

January 2026

Volume 62 Issue 01



<http://www.w1mv.org>



<https://www.facebook.com/w1mvmara/>



<https://twitter.com/search?q=Massasoit%20Amateur%20Radio%20Association&src=typd>

## **DUES ARE DUE FOR 2026**

**I hope that you all had a wonderful holiday season. See you on Tuesday January 20<sup>th</sup>**

Next in person meeting is January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Social hour 6 PM meeting at 6:30PM. Talk-in is on 147.180+. Meetings are in the downstairs meeting room at the Bridgewater Public library

**Remember our weekly nets ON THE AIR Tuesdays at 8 PM and the Saturday night weather net at 8PM.**

### **Presidents Notes: John Laiosa N1BSO**

President's Message:

I hope everybody had a nice New Year. Our first meeting of the year, January 20 is at the Bridgewater Public Library at 6:30PM, social gathering at 6:00PM. Dues are due at this meeting, \$25, checks made out to MARA. The Tuesday night net is going well, I have enjoyed participating in them, thanks to all of those who have net control, great job. The club Facebook page is getting plenty of use, thanks to all who have posted. We will discuss at the meeting this month plans for the club this year.

I still have items that were donated to the club, the list was in the last newsletter. As always, anybody interested in club apparel check the web site and send me your request.

Hope to see you at the meeting. Don't forget Winterfest January 17 9:00AM KofC in Whitman.  
John N1BSO

## Secretary notes Phil McNamara N1XTB

No meeting report for December. Annual **DUES** are due. Please play in person or send your check or money order to Massasoit Amateur Radio Association P O Box 428 Bridgewater MA. 02324

For those that are interested, there are first Monday of the month Emergency communication nets; the MEMA Sector 2B RACES net (at 8 PM) on the Marshfield repeater and the Eastern MA ARES net on the MMRA linked repeater system at 8:30 PM ( [https://mmra.org/repeaters/repeater\\_linking.html](https://mmra.org/repeaters/repeater_linking.html) ) The map graphic below shows MEMA regions.

## Newsletter editor Rick Emord KB1TEE

Nothing new to report. Lots going on over the next couple of months. Please forward to me any amateur radio clubs information of interest.



## Dear Massachusetts Hams

I am reaching out to you, would like to be part of the 2026 ARRL Celebration of the USA 250 Semiquincentennial Special Operating Event. This is part of the Year of the Club and the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the ARRL Field Organization along with a year long Worked All States (WAS-250). I am the state manager for Massachusetts.

For two weeks in 2026, there is the ability for stations located in Massachusetts to operate as W1AW/1. ARRL membership is not required. The weeks are as follows:

- \* February 11-18
- \* August 12-21

August 14th & 15th will be an SSB operation from the New England HamXposition in Marlboro. They will have precedent in choosing the band and mode (probably SSB) for a block of time. We are looking for ops that can get on multiple times during this week, from your club, home, mobile or portable stations and work stations that will be hunting you. Your transmitter **MUST** be in Massachusetts.

Modes that can be operated are:

- \* SSB
- \* CW
- \* Digital
- \* Satellite

ALL Logging **MUST** be done with computer logging that can export in ADIF format. The log will be sent to me once your operating has completed. All volunteers will need to work together and share operating times with the team of ops. There will be an operation guide emailed a few weeks before the operating week to all volunteers.

If you are interested in volunteering for the first Massachusetts operating in February, please contact:

Larry Krainson, W1AST [FunHamRadio@gmail.co](mailto:FunHamRadio@gmail.co)

# HAMX Call for Speakers

**HamX is the largest amateur radio convention in the Northeast!** With close to 1,800 attendees each year, HamX draws radio amateurs from all over and is an ideal venue to present your ideas and experiences.

This is a call for speakers on topics of general interest to the amateur radio community. Some examples include: Operating practices, contesting, DXing, mobile stations, emergency communications, emerging activities, STEM outreach, club improvement, radio history, restoring antique gear, test equipment, kit building, antenna design, AI in amateur radio, VHF/UHF/Microwave/Mesh, EME and more. If you have a story to share, we would like to hear about it.

To submit a talk proposal, please go to the following website and enter the requested information.

<https://registration.hamx.org/speaker/>

If you have any further questions, please reach out to the program chair at the e-mail address listed below. We look forward to your contribution at HamX 2026!

Mark Noe KE1IU

HamX Program Committee Chairperson

[ke1iu@hamx.org](mailto:ke1iu@hamx.org)

## **Attention all Massachusetts Clubs,**

**This is your chance to participate in the Year of the Club special operating event**

**If you would like to operate W1AW/1 as a club and reserve a 4-hour block of time between February 11th and the 18th.**

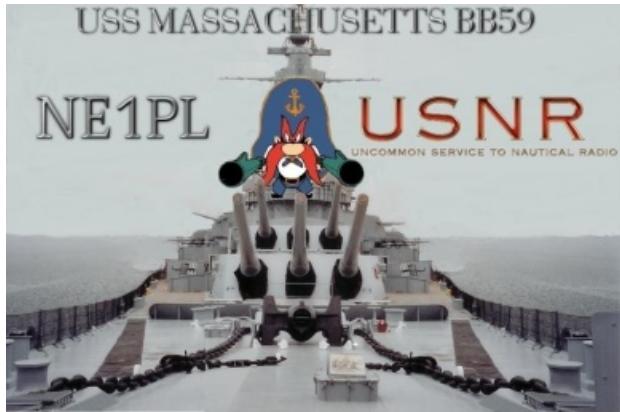
**Please contact Larry, W1AST, no later than January 20th.**

**Email: [FunHamRadio@gmail.com](mailto:FunHamRadio@gmail.com)**

**So far, the Barnstable ARC and the Mohawk ARC are the only clubs to have signed up.**

Thank you, Larry, W1AST

- ARRL WMA Affiliated Club Coordinator
- Northeast HamX Committee Member: [W1AST@HamX.org](mailto:W1AST@HamX.org)
- FEMARA Director
- Team K2H - 13 Colonies Massachusetts State Manager
- Proud Member of ARRL, HCRA, FEMARA & YCCC
- 413-348-3289
- [FunHamRadio@gmail.com](mailto:FunHamRadio@gmail.com)
- I hope to see you at the 2026 HamX! - [www.HamX.org](http://www.HamX.org)



## **NE1PL Uncommon Service To Nautical Radio**

We will be on the USS Massachusetts April 18th 2026 we will be remembering the armistice and long needed rest from the war. World War 2 was such a long and painful event . Eighty one years have passed and remembering the suffering is a special place to be.



## **Great Hill Gang**

Great Hill Gang / K1USN Swap Net Fridays at 20:00 hours (8pm) On the Marshfield repeater, 145.39 MHz with PL 67.0 EchoLink NEW-ENG 2 node on 9127 — IRLP Reflector 9127 Net Controllers: NA1XX -Mike & K1UVH-Mike

## **CQ World Wide 160-Meter Contest, CW**

The CQ World Wide 160-Meter Contest, CW begins at 2200 UTC on Friday, January 23rd, and runs through 2200 UTC on Sunday, January 25th. See the website for rules and other contest details.

## **Algonquin Amateur radio HAMfest**

Saturday February 14<sup>th</sup> 2026 1LT Charles W. Whitcomb School 25 Union Street Marlborough, MA 01752 0900-1200 \$5.00 general admission Talk in MMRA 147.27 PL 146.2

## **ARRL Audio News**

Listen to [ARRL Audio News](#), available every Friday. ARRL Audio News is a summary of the week's top news stories in the world of amateur radio and ARRL, along with interviews and other features.

The On the Air podcast and ARRL Audio News are available on blubrry, iTunes, and Apple Podcasts.

## Winter Field Day



Winter Field Day, sponsored by the Winter Field Day Association, is the last full weekend of January. It starts at 1900 UTC on Saturday, January 24th, and concludes at 1859 UTC on Sunday, January 25. Any mode that fully supports the exchange is allowed during the contest. Operation on all bands HF, VHF, and UHF, with the exception of 12, 17, 30, and 60 meters is allowed. For more information, visit the [Winter Field Day website](#).

## Orlando HamCation 2026

**Orlando FL February 13-15 2026 Central Florida Fairgrounds and Expo Park** 4603 West Colonial Drive  
Orlando, Florida 32808 February 13, 2025 9AM to 5PM, February 14, 2025 | 9AM to 5PM, February 15, 2025 | 9AM to 1PM.





## Welcome Breaking News: Our 60-Meter Band Just Got Bigger!



December 10, 2025 Thomas Witherspoon

The FCC just handed us a new gift, and we're keeping the one we already had, too. Keep in mind, this is my interpretation of the following FCC Report and Order FCC 25-60, released December 9, 2025. *Please correct me if you discover any of these points are inaccurate.*

### What's new?

**We now have access to a brand-new chunk of the 60-meter band: 5351.5-5366.5 kHz.**

That's on top of the discrete 60m channels we've been using up to this point. Here are the only caveats (and they're pretty minor): Of course, you'll need at least a General Class US license to use the new allocation. And if you're working the new band, you're limited to 9.15 watts ERP which is well within margin for those of us who run QRP.

### What modes?

Phone, CW, RTTY, digital—seems like it's all fair game. We just need to keep our bandwidth no wider than 2.8 kHz.

### Summary

The ruling also notes power restrictions in the 70-centimeter band for operators in military coordination areas, but that's outside the scope of anything I do in my field ops. I feel like this is a big and—at least for me—unexpected win. The 60-meter band is a good one, and I used to use it more often in the doldrums of the last sunspot cycle.

## **LA County Amateur Radio Volunteers Excel in Doublet Earthquake Disaster Exercise**

Amateur radio operators delivered critical communications support to Los Angeles County hospitals during the 2025 Annual Medical and Health Exercise (AMHE) on November 20, validating resilient, internet-independent pathways essential for regional disaster response. The exercise employed a complex Ridgecrest style earthquake doublet scenario to test health care readiness.



Volunteers were widely complimented for their professionalism, skill and enthusiasm throughout the large-scale event. The massive Los Angeles County health infrastructure includes approximately 70 911 receiving hospitals. The 2025 exercise focused on testing key operational capabilities across this system.

## **News, Press Releases, and Special Interest**

ARRL is sponsoring a Student Coding Competition, starting January 1. Cash awards totaling \$25,000 are the prizes in this contest which is open to full-time students under the age of 21 who are Amateur Radio licensees. Entrants must also be ARRL members, but that should be easy since ARRL membership for students under 21 is FREE. The terms of the contest, including rules and guidelines, will be published to [coding.arrl.org](http://coding.arrl.org) on January 1, 2026.

Andy, AA5JF, wants your ARRL 10 Meter Contest photos and blurbs! He's going to be writing the contest results article. "Photos of operating, that is with people, and of antennas, are both appreciated. Once you turn in your log, you will get an email confirmation from [noreply@arrl.com](mailto:noreply@arrl.com). Use the first link in that email to upload photos, or add soapbox comments. I also look at the 3830 comments." There were also a number of posts in the Facebook group "Contesting and DX'ing (Amateur – Ham – Radio)."

Jeff, WK6I, is looking for your stories, comments, and pictures from the ARRL RTTY Roundup that happened last weekend. You can send them directly to him ([wk6i dot jeff at gmail.com](mailto:wk6i dot jeff at gmail.com)), or post your comments to [3830scores.com](http://3830scores.com), where he'll also see them. He uses these to write the contest results article for *QST*.

NAQP CW Contesters can work any station located anywhere for QSO points, but only certain entities count as multipliers. According to the rules, "Multipliers are all 50 US states, including Alaska and Hawaii, the District of Columbia (DC), the 13 Canadian provinces/territories (British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba,

Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland-Labrador, Yukon, Northwest Territories, and Nunavut) and other North American entities as defined by the ARRL DXCC List. For other North American entities, please use the standard DXCC prefix for the country in the received location field in your log." Your logging program should be able to handle what the DX station sends, counting it appropriately while operating. It may even just pick up the appropriate prefix once you enter the DX station call sign. The NAQP CW Multiplier list is in the "NAQP Paper Log Form" PDF file, found here, on page 2.

**Here is a list of some of the activities that K1USN members are involved in.**

**Now we have a number of regular activities which include:**

**Daily EM2MN two meter traffic net on the W1BOS - Boston repeater (145.23 88.5 Hz) @ 8 PM EST**

**<https://ema.arrl.org/eastern-mass-two-meter-traffic-net/> Monday evening @ 7 PM EST 2 meter SSB net on 144.244 USB; immediately followed by CW net.**

**Saturday morning two meter net on the W1ATD - Marshfield repeater (145.39 67 Hz) also via EchoLink NEW-ENG 2 on 9127, IRLP reflector 9127 @ 9 AM EST**

**Sunday evening 7 PM EST (Monday 0000 UTC) and Friday afternoon 3 PM EST (2000 UTC) Slow Speed CW "Contest" on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 & 10 meters (details @ [www.k1usn.com/sst](http://www.k1usn.com/sst))**

**Sunday afternoon 6 meter FM net on 53.33 FM (also linked to the Norwell 220 machine) @ 4:30 PM EST**

**Occasional 7:30 PM EST Zoom session focused on various Ham Radio topics which are archived on our K1USN Radio Club YouTube channel.**

**<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeqnvJP92umejHhmAiUFW5g> Monthly in-person gatherings generally on the second Saturday morning of every month (date may change due to weather!) in the parking lot atop Great Hill in North Weymouth. More details available from Mike – K1UVH (mikeantenna@verizon.net) Arriving around 8 AM EST until??**

## **Southwest Florida Regional Hamfest 2026 (Fort Myers), ARRL Southern Florida Section Convention**

**HAMFEST/CONVENTION\_01/16/2026**

**Start Date:** 01/16/2026

**End Date:** 01/17/2026

**Location:** Florida Southwestern College

8099 College Parkway

Fort Myers, FL 33901

**Website:** <https://swflhamfest.com/>

**Sponsor:** Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

**Type:** ARRL Convention

**Talk-In:** 145.170 pl 136.5

**Public Contact:** Steven Clayton , K4SJC

1106 SE 28th Ter Cape Coral, FL 33904-3913

Phone: (941) 275-9145

**Email:** [hamfest@fmarc.net](mailto:hamfest@fmarc.net)

## ARRL solar update

### ARRL Solar Report for 1-15-26

Solar activity reached moderate levels due to an M1.6 flare on January 14 from new region 4341; spot classification of this region is complicated by limb proximity and foreshortening effects. New Region 4342 rotated around the NE limb and was also numbered. No Earth-directed coronal mass ejections (CMEs) were observed. Solar activity is expected to be low with a 25-30% chance for M-class flares (R1-R2, minor-moderate) over January 15 -17.

Solar wind parameters were elevated under continued negative polarity coronal hole high speed stream (CH HSS) influences. Solar wind speed ranged mostly between 450-570 km/s. Solar wind parameters are expected to gradually diminish over January 15 – 17. Another enhancement in the solar wind is expected early on January 17 when a current, positive polarity, CH HSS is expected to become geoeffective. Solar wind speed is likely to exceed 700 km/s based on recurrent data.

The 10.7-centimeter flux: January 15, 110; January 16, 108; January 17 - 18, 106; January 19, 110; January 20, 115; January 21, 125; January 22, 135.

Predicted sunspot numbers: January 15, 122; January 16, 117; January 17, 128; January 18, 113; January 19, 133; January 20, 110; January 21, 138.

For more information concerning radio propagation, [visit](#) the ARRL Technical Information Service, read [A Quick Guide to HF Propagation Using Solar Indices](#), and [check out](#) the Propagation Page of Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA.

For customizable propagation charts, visit the [VOACAP Online for Ham Radio website](#).



Massasoit Amateur Radio Association Executive Board

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Vice President: Tom Luckman WA1TOM

Secretary: Philip McNamara KC1JDN

Treasurer: Phil McNamara N1XTB

Call Sign Trustee: Phil McNamara N1XTB

Newsletter editor : Rick Emord KB1TEE

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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 W1MV-7 (BROCK)

MARA Web Page <http://www.w1mv.org/>

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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 <http://wx1box.org> and

[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 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM. Zoom attendance is available. Our Meetings-On-The-Air are held all other Tuesday evenings at 8PM on 147.180+ and has a new topic based format.

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 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