



MARANews



February 2013

Volume 52 Issue 02

Secretary's Report

Next Meeting

MARA's next meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on February 19, 2012 at the Bridgewater Public Library

Membership Renewal

With the beginning of each year comes the time for membership renewal and the payment of dues. Since Washington did not fall off the cliff I guess it is alright to use US dollars to make payment. 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. Our smiling treasurer will be happy to see or hear from you.

Recent Events

MASSASOIT CLUB ANNUAL 2013 POTLUCK HOLIDAY PARTY

Barry Kennedy N1EZH – President of the Massasoit Club – thanked **Rick Emord KB1TEE** and **Bill Burke NR1FD** for making arrangements to allow us to hold the 2013 MARA Annual Potluck Holiday Party at the Middleboro North Fire Station. Both **Rick KB1TEE** and **Bill NR1FD** are members of the Middleboro Fire Department. A special thanks to **Chief Lance Benjamins** who let us use the North Fire Station and to **Lt Timothy Reed** who opened the Incident Support Unit (ISU) for us.

A special thanks to **Carl Aveni N1FY** for the dozen gifts he gave to us for door prizes. **Richard Metcalf AG1B** says thanks for the ARRL - 22nd edition - Antenna Book he won as one of the coveted door prizes.

Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves as they held a quick business meeting, saw a slide show of Massasoit Club member pictures that **Rick KB1TEE** had put

together and then spent time socializing while eating some great food. A fun time was had by all.



MASSASOIT CLUB HOLIDAY PARTY PARTICIPANTS

Seen standing L. to R. are **Bob Mandeville N1EDM**, **Phil McNamara N1XTB**, **Jim Wolf N1JCW** in back, **Barry Kennedy N1EZH**, **Carl Aveni N1FY**, **Richard Metcalf AG1B**, **John Whitey N1PRK**, **Rick Emord KB1TEE**, **Bill Burke NR1FD** and **Patty Emord SWL** Seen seated in front L. to R. are **Roy Logan KB1CYV**, **Philip McNamara SWL** (10 yrs old), **Lorraine Aveni SWL**, **Linda Metcalf SWL**, **Edith Proffetty SWL** and **Bruce Hayden NI1X**.

INCIDENT COMMAND VEHICLE TOUR By: Lt. Timothy Reed

After the meal, we were given a very interesting tour of the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services - Special Operations - Incident Command vehicle by **Lt. Timothy Reed SWL** of the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services. This vehicles is currently pre-positioned at the Middleboro North Fire Station. A second unit is located in Stow and a third in Western Massachusetts.

Lt. Timothy Reed of the Department of Fire Services explained what equipment was installed in this Incident Support Unit. The mobile unit has it's own 35,000 watt diesel generator and comes equipped with an uninterrupted power supply to power all radios, telephones and computers.



INCIDENT COMMAND VEHICLE TOUR Cont: By: Lt. Timothy Reed

Of special interest to the HAMS were a dozen radios mounted together with what appeared to be two patch panels with switches that could tie them together. They cover all statewide frequencies and provide interoperable communication between all fire departments, local police and marine channels as well as other state agencies like the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency, State Police, Mass Highway and coast guard. There was a REPEATER installed in the vehicle and portable handheld radios available for use in an incident.



At one end is a fully equipped conference room, providing video, telephone, and radio communication. There was a telescoping mast with video camera equipment that could scan the surrounding area and was displayed on a monitor. It was reported that they can receive and display the video down-feed from the state helicopter. There was a weather station and a TV.

A large screen monitor was connected to Google Earth and **Timothy Reed** had zoomed in on **Edith's** House which is located on a cul-de-sac a short distance from the Middleboro **Edith Proffetty SWL** North Fire Station.

Timothy Reed SWL

Lt.



Carl Aveni N1FY
14 Radios (left) and patch panel
(right)



Rick Emord KB1TEE

Power
distribution panels

Lt. Timothy Reed SWL

The Blizzard of 2013

Many of us had equipment issues because of the recent storm. I have half a Ringo Ranger and the 450 ohm feed line to my G5RV is in three pieces. Power was out until Feb 12th. Winds in Plymouth were severe and wrapped my old tv antenna around the chimney. The photo below is of N1EZH Barry's now horizontal tower. I am sure most of MARA's members had similar experiences.



BSA to Offer Amateur Radio Operator Rating Strip

The Boy Scouts of America ([BSA](#)) has approved an Amateur Radio Operator rating strip for Scouts and Scouters to wear on their uniforms. According to BSA Communication Services Director Jim Wilson, K5ND, the strip recognizes the Scout or Scouter's availability as an Amateur Radio operator for communication services for events and activities, as well as emergencies. All registered youth members and adult leaders who also hold a valid FCC-issued Amateur Radio license of any class are eligible to wear the rating strip.


"Last year, the BSA Awards and Insignia Committee [introduced the Morse Code Interpreter Strip](#) upon the recommendation of the BSA's National Radio Scouting Committee," Wilson told the ARRL. "We are always looking for ways to promote Amateur Radio, both within Scouting and to the world. The National Radio Scouting Committee thought this new Amateur Radio rating strip was a wonderful way to do exactly that, as it readily identifies to everyone that the wearer is a licensed radio amateur, prepared to be useful and to help others."

Wilson, who heads up the National Radio Scouting Committee, said that the Amateur Radio Operator rating strip is similar to the Amateur Radio Operator badge offered as a

proficiency badge by Scouts Australia, as well as the badge recently introduced by Scouting Netherlands. It follows in the footsteps of the Scout Radioman personal interest badge for Senior Scouts and Explorer Scouts that was offered by the Boy Scouts of America in the 1940s. The strip is worn on the right sleeve (see illustration below).

[Photo Gallery](#)

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Any Scout or Scou...
- 
The Amateur Radio...

Icelandic Amateurs Get MF Privileges

According to the Íslenskir Radióamatörar (ÍRA) -- Iceland's IARU Member-Society -- radio amateurs in Iceland now have operating privileges on 472-479 kHz, or 630 meters, as of January 16. Amateurs in Germany, Sweden, the Netherlands, New Zealand and Monaco already have operating privileges in this portion of the MF spectrum. Delegates at the 2012 World Radiocommunication Conference approved this method of addressing Agenda Item 1.23, as the Conference considered a possible allocation of approximately 15 kilohertz between 415 and 526.5 kHz. After discussions and taking into account spectrum conflicts with the Maritime Mobile Service, delegates ultimately decided to allocate 472-479 kHz to the Amateur Radio Service on a secondary basis.

Field Day Packets Are Now Available

Field Day packets are now [available for download](#) and include the complete rules, as well as other reference items such as forms, ARRL Section abbreviation list, entry submission instructions, a Frequently Asked Questions section, guidelines for getting bonus points, instructions for get-on-the-air stations and a kit for publicizing your event with the local press. New for 2013: Stations operating as Class A or B may begin setting up at 0000 UTC on Friday (which will be Thursday 8 PM EDT, 7 PM CDT, 6 PM MDT and 5 PM PDT). The groups may start and stop their set-up, resuming the set-up later, but may spend only a maximum of 24 hours cumulative time for setting up their sites.

An informational flier with basic "What Is Field Day?" has also been included in this year's Field Day packet. Amateur Radio clubs and individuals are encouraged to reproduce this flyer as a handout. Find it and more on the [ARRL's Field Day web page](#).

IARU Region 2 Seeks Input on HF Band Plan

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Region 2 conference will be held later this year in Mexico. The Region 2 conference -- held every three years -- is attended by delegations from the national Amateur Radio societies in the western hemisphere that are members of the IARU. The ARRL is the IARU Member Society for the US.

One of the topics on the conference agenda will be the Region 2 HF band plan. This band plan is "harmonized" with -- spectrum management-speak for "very similar to" -- the IARU Region 1 and Region 3 band plans. Many hams in the US may not know there is such a thing as a Region 2 band plan. Other American hams have heard of it but may not know how -- if at all -- this band plan affects them. Here are important facts for American hams to keep in mind:

- IARU band plans are voluntary guidelines. They do not have the force of FCC regulations. For radio amateurs in the US, IARU band plans are informational, not regulations.
- It would be inappropriate to incorporate Region 2 band plans into the FCC rules, and the ARRL has no plan to petition the FCC to do so.
- Most other countries do not have the detailed sub-band regulations that are in Part 97 of the FCC rules. For radio amateurs in those countries, IARU band plans may offer the only guidance on frequency usage.
- The appearance of a calling frequency or band segment for a particular purpose or mode in the IARU band plan does not convey any special rights or exclusivity of use.
- The absence of a calling frequency or band segment associated with a particular purpose or mode should not be interpreted as disparaging or discouraging that purpose or activity.

The Secretary of IARU Region 2 has asked Member Societies to offer any suggestions they may have about possible changes to the Region 2 band plan. The ARRL is cooperating with this procedure by inviting your input to be sent to the ARRL Board's HF Band Planning Committee. The committee will review the existing Region 2 band plan, consider input from the amateur community and make recommendations to the ARRL Board of Directors for submission to IARU Region 2.

Radio amateurs in the US who would like to submit input should take the following steps.

1. Study the [existing IARU Region 2 band](#) plan posted on the Region 2 website. The Region 1 and Region 3 band plans are also posted there, so be sure you are looking at the band plan for Region 2.
2. Formulate a clear statement of any change you propose. Include a brief explanation of why you think the change would be beneficial. Please include your name and call sign in your message.
3. Send your input via [e-mail](#) no later than March 1, 2013. Messages will be automatically acknowledged.

If you live in another country in Region 2, please contact your national Amateur Radio society for information on how to submit input for the band plan process. The contact information for Region 2 Member Societies is posted [here](#).

ITU Offering Free Download of 2012 International Radio Regulations

The International Telecommunication Union ([ITU](#)) is offering an [electronic version of the 2012 International Radio Regulations](#) at no charge. These regulations incorporate the decisions of the World Radiocommunication Conferences of 1995 (WRC-95), 1997 (WRC-97), 2000 (WRC-2000), 2003 (WRC-03), 2007 (WRC-07) and 2012 (WRC-12), including all Appendices, Resolutions, Recommendations and ITU-R Recommendations incorporated by reference. While [Article 25](#) of the International Radio Regulations defines the Amateur Radio Service, the regulations as a whole define the allocation of different frequency bands to different radio services, as well as the mandatory technical parameters to be observed by radio stations, procedures for the coordination and notification of frequency assignments made to radio stations by national governments and other procedures and operational provisions.

The free download -- as well as paper copies and a DVD -- are available in English, Arabic, Chinese, Spanish, French and Russian. While the electronic version is available at no charge, the individual paper versions and the DVD containing versions in all six languages cost CHF 398 (approximately \$438 USD). The free download is available through mid-2014.

New International Reply Coupon Introduced

The new Doha model IRC will be available for purchase on July 1, 2013; it is valid until December 31, 2017. Although the US Postal Service no longer sells IRCs, they are still available in other countries and post offices in the US are mandated to redeem them.

The Universal Postal Union has introduced the newest model of the International Reply Coupon (IRC): The Doha model -- so named for the 25th Universal Postal Congress that took place in Doha, Qatar in October 2012 -- will replace the current model, known as the Nairobi model. Although the US Postal Service no longer sells IRCs, they are still available in other countries and post offices in the US are mandated to redeem them. The Doha model IRC will be available for purchase on July 1, 2013. It is valid for exchange until the end of 2017. The Nairobi model remains valid until December 31, 2013.

New England Area Flea Schedule-- Courtesy of W1GSL

New England Area Ham - Electronic Flea Market *** DATES *** 2013 All events are Ham Radio/ Electronic related except ~____~

2013	Contact	Source
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|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 16 Feb Marlboro MA AARC @MidSc \$5@9 \$20/T@7 | Timothy KA1OS 508 919 6136 T |
|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------|

17 Feb Westford MA NEARC RadioXLIV @Regency @8 Antique Bruce 603 772 7516 F

23 Feb S Burlington VT HAM-CON @HI I89x14 \$8@8 \$15@6 Mitch W1SJ 802 879 6589

2 Mar Feeding Hills MA MtTARA @TurnverneinCib Mary N1TOY 413 222 1990

3 Mar Hicksville NY LIMARC @LevitHall Richard K2KNB 516 694 4937 A

16 Mar Dayville CT ECARA 8A @StJosephCh Paul KE1LI 860 928 5147 W+

23 March Laval PQ CRAL-L @VanierHS B\$6@9 S!0/T@7 514-708-8033 R+

29,30 Mar Lewiston ME AARC ME Conv @Ramada Ivan N1OXA 207 784 0350 +

7 April Southington CT SARA @HS \$5@8 \$20/T@6:15 Norm W3IZ 860 584 1403 +

7 April Framingham MA FARA@KeefeTech \$5@9\$25/T@7:30 SteveKB1NIV 508 872 9336 +

13,14 Ap Wakefield MA Photographica @AmericalCtr ~photo~ John 781 592 2553 +

14 Ap Middletown NY OCARA @CommCtr Neil AC2O 914 490 2001 A+

20 April Gales Ferry CT RASON Auction@ FireHS Gary WT1SND 860 884 4218 A+

21 April Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F+  
Third Sunday April thru October

3,4 May Deerfield NH NEARFest XIII @FG Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235 T+

11 May Dartmouth MA SEMARA \$2@9

19 May Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F+

1 June Hermon ME PSARA @HS \$5@8 Jerry K1GUP 207 848 3400

1 June Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Outdoor John 860 673 0518 +

15 June Newington CT NARL @StMarySch \$5@8 \$15/T Vinnie W1VJA 203 987 2108

16 June Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F+

21 July Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F+

18 Aug Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F+

7 Sept Ballston Spa NY SCRACES @FG @7 Darlene N2XQG 518 587 2385 +

7 Sept Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Outdoor John 860 673 0518 +

8 Sept Newtown CT CARA @TownHall \$5@8:30 \$10/TG \$15/T Joe AB1DO 203 938 4880 +

15 Sept Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F+

21 Sept Forestdale RI RIAFMRS @VFW \$5/Sp@8 Rick K1KYI 401 864 9611 +

13 Oct Meriden CT Nutmeg @Sheraton was Wallingford John N1GNV 203 440 4973 +



20 Oct Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F+  
19,20 Oct Wakefield MA Photographica @AmericalCtr ~photo~ John 781 592 2553 +  
26 Oct Gales Ferry CT TCARC Auction @FireCo @10 Darryl WA1DD 860 443 7799 +  
9 Nov Bourne MA FARA @UpperCC VoTech \$5@9 \$10/S@7 Ralph N1YHS 508 548 0422 +  
30 Nov Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Indoor John 860 673 0518 +

### **This Week on the Radio**

- February 15 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- February 16 -- Feld Hell Sprint
- February 16-17 -- [ARRL International DX Contest \(CW\)](#)
- February 17-18 -- Russian PSK Worldwide Contest
- February 20 -- AGCW Semi-Automatic Key Evening

### **Next Week on the Radio**

- February 22 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- February 22-23 -- CQ 160-Meter Contest (SSB)
- February 23-24 -- Mississippi QSO Party; North American QSO Party (RTTY); REF Contest (SSB); UBA DX Contest (CW)
- February 24 -- High Speed Club CW Contest
- February 24-25 -- North Carolina QSO Party
- February 25-27 -- CQC Winter QSO Sprint
- February 27-28 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

## **DX NEWS**

SWITZERLAND, HB9. The Tera Radio Club, HB9OK plans to be active with the special call HB30OK almost every day between January 1 and December 31, 2013, celebrating the 30th anniversary of the club.

JAPAN, JA. Special event station 8N119T will be active on all modes on all HF bands between December 23 and March 25 to celebrate the 65th anniversary of the Tokyo Fire Department. 119 is the emergency number in Japan for ambulance and firemen. QSL via bureau.

DENMARK, OZ. A group of operators will be QRV as OU1RAEM from January 1 to December 31, 2013 to commemorate the 110th birthday and life of arctic explorer Ernst T. Krenkel. Activity will be on all bands and modes, as well as various contests and operating events. QSL via operators' instructions.

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, DA. Special event station DL50FRANCE is QRV during all of 2013 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the

French-German Treaty of Friendship, also known as the Elysee Treaty.  
QSL via DK8VR.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA, P2. Nao, JA2VQP is working as a volunteer and teaching mathematics at the Divine Word University in Wewak for the next two years. He has recently been issued the call P29NO and plans to be active in the coming months.

SLOVENIA, S5. Special event station S5300TP is QRV during all of 2013 to mark the 300 years since the Tolmin Peasant Uprising of 1713. QSL via S59DAP.

ROMANIA, YO. Members of the Radioclub QSO Banat Timisoara are QRV as YP10KQT during all of 2013 to celebrate their 10th anniversary. QSL via YO2KQT.

MINAMI TORISHIMA, JD1. Take, JG8NQJ will be QRV as JG8NQJ/JD1 beginning January 15 until the middle of April while on work assignment. Activity will be in his spare time. QSL to home call.

POLAND, SP. Janusz, SP9YI will be QRV with special event call sign HF0A from January 15 to February 28 to celebrate the 10th Arctic Activity Week. QSL to home call.

TANZANIA, 5H. Sam, F6AML will be QRV as 5H1Z from Zanzibar Island, IOTA AF-032, from January 20 to February 28. Activity will be in his free time on 40 to 10 meters using CW and SSB. This may include visits to IOTAs AF-054, AF-063 and AF-075. QSL via bureau to home call.

SAMOA, 5W. Ralph is QRV as 5W0W from Apia until March. QSL via NR6M.

ARMENIA, EK. Aram, EK6LP has been active on 12 meters around 1415z. QSL direct via RN4LP.

COLOMBIA, HK. Lothar, DK8LRF is QRV as HK3JCL from Restrepo until March 31. Activity is on 40, 20, 17, 15 and 10 meters using SSB. QSL to home call.

MINAMI TORISHIMA, JD1. Take, JG8NQJ is QRV as JG8NQJ/JD1 from Marcus Island, IOTA OC-073, until mid April while on work assignment with the island's weather station. Activity will be mainly on 17 to 10 meters using CW. QSL to home call.

ANTARCTICA. Robert is QRV as LU1ZG from the Ejercito General Belgrano II Base. Of late he has been active on 20 meters using SSB between 0425 and 0510z. QSL via LU4DXU.

SUDAN, ST. Lourens, ZS6AKB is QRV as ST2/ZS6AKB in Kutum in the Darfur region of Sudan until June while on work assignment. Activity is in his spare time on 40, 30 and 20 meters. QSL to home call.

HUNGARY, HA. Special event station HG66MALEV is QRV until March 31 to commemorate the former Hungarian airline MALEV. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and various digital modes. QSL direct via HG4I.

GRENADA, J3. Roy, KE4TG is QRV as J38RF until March 8. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters, and possibly 60 meters, using CW, SSB and digital modes. QSL to home call.

GUINEA-BISSAU, J5. A group of operators will be QRV as J52HF from Cumura from February 10 to March 2 while helping with mission work. Activity will be in their spare time on the HF bands, including 6 meters, using SSB. QSL via I3LDP.

MICRONESIA, V6. After his Guam operation, Bob, 5B4AGN will be QRV as V63ZM from Pohnpei, IOTA OC-010, from February 13 to 23. Activity will be on 80 to 10 meters. QSL via M0URX.

MONTserrat, VP2M. Will, AA4NC will be QRV as VP2ME from February 13 to 20. Activity will be on the HF bands using CW, SSB and RTTY. This includes an entry in the upcoming ARRL DX CW contest. QSL via operator's instructions.

CAMBODIA, XU. John, KF0RQ will be QRV as XU7ACQ from February 10 to March 18. Activity will be on 80 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and various digital modes. QSL to home call.

SOUTH SUDAN, Z8. Massimo, IZ0EGB is living in Juba and now QRV as Z81B. Activity is on 40 to 6 meters using SSB and various digital modes. He may be active from other areas as well. QSL to home call.

TOKELAU, ZK3. Dieter, DJ2EH is QRV as ZK3T until February 20. Activity may be holiday style on 160 to 10 meters using mostly CW with some RTTY. QSL to home call.

## ***Monthly Newsletter***

## Club Officers and Committeemen

President: Barry Kennedy N1EZH  
Vice President: Rick Emord KB1TEE  
Treasurer: Phil McNamara N1XTB  
Secretary: Roy Logan KB1CYV  
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](mailto:maranews@w1mv.org)

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

**Qsl via** [www.eqsl.cc](http://www.eqsl.cc)

**Skywarn** [www.powersrvcs.org/w1gmf/skywarn.htm](http://www.powersrvcs.org/w1gmf/skywarn.htm)

**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 every other Tuesday evening 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 Bill Needham, K1WN, at 781-843-4400 or via email at [k1wn@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto:k1wn@aol.com) to confirm a reservation.