1 × 1 call signs -- K8Y, K8O, K8T, and K8A -- to promote youth in amateur radio. Fifteen young operators across the US took turns using these call signs throughout December. They logged 10,474 contacts using those call signs on SSB, CW, digital modes, and satellites. Some operators also aired the call signs during contests. Participants in the Americas offered opinions on what made the event special for them.

"Operating-wise, it was definitely the pileups...I love a good pileup," said Mason Matrazzo, KM4SII. "Apart from that, it was great getting to be part of a group of youngsters that are all into the hobby. Even though we weren't physically working together, we all got to be part of the YOTA program over the air."



Audrey McElroy, KM4BUN, also cited the on-air camaraderie. "My favorite part of YOTA month was getting the wonderful experience of talking to other youth all over the world and sharing our experiences," she said. "It gives us hope to know the future of amateur radio is in the hands of these great kids." Her brother Jack, KM4ZIA, also took part.

In Canada, David Samu, VE7DZO, signed VE7YOTA in December, making 458 contacts on CW. "My favorite part was seeing all the YOTA stations on the air throughout December and seeing all the high energy youth activity," he said.



**YOTA Month in the Americas  
Coordinator Bryant Rascoll,  
KG5HVO, at WRTC-2018.**

Mathias Acevedo, CE2LR, activated XR2YOTA, and met another young operator from Chile, Manu Pardo, CA3MPR, through YOTA month. Between them, they put 1,535 contacts into the log on CW, SSB, and digital modes.





Bryant Rascoll, KG5HVO, coordinated the efforts of the 17 participants and the logs for the US stations. "I learned much during the month about the importance of teamwork and communication...just like baseball," Bryant said about his role as coordinator. "I think YOTA month was a great success considering the short amount of time we had to plan this all out. I had a lot of fun operating this event, but it was even more rewarding to see other youth here in the Americas make tons of QSOs during December."

The first Youth On The Air camp in the US will take place June 21 - 26 at the National Voice of America Museum of Broadcasting in West Chester Township, Ohio. Read [more](#).

## Emergency ARES Volunteers

Puerto Rico Earthquake Relief Effort Continues, with Help from Ham Radio

In Puerto Rico, Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) volunteers continue to operate from the American Red Cross distribution center in Yauco -- one of the towns hit the hardest by the recent earthquakes and ongoing aftershocks on the island. The Red Cross requested assistance last week to identify undeclared refugee camps and to report on closed or damaged roadways and bridges. ARES District 5

Emergency Coordinator Herb Perez, WP4ZZ, who is among those volunteering for the Red Cross at Yauco, reported on January 14 that he, Melvin Velazquez, WP4RAP, and Yolanda Garcia, WP4QZF, were on duty there.

"Today, we were able to occupy our space with no major incident other than the usual shaking of the entire structure. More than 10 per hour," Perez said. "One of our members, Jared Martinez, KP4LCO, was able to search near his hometown of Lajas and was able to locate more than 10 unidentified campsites around the area." Perez said such reports enable the Red Cross to provide necessary assistance to those left homeless as a result of the earthquakes.

Perez said volunteers were able to collect food from a church-run food pantry in Sabana Grande for isolated communities in the mountain region. He said local members of the General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS) and Citizens Band radio communities have been pitching in.

Operations from Yauco have been on VHF and UHF, although commercial telecommunication services remain in operation for the most part. Another station has been established at the Red Cross Headquarters in the capital of San Juan, which is not in the earthquake zone. Puerto Rico Section Manager Oscar Resto, KP4RF, said the stations are operating as a backbone, in the event of new or stronger earthquakes. HF equipment has been safely stowed if communications fail, Resto said. Most of Puerto Rico now has power and water.



**Volunteers Eduardo Hernandez, WP4RAF (left), and Herb Perez, WP4ZZ. [Photo courtesy of Oscar Resto, KP4RF]**





**Puerto Rico Section Manager Oscar Resto, KP4RF, installs an antenna at Red Cross Headquarters in San Juan.**

ARRL is shipping six VHF/UHF base/repeater antennas and six 50-foot rolls of LMR-400 coax through the [Ham Aid Fund](#). Resto said a new Red Cross warehouse will be placed in Mayagüez, where he will install a third station for backbone communication. "That is the reason for the new antennas," he said. "We already have the radios. In case we need to escalate to HF, we are ready with ARRL go-kits from Hurricane Maria."

A lot of seismic activity was reported on January 15. "Many more or less 3.1 quakes were felt during the day," Perez said. That included a magnitude 5.1 temblor that shook the facilities.

The ARES team in Yauco has also been handling health-and-welfare traffic from the earthquake zone. Operations are running from 9 AM until 5 PM each day.

A magnitude 6.4 earthquake struck the southwestern part of Puerto Rico on January 7, fast on the heels of a magnitude 5.8 tremor the day before. The worst-impacted cities were Guayanilla, Peñuelas, Yauco, and Guánica, where most homes are no longer habitable.

## Emergency Management

### [If you're an individual Emergency Communication volunteer...-](#)

You need to be trained. In order to provide support in the event of an emergency—or even in a non-emergency situation—you need to have the proper training and [licensing](#). Learn more about the ARRL [Emergency Communications Training](#) course.

You need to be equipped with sustaining skills. What if when you get to a location, there is no food and the sleeping conditions are undesirable? Before you leave on your assignment, you need to make sure you have coping skills that enable you to be able to do your job operating under the conditions you are assigned to—from hardship conditions to making sure you're able to work the equipment.



You need to prepare your family for your absence. When you leave home and head for a disaster area, your family must be both physically and mentally able to cope. After a disaster, when a volunteer comes home, he or she can be confronted by some mental health issues, for which there are several resources. Many volunteers experience everything from fatigue or exhaustion to depression.

How can you volunteer, become a member of your local ARES, CERT, RACES or local emergency management organization? Then try the [American Red Cross](#) or Web sites like [Ready.gov](#).

## Future ARRL Contest Dates

**ARRL Contest Dates – Years 2020 - 2021**

Contest Name	2020 (day of month)	2021 (day of month)
<b>JANUARY</b>		
Straight Key Night	1	1
Kid's Day (Jan and Jun)	4	2
RTTY Roundup	4-5	2-3
January VHF Contest	18-20	16-18
<b>FEBRUARY</b>		
School Club Roundup (Winter/Spring Term)	10-14	8-12
DX Contest – CW	15-16	20-21
<b>MARCH</b>		
DX Contest – SSB	7-8	6-7
<b>APRIL</b>		
Rookie Roundup (SSB)	19	11
<b>MAY (no ARRL events)</b>		
<b>JUNE</b>		
June VHF Contest	13-15	12-14
Kid's Day (Jan and Jun)	20	19
Field Day (always 4 <sup>th</sup> full weekend)	27-28	26-27
<b>JULY</b>		
IARU HF World Championship	11-12	10-11
<b>AUGUST</b>		
222 MHz and Up Distance Contest	1-2	7-8
10 GHz & Up – Round 1	15-16	14-15
Rookie Roundup (RTTY)	16	15



## Future Events

Courtesy ARRL Newsletter, more to come next month.

**W1AW will be on the air for Winter Field Day.** Members of the Warren County (New York) Amateur Radio Club ([W2WCR](#)) will activate Maxim Memorial Station W1AW for [Winter Field Day](#) 2020 over the January 25 - 26 weekend. Winter Field Day is sponsored by the Winter Field Day Association ([WFDA](#)), which believes that emergency communication is important throughout the year. Winter Field Day is open to radio amateurs worldwide. The WFDA's goal is to help enhance operating skills and to prepare participants for all environmental conditions. Winter Field Day runs for 24 hours. Station set-up may start no earlier than 1900 UTC on the day before the event and may not take any longer than 12 hours in total. Expect activity on all amateur bands except 12, 17, 30, and 60 meters. All modes that can handle the required exchange are welcome; this does not include FT8. Entry categories include indoor, outdoor, and home. [Full details](#) are on the Winter Field Day website.

**The free *ARRL Events* app, which will be featured at [Orlando HamCation](#), is now available for both Apple iOS and Android devices.** A web-browser version, optimized for nearly any browser or other mobile device type, is also available to view. Orlando HamCation 2020 takes place February 7 - 9 and has been sanctioned as the 2020 ARRL Northern Florida Section Convention. Hosted annually by the Orlando Amateur Radio Club, HamCation is one of the largest annual amateur radio gatherings in the US.



**Marvin Hoffman, WA4NC, will take over this spring as ARRL North Carolina Section Manager.** Hoffman, of Boone, was the sole nominee to succeed incumbent Section Manager Karl Bowman, W4CHX, of Raleigh, who decided not to run for a new term after serving since 2014. Because no challengers came forward by the nomination deadline, no contested SM elections took place during the winter election cycle. These incumbent Section Managers will begin new terms in 2020: John Fritze, K2QY, Eastern New York; George Miller, W3GWM, Eastern Pennsylvania; John Mark Robertson, K5JMR, Louisiana; Joe Speroni, AH0A, Pacific; Dave Kaltenborn, N8KBC, San Diego; Chris Stallkamp, KI0D, South Dakota, and Joe Palsa, K3WRY, Virginia. New 2-year terms of office begin on April 1.

**The fourth annual [AM Rally](#) operating event will take place February 1 - 3 (UTC).** The annual AM Rally encourages all operators to explore amateur radio's original voice mode by showcasing the various types of AM equipment in use today, ranging from early vacuum-tube rigs to the newest SDR-based transceivers. "Both new and experienced ops are discovering that AM can sound quite good, enhancing the enjoyment of contacts," said Clark Burgard, N1BCG, an enthusiastic promoter of the event. "The AM Rally provides a great reason to give it a try." The AM Rally is open to all radio amateurs capable of running full-carrier, amplitude modulation (standard AM) using any type of radio equipment -- modern, vintage, tube, solid-state, software-defined, military, boat anchor, broadcast, homebrew, or commercially manufactured -- are encouraged to join in the AM fun on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, and 6 meters. [Details](#) are on the AM Rally website or [contact](#) Burgard via email. The AM Rally is sponsored by ARRL, Radio Engineering Associates, and iNetRadio.





An international team of 10 operators will be active as [W8S](#) from Swains Island from **March 10 to March 25**. The DXpedition team will be active on all HF bands on CW, SSB, FT8, and RTTY. Operation will be from two separate camps on the island -- a Red Camp and a Blue Camp -- each with two stations. The four stations will be on the air 24/7. The station equipment complements are identical. Two stations will be dedicated for 160 and 80 meters. A WiFi network will link the Red and Blue camps to network all logging laptops. Hans Griessl, DL6JGN, and Ronald Stuy, PA3EWP, are co-leaders. Swains Island (Olohega) is an atoll in the Tokelau chain. Swains is a US territory and considered part of American Samoa. Swains Island is the 34th most-wanted DXCC entity, according to [Club](#)

[Log](#).

by: Johan Sheridan

Posted: Jan 20, 2020 / 04:57 PM EST / Updated: Jan 20, 2020 / 04:57 PM EST



HAM radio veteran Mark Pride demonstrates the capabilities of his radio system that he uses to communicate with other enthusiasts from around the world. (John Huff/The Portsmouth Herald via AP)





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## Related Content

### [Local amateur radio enthusiasts prepared to help in emergencies](#)

HOOSICK FALLS, N.Y. (NEWS10) — The Hoosick Amateur Radio Club will hold its third annual ham radio swap meet on February 1 at Hoosick Falls Central School. This secondhand electronics marketplace brings together amateur radio fans from across the region interested in growing their collections.

Amateur radio enthusiasts and ham radio collectors are usually drawn to the hobby to communicate with people in interesting ways, or to fiddle with the niche radio technology. People use ham radio to talk across town, communicate around the world, or broadcast messages into space. Dating back to the pre-mobile age, ham radios have even allowed people to contact emergency services during times of need.

The swap meet runs from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday, and admission is \$2 for ages 17 and up. Door prizes, raffles, and giveaways give attendees the chance to win a Tri-Band Portable Radio.

The Hoosick Amateur Radio Club welcomes anyone interested in learning about their hobby to their meetings on the first Thursday of every month at the North Hoosick Fire Station. Their membership is continually growing.

Courtesy of eHamNet

## How Morse Code Works and Still Lives On in the Digital Age

by [Mark Mancini](#) Jan 14, 2020



Samuel Morse invented Morse code as a way to communicate via a series of dots and dashes. The above spells out Morse code in, well, Morse code. ©HowStuffWorks



He was a successful businessman and a [presidential portraitist](#). But above all else, Samuel F. B. Morse is best remembered for his eponymous Morse code, an elegant system that revolutionized communications back in the 1800s.

Even in the heyday of Silicon Valley and [social media](#), there's still a place for the well-worn code. ([Just ask the U.S. Navy](#). It's just one language cryptologic technicians learn while training at the Center for Information Dominance at Corry Station in Pensacola, Florida.) As the forerunner to email, texts and other near-instant messaging mediums, we think Morse code deserves a tip of the hat.