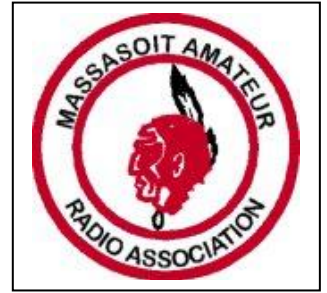




MARANews



January 2012

Volume 51 Issue 01

Secretary's Report

Since there was no meeting in December there is no report from the Secretary.

January Meeting

Due to unforeseen circumstances regarding access to the building in Middleboro It was necessary to cancel the Potluck Dinner and meeting scheduled for January 17 We will however be having a meeting on-the- air at 8:00 pm on January 17 on the 147.180 repeater. Please join the other members of MARA there.

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.

Don K1DC on a Permanent DXpedition

Long time member of MARA has gone on a permanent DXpedition to Dothan Alabama. Don is still maintaining his membership in MARA . He says the weather is fine in the 60'sand 70's . He also said to say hi to all his old friends. He is active on 3818 khz with an East Coast group in the mornings at 6:30 a.m. if you want to say hello.

FCC News: FCC Denies ARRL Petition on Vanity, Club Call Signs

On January 11, the FCC denied an ARRL *Petition for Reconsideration* concerning vanity and club call signs. Filed with the Commission in January 2011, the ARRL's *Petition* was in response to the FCC's *Report and Order* that detailed rules changes to the vanity call sign system and call signs for Amateur Radio clubs. These new rules went into effect on February 14, 2011.

The FCC noted that the ARRL supports its efforts to prevent club stations from obtaining an unfair share of desirable call signs, but expresses concern that the specific rule language adopted by the Commission "does not preclude the abuses that the *Report and Order* intended to preclude." In its *Petition*, the ARRL stated that if a club has multiple station trustees, each of these trustees could obtain a vanity call sign for the club, thereby allowing the club to obtain multiple vanity call signs. The ARRL also argued that a club could "gam[e] the club station vanity call sign system" by obtaining multiple

FCC Registration Numbers (FRNs) and applying for a vanity call sign under each FRN. "We do not believe that the vanity call sign system is subject to the abuses identified by the ARRL," the FCC said, "or that it's suggested rule changes are necessary."

The ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes

VHF operators will be on the bands in force the weekend of January 21-23, as the ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes hits the airwaves. This contest gives the VHFer in all of us a chance to do some contesting during the winter months. "Don't let the cold weather in much of the US dissuade you from getting on the air," said ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X. "Many a portable or Rover operation has done just fine in January. While propagation enhancement can seem fleeting in January, there have been some monstrous openings during this contest in years past. Who knows? Perhaps the propagation gods will grant us a late holiday gift with an extended aurora or tropospheric event!"

WHITE MOUNTAIN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB FLEA MARKET

AMATEUR RADIO, ANTIQUE RADIO, RADIO CONTROL, ELECTRONICS
SATURDAY, March 10, 2012

8:30 AM-1:30 PM
(SET UP: 7:00 AM-8:30 AM)

AT
NORTH CONWAY COMMUNITY CENTER
2628 WHITE MOUNTAIN HIGHWAY
NORTH CONWAY, NEW HAMPSHIRE

REFRESHMENTS
OUTLET SHOPPING FOR XYLs
VE SESSION AT 1:30 PM
(Registration anytime at Flea Market)

TALK IN: 145.450 PL 100Hz
Contact: Thaire Bryant, W2APF
603-447-2376, 508-245-3522

W2APF@Hughes.net
PO Box 1932, Conway, NH 03818
ADMISSION: \$5.00 TABLES: \$15.00
(limit: 100 lbs, per table)

NEW ENGLAND FLEA SCHEDULE – COURTESY W1GSL

New England Area Ham - Electronic Flea Market *** DATES *** 2011 P 1 of 2
All events are Ham Radio/ Electronic related except ~____~

2012	Contact	Source

4 Feb Augusta ME AARA @Club Calumet

Bill K1NIT 207 623 9075 A+

11 Feb Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Indoor John 860 673 0518 +
 18 Feb Marlboro MA AARC @MidSc \$5@9 \$20/T@7 Timothy KA1OS 508 919 6136 +
 25 Feb S Burlington VT HAM-CON @HI I89x14 \$8@8 \$15@6 Mitch W1SJ 802 879 6589
 4 Mar Hicksville NY LIMARC @LevitHall Richard K2KNB 516 694 4937 A+
 10 Mar Feeding Hills MA MtTARA @TurnverneinCib Mary N1TOY 413 222 1990 +
 18 Mar Southington CT SARA @HS \$5@8 \$20/T@6:15 Norm W3IZ 860 584 1403 F
 25 Mar Framingham MA FARA @KeefeTech Bev N1LOO 508 626 2012
 14 Ap Montreal PQ MARC @RCL Hall \$5@9 \$10/T@8:15 James 514 990 1965 W+
 15 April Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F
 Third Sunday April thru October
 28 Ap Gales Ferry CT RASON Auction @FireCo Gary WT1SND 860 884 4218
 4,5 May Deerfield NH Nearfest XI @FG Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235
 12 May E Greenbush NY EGARA @FD \$6@8 +\$6/sp@6 Glenn W2BK 518 482 5584
 20 May Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F
 2 June Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Outdoor John 860 673 0518 +
 16 June Newington CT NARL @StMarySch Steve WV1X 860 594 0265
 17 June Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F
 15 July Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F
 12 Aug Adams MA NoBARC @BoweFld \$5@9 \$10/T Tim KE3HT 413 822 7075 +
 19 August Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F
 8 Sept Ballston Spa NY SCRACES @FG @7 Darlene N2XQG 518 587 2385
 15 Sept Forestdale RI RIAFMRS @VFW \$5/Sp@8 Rick K1KYI 401 864 9611
 15 Sept Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Outdoor John 860 673 0518 +
 16 Sept Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F
 21 Oct Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F
 27 Oct Gales Ferry CT TCARC Auction @FireCo @10 Darryl WA1DD 860 443 7799 T
 28 Oct Hicksville NY LIMARC @LevitHall Richard K2KNB 516 694 4937 A+
 2 Nov Feeding Hills MA HCRA Auction @CongCh @6:30PM Jim KK1W 413 237 4666
 3 Nov Bourne MA FARA @UpperCC VoTech \$5@9 \$10/S@7 Ralph N1YHS 508 548 0422 F+

Radio Amateurs Not Affected by Narrowbanding Requirements

The FCC released a [Public Notice](#) on January 6, reminding land mobile licensees, frequency coordinators and equipment manufacturers that they have less than one year to transition to narrowband operations in the 150-174 and 421-512 MHz bands. While the latter frequency range includes amateur service allocations, radio amateurs are not affected by the narrowbanding requirement. Land mobile operation is permitted in parts of the 421-430 MHz band in the areas around Detroit, Cleveland and Buffalo, and land mobile licensees in these areas are among those who will have to migrate to narrowband (12.5 kHz or narrower) technology by January 1, 2013. Amateur operation is not permitted along the Canadian border (north of Line A as defined in the FCC Rules) in the band 420-430 MHz.

ARRL Requests Feedback for 60 Meter Band Plan

In November 2011, the FCC released a *Report & Order* detailing [new rules for the 5 MHz \(60 meters\) Amateur Radio band](#). As of January 12, these rules have not yet been published in the *Federal Register*. In order to be official, the rules must be published in the *Federal Register* and will take effect 30 days after the publication date. The *R&O* brings with it a number of changes for 60 meter operators. Considering the expected increase in 60 meter activity when the *R&O* finally takes effect, the ARRL is asking for feedback to assist in crafting a proposed band plan.

ARISSat-1 Re-enters Earth's Atmosphere, Falls Silent

According to [AMSAT](#), [ARISSat-1 stopped transmitting](#) on the morning of January 4. It is believed that the satellite re-entered the Earth's atmosphere around 0700 UTC (+/- three hours) and was destroyed soon after. Telemetry reports showed that the temperature aboard ARISSat-1 had been rising as the atmospheric drag began to affect the satellite. The predicted decay location is an open part of the South Atlantic, well west of Angola.

The last telemetry reports indicated that the internal temperature had topped 167 degrees Fahrenheit and was rising rapidly. Konstantin Vladimirovich, RN3ZF, sent a reception report of a pass at 0842 UTC and stated, "The telemetry was absent, voice messages were not legible, very silent and interrupted. Most likely, I saw the last minutes in the life of the satellite." The last full telemetry captured was received from ground stations as the satellite passed over Japan at 0602 UTC on January 4.



ARISSat-1 was [deployed](#) from the International Space Station on August 3, 2011 during EVA-29 on by Cosmonaut/Flight Engineers Sergei Volkov, RU3DIS, and Alexander Samokutyaev. The satellite carried a student experiment from Kursk State University in Russia that measured atmospheric density. Students from around the world provided the voices for the FM voice announcements.

Sergei Volkov, RU3DIS, and Alexander Samokutyaev deployed ARISSat1-1 from the ISS on August 3, 2011. [Screenshot courtesy of NASA TV]

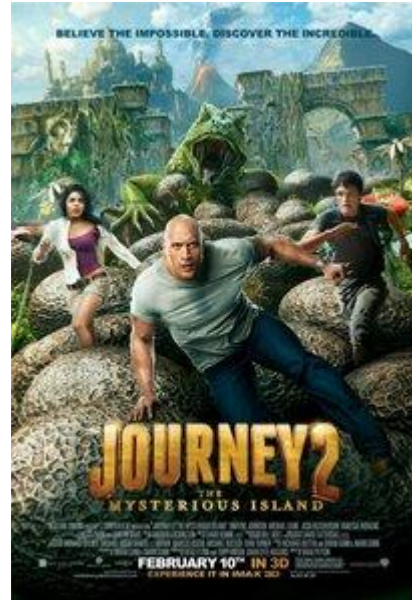
AMSAT President Barry Baines, WD4ASW, said that ARISSat-1 marked a new type of satellite that captured the attention of the national space agencies around the world. "With ARISSat-1, we have we have been able to design, launch, and operate a unique educational opportunity," he explained. "By designing an educational mission aligned with NASA's Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics goals, radio amateurs around the world have been able enjoy a new satellite in orbit."

ARISSat-1 achieved several "firsts" for Amateur Radio in space, including the first flight test of the AMSAT Software Defined Transponder, which included an FM voice downlink cycling between student messages, spoken telemetry and SSTV; a 16 kHz bandwidth linear transponder; a CW beacon carrying telemetry and call signs of radio amateurs (noting their significant contributions to Amateur Radio in space) and a robust, forward-error-corrected 1kbps BPSK digital downlink carrying satellite telemetry and Kursk experiment telemetry.

Amateur Radio a Plot Point in Major Motion Picture

According to previews, the plot of the movie *Journey 2: The Mysterious Island* -- set to be released February 10 -- hinges on Amateur Radio. The movie's hero Sean Anderson (played by Josh Hutcherson) receives a coded distress signal that comes from a mysterious island where no island should exist. Sean decides to follow the signal with the unwilling assistance from his stepfather Hank (played by Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson).

Sean explains to Hank why he wants to hunt down the signal: "A few nights ago, a radio signal got sent out from these coordinates. It could be the mysterious island that Jules Verne wrote about." Hank replies: "You think you're gonna travel halfway around the world and meet up with some lunatic who's messing around on a ham radio?" "That's not some lunatic," Sean says. "That's my grandfather."



This Week on the Radio

- January 13 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- January 14-15 -- North American QSO Party (CW); WW PMC Contest; Michigan QRP January CW Contest
- January 16 -- Run for the Bacon QRP Contest
- January 19 -- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint

Next Week On the Radio

- January 20 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- January 21 -- Feld Hell Sprint; LZ Open Contest
- January 21-22 -- North American QSO Party (SSB); Hungarian DX Contest; YL-ISSB QSO Party (SSB)
- January 21-23 -- [ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes](#)
- January 25 -- SKCC Sprint
- January 25-26 -- CWops Mini-CWT T

DX NEWS

CROATIA, 9A. In celebration of the 20th anniversary of the allocation of the 9A prefix, all private and club stations here may add the number 20 to their call signs.

PHILIPPINES, DU. In celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Philippine ARA, special event call 4G0LD is active during 2012. QSL via bureau.

DOMINICA, J7. Mike, VE2XB is QRV as J79XB until January 26. Activity is holiday style on 160 to 10 meters, and possibly 6 meters. QSL to home call.

ARUBA, P4. Ed, W0YK is QRV as P49X. This includes an entry in the ARRL RTTY Roundup. QSL to home call.

CURACAO, PJ2. Ron, N6EE and Chet, W6XK are QRV as PJ2/home calls until January 8. They will be active as PJ2T in the ARRL RTTY Roundup. QSL via operators' instructions.

BONAIRE, PJ4. Peter, PA8A will be QRV as PJ4B from January 8 to 22. Activity is holiday style. QSL direct to home call.

SINT MAARTEN, PJ7. Paolo, IK2QPR will be QRV as PJ7/IK2QPR from January 8 to 16. Activity will be holiday style on the HF bands. QSL to home call.

SUDAN, ST. Robert, S53R is again QRV as ST2AR. QSL to home call.

TUVALU, T2. A group of operators will be QRV as T2HA from January 12 to 26. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK. QSL via HA5UK.

PALAU, T8. Operators Mike, JA6EGL, Yasu, JA6UBY, Masa, JH6KXG and Yu, JE6DND will be QRV as T88SM, T88CP, T88BI and T88HK, respectively, from Koror Island, IOTA OC-009, from January 11 to 19. Activity will be on 80 to 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL direct to home calls.

AUSTRALIA, VK. Operators Peter, VK3ZPF, Matt, VK2ADF and Kevin, VK3KAB will be QRV as VK3SAT from French Island, IOTA OC-136, on January 7 and 8. Activity will be on 80 to 10 meters. QSL via VK3SAA.

VIET NAM, XV. Take, JA6CNH will be QRV as either XV2CNH or XV3CNH

from January 10 to 15. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, PSK and JT65. QSL to home call.

EL SALVADOR, YS. Luca, IW2CXJ will be QRV as YS3/IW2CXJ from January 11 to 24. Activity will be holiday style on 40 to 10 meters. QSL direct to home call.

TIMOR-LESTE, 4W. Vlad, UA4WHX is QRV as 4W0VB. Activity has been on 20, 17, 15 and 12 meters using CW. Length of stay is unknown. QSL to home call.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, A6. Don, N1DG is QRV as A61AD until January 16. Activity is on the HF bands in his spare time. QSL to home call.

IRELAND, EI. In celebration of the 80th anniversary of the Irish Radio Transmitters Society, special event station EI80IRTS is QRV during all of 2012, including the upcoming CQ IR contest in March. QSL via EI4GXB.

NEW CALEDONIA, FK. Ante, 9A4DU is QRV as FK/9A4DU from the FK8KA club station. QSL to home call.

ENGLAND, G. Special event station GB80PW is QRV one day each month in celebration of the 80th anniversary of the magazine Practical Wireless. Activity is on 40 meters using SSB and PSK31. QSL direct to G3XFD.

MALPELO ISLAND, HK0. A group of operators are already QRV as HK0NA in their spare time as they prepare for the team of operators to arrive on the island. So far they have been active on 160, 80, 40, 17 and 12 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via N2OO.

SAUDI ARABIA, HZ. Tom, HZ1FI has been QRV on 160 meters around 1800 to 2200z. QSL via DL2RMC.

BONAIRE, PJ4. A large group of operators are QRV as PJ4C until January 23. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK. QSL via F9IE.

SUDAN, ST. Robert, ST2AR is usually QRV on 80 and then 40 meters using CW around 0400z. QSL via S53R.

EAST KIRIBATI, T32. Look for a group of operators to be QRV as T32AU, T32CO, T32LJ, T32TR, T32TX, T32WW and T32XX from Kiritimati Island, IOTA OC-024, from January 17 to February 2. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK. They will be QRV as T32XX as a Multi Op entry in the upcoming CQ WW 160 Meter CW contest. QSL via operators' instructions.

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS, VP2V. Gavin, GM0LVI is QRV as VP2V/GM0LVI from Cooper Island, IOTA NA-023, until January 21. Activity is on 20 to 6 meters using CW and SSB. QSL to home call.

INDIA, VU. Members of the Indian Institute of Hams of Bangalore and the Mangalore Amateur Radio Club are QRV as special event station VU17NYF until January 6 during the 17th National Youth Festival. Activity is on the HF and VHF bands. QSL via bureau.

BURKINA FASO, XT. John, K3QF is QRV as XT2RJA from Ouagadougou until January 18. Activity is on the HF bands and he has been active using CW on 20 meters. QSL to home call.

LAOS, XW. Larry, XW0ZJZ has been QRV on 20 and 40 meter CW around 1600 and 1700z, respectively. QSL via E21EIC.

EL SALVADOR, YS. Luca, IW2CXJ is QRV as YS3/IW2CXJ until January 24. Activity is holiday style on 40 to 10 meters using all modes. QSL to home call.

CAYMAN ISLAND, ZF. Operators Newt, N4EWT and Jim, N4BFR are QRV as ZF2KO and ZF2JS, respectively, until January 16. Activity is on the HF bands using CW and SSB. QSL direct to home calls.



MASSASOIT AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION



Monthly Newsletter

Club Officers and Committeemen

Vice-President: Barry Kennedy N1EZH
Treasurer: Phil McNamara N1XTB
Secretary: Bob Keene N1LCY
Call sign Trustee: Phil McNamara N1XTB

Repeater Trustees: Carl Aveni N1FY, Gil Follett W1GMF, 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 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 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.