



July, 2019
Volume 57 Issue 07

 <http://www.w1mv.org>  <https://www.facebook.com/w1mvmara/>
 <https://twitter.com/search?q=Massasoit%20Amateur%20Radio%20Association&src=typd>

Next meeting is August 20, 2019 at Rick Emord's house, KB1TEE - Ricks address is 135 Wareham Street, Middleboro.

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

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 or Denise KC1CFO denigs1@aol.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 6-18-2019 - Robert Sisson, N1RTS

Open: President Denise KC1CFO opened meeting at 6:30pm.

Attendance: 10 members and non members were present including 3 elected officers.

KC1CFO - Denise Sisson (President)

KA1YL - Connie Franciosi

N1RTS - Robert Sisson (Secretary)

K1WGU - Bob Boss

N1XTB - Phil McNamara (Treasurer)

WAITOM - Tom Luckman



WA1BEE - Allen Hiltz

N1QI - Loren Pimentel

KC1GTR - Wendy White

AG1B - Richard Metcalf

Motion to accept the June 2019 MARA Secretary's report was made by Richard AG1B, and seconded by Rick KB1TEE. All in favor, 0 opposed.

Club Treasurer Phil N1XTB, presented the May's treasurers report, Tom WAITOM made a motion to accept the report as read, Richard AG1B seconded the motion, all in favor, 0 opposed.

Repeater update, Jeff found a repeater amplifier and will try to get it installed over the next month. Repeater is working well, and it is pushing out approx. 20 watts.

Started the voting for Club positions, President - KB1TEE – Rick made a motion for Allen – WA1BEE and Richard – AG1B seconded the motion. Allen accepted. Vice President – Jeff will continue in this position. Secretary, Rick AG1B nominated Wendy KC1GTR, as Secretary, nomination was accepted for 1 year. Phil N1XTB will continue as Treasure.

Reminder, August meeting will be held at Rick's KB1TEE home, for a cook out, bring your own chair, meat that you want to eat, drinks, and bring a dish to share, please contact Denise KC1CFO to let her know what you will be bringing. Ricks address is 135 Wareham Street, Middleboro.

Rick – KB1TEE had a good night on the USS MA Battleship Cove. Made approx. 409 contacts throughout the weekend. 7 people showed up and 4 stayed overnight.

Field Day is in East Bridgewater behind the YMCA on 6/22/19 from 10:00am until 2:00pm.

Wendy KC1GTR had taken over doing the monthly newsletter and posted the June issue to the website.

Rick – KB1TEE said that Sept 21st is the Birthday Celebration in the wardroom annex in the Battleship Cove.



July 20-21, VT is hosting fundraiser - 100 Mile, Bike Ride – looking for volunteer emergency communications.

[Vermont 100](#) / [CVFMA.org](#)

Rob Mather N1XSS /C-858-752-1501/ H-802-886-5478 / 200-399

June 2020, Sota, Summits on The Air – Rick – KB1TEE is looking into this.

The K7RA Solar Update (Courtesy of ARRL website)

Tad Cook, K7RA, Seattle, reports: As was the case in the previous reporting week, the current week had only 1 day, July 13, on which sunspots made a brief appearance; both were new spots from Cycle 25, according to their magnetic signatures.

The average daily solar flux declined marginally from 67.5 to 67.1.

Predicted solar flux for the next 45 days is 68 on July 11 - 18, and 67 on July 19 - August 24.

Predicted planetary A index is 8 on July 1; 5 on July 12-27; 8 on July 28; 5 on July 29 - August 4; 12, 15, and 12 on August 5 - 7; 5 on August 8 - 23, and 8 on August 24.

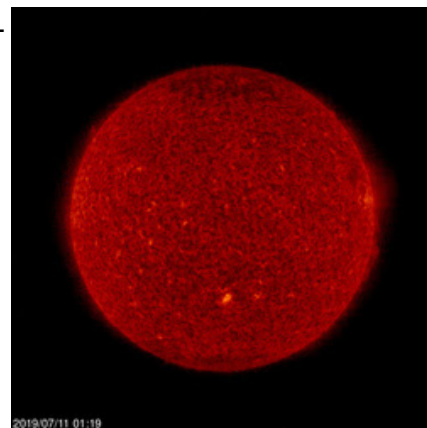
Here's an interesting [article on space weather](#) from *The Conversation*: "Solar weather has real, material effects on Earth."

Space Weather Woman Tamitha Skov, WX6SWW, has posted [a new video](#).

Sunspot numbers for July 4 - 10 were 0, 0, 0, 12, 0, 0, and 0, with a mean of 1.7. The 10.7-centimeter flux was 67.8, 67.5, 66.5, 67.3, 66.5, 66.8, and 67.6, with a mean of 67.1. Estimated planetary A indices were 5, 5, 3, 5, 9, 17, and 15, with a mean of 8.4. Middle latitude A index was 8, 6, 5, 5, 7, 16, and 13, with a mean of 8.6.

A comprehensive K7RA Solar Update is posted Fridays on the ARRL website. For more information concerning radio propagation, [visit](#) the ARRL Technical Information Service, [read](#) "What the Numbers Mean...", and [check out](#) K9LA's Propagation Page.

A propagation bulletin [archive](#) is available. [Monthly charts](#) offer propagation projections between the US and a dozen DX locations.





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New England Area Ham - - Electronic Flea Market

DATES 2019

New England Area Ham - Electronic Flea Market *** DATES *** 2019 P 1 of 2

All events are Ham Radio/ Electronic related except " _____ "

***** 2019

	Contact	Source
24 Mar Southington CT SARA \$5@8@HS \$20/sp@6:45	John WA1JKR	860 621 8791 F+
29,30 Mar Lewiston ME AARC ME Conv @Ramada @8	Ivan N1OXA	207 784 0350 +
6 Apr Windsor CT VR+CMus @8AM Antique	John	860 673 0518 +
7 April Framingham MA FARA 9AM@KeefeHS \$25/T	Andy KC1DMM	508 310 5913 +
20 Apr Ossipee NH LRRR @TownGym S\$10@8 \$5@9	Shawn KC1DNA	603 235 5360 +
21 April Cambridge MA Flea at MIT	Mitch	617 253 3776 F+
Third Sunday April thru October		
27 April Gails Ferry CT RASON Auction	Tim KC1TWR	860 460 7360 +
28 April Thompson CT ECARA @ Raceway \$3 \$15/sp	Jon KA1MPG	508 943 4467 F+
28 Apr Middletown NY OCARC @CommCtr	Bruce K2ULZ	845 562 4226 A+
3-4 May Deerfield NH NEARfest XXV @FG	Mike K1TWF	978 250 1235 +
5 May Fishkill NY MBARC @DSCorr \$5B@8 \$10S/S	Adam AE2A	845 849 3666 A+
	N	
11 May E Greenbush NY EGARA FireCo	Bryan W2RBJ	518 894 3500 A+
18 Ma Brookline NH NEARC antique		603 772 7516 +
18 Ma Goshen CT SoBARC @FG Rt63 \$5@ \$10/T	Don KB2SM	845 373 2035 F+
19 Ma Cambridge MA Flea at MIT	Mitch	617 253 3776 F+
2 June Queens NY HOSARC @HOS	Stephen WB2KDG	718 898 5599 A+
8 June Windsor CT VR+CMus Antique @8	John	860 673 0518 +
9 June Bethpage NY LIMARC @xBriercl B\$6@p S\$10@7	Richard K2KN	516 694 4937 A+
16 June Cambridge MA Flea at MIT	Mitch	617 253 3776 F+
21 July Cambridge MA Flea at MIT	Mitch	617 253 3776 F+
10 Aug St Albans VT STARC @Elks	Arnold N1AR	802 782 6650 A+
18 August Cambridge MA Flea at MIT	N	
25 Aug Newtown CT CARA @TownHall \$7@8 \$20/T	Mitch	617 253 3776 F+
7 Sept Windsor CT VR+CMus @8 Antique	John W1JG	203 417 0160 +
28 Sept Brookline NH NEARC antique	M	
15 Sept Cambridge MA Flea at MIT	John	860 673 0518 +
6 Oct Queens NY HOSARC @HOS		603 772 7516 +
11,12 Oct Deerfield NH NEARfest XXVI @FG	Mitch	617 253 3776 F+
20 October Cambridge MA Flea at MIT	Stephen WB2KDG	718 898 5599 +
26 Oct Gails Ferry TriCity ARC Auction	Mike K1TWF	978 250 1235 +
27 Oct Hicksville NY LIMARC @LevitHall	Mitch	617 253 3776 F+
7 Dec Windsor CT VR+CMus @8 Antique	Tim KC1TWR	860 460 7360 +
	Richard K2KNB	516 694 4937 A+
	John	860 673 0518 +



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HAM RADIO LOCAL AREA NETS

Any additions or corrections, contact John – N1UMJ at: N1UMJ@arrl.net. All Frequencies are in MHz and 6 Meters (50.0 MHz and up.), are FM Mode unless otherwise noted.

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

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

NE Cracker Barrel Net, 7:00 PM Daily (Matt – W1AEM, NCO on Sun), 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. St. Night at 7:30 PM, Falmouth N1YHS Rptr, 147.375 + PL 110.9 Genesis ARC CW Training Net, 7:00 PM, Plymouth N1ZIZ Rptr, 146.685 – PL 131.8

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

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

Monday: Cape and Islands Weather Net, 6:00 AM, Mon – Sat, Dennis K1PBO Rptr, 146.955

– PL 88.5 Fairhaven Weather Net, 8:00 PM, SEMARA Rptr, 147.000 + PL 67.0

Norfolk County Emergency Preparedness Net, 8:00 PM, Walpole Rptr, 146.895 – PL 123.0

New England DMR net, DMR-MARC repeaters talk group 3181 New England

Falmouth ARA Net, 8:30 PM, Falmouth K1RK Rptr, 146.655 – PL 88.5

Boston ARC Rag Chew Net, 9:00 PM, Boston W1BOS Rptr, 145.230 – PL 88.5

Tuesday: Massasoit ARA Net, 8:00 PM, Bridgewater W1MV Rptr, 147.180 + PL 67.0 (Except 3rd Tue!) Genesis ARC 2 Mtr Rag-Chew Net, 7:30 PM, Plymouth N1ZIZ Rptr, 146.685 – PL 131.8

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

Norwood Amateur Radio Club Net, 8:00 PM, Norwood Rptr, 147.210 + PL 100.0 220 MHz

Day! Try to find a 220 Repeater near you and give a call out!

Wednesday: Whitman ARC 10 Meter Rag-Chew Net, 8:00 PM, 28.333.0 USB (Except 1 st

Wed!) Blackstone Valley ARC, 2 Mtr Simplex Net, 7:00 PM, 146.565

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

Cape and Islands ARES Net, 8:00 PM, Dennis K1PBO Rptr, 146.955 – PL 88.5 Waltham

Wranglers Swap Net. 9:00 PM, Waltham W1MHL Rptr , 146.64 – PL 136.5 Thursday:

Fairhaven Weather Net, 8:00 PM, SEMARA Rptr, 147.000 + PL 67.0 Genesis ARC CW

Training Net, 7:00 PM, Plymouth N1ZIZ Rptr, 146.685 – PL 131.8 10 Mtr General Class Rag-Chew Net, 8:00 PM, 29.470.0 FM

Sturdy Mem. Hosp. ARC ARES Practice Net, 8:30 PM, K1SMH Rptr, 147.195 + PL 127.3 900 MHz Day! Try to find a 900 Repeater near you and give a call out!

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

Saturday: South Shore Skywarn Net, 8:00 PM, 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

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/
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/w1mvmarakc1gtr.mara@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor	kc1gtr.mara@gmail.com
ARC Web Page	http://www.walnpo.org
Qsl via	www.eqsl.cc
Skywarn	http://wx1box.org and 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 Steve Cohen, W1OD via email 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.

Interesting Tidbits:

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



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July 20-21, VT is hosting fundraiser - 100 Mile, Bike Ride – looking for volunteer emergency communications. Below are details that were emailed: Amateur Radio Operators Help Wanted Vermont 100. Each year for the past 30 or so years, Amateur Radio Operators have been assisting with the Vermont 100. Radio communications have been an integral part of this successful 100 mile event. The Vermont 100 is a fund raiser for [Vermont Adaptive Ski and Sport](#) who as a wonderful program **Bringing Sports to Every Body**. This is a great time to give back to the community by supporting Vermont Adaptive and getting to play radio. This year we are in need a few more radio operators if you have some time on July 20th - 21st Please let me know. We have had volunteers come back each and every year since the beginning and they will tell you that they get more out of the time spent than they give. *“This one of the most personal rewarding experiences in Radio.”* For the new Ham this is a great time to learn about emergency communications, testing your equipment and to improve your skills. **If you are not able to assist this year please pass this on to your friends, clubs and groups.** You can learn more about the Vermont 100 and CVFMA from the links below – Rob Mather N1XSS

[Vermont 100](#) / [CVFMA.org](#)

Rob Mather N1XSS / C-858-752-1501 / H-802-886-5478 / 200-399

In the News

Successful Emergency Messaging Demonstration for FEMA, Red Cross

With Red Cross officials and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) personnel monitoring, dozens of radio amateurs along the US east coast on May 23 demonstrated Amateur Radio's ability to deliver messages without commercial power, infrastructure, or permanently established stations. The event took place in coordination with ARRL. The demonstration was a mock response to a simulated disaster



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scenario -- a major hurricane with mass casualties. During the event, radio amateurs at portable stations from New England to the Carolinas delivered message traffic to W1AW, where Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, and ARRL Emergency Preparedness Assistant Ken Bailey, K1FUG, coordinated and relayed the information to an amateur station at the Baltimore American Red Cross office for officials attending a joint Red Cross-FEMA meeting there.

"About a dozen stations participated in the demonstration, including operators in Virginia, Maine, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New York, northern New Jersey, western Pennsylvania, Delaware, and South Carolina," ARRL Communications Manager Dave Isgur, N1RSN, said. "Red Cross officials were on-site at W1AW and at the receiving station in Baltimore. [Red Cross volunteer Rosty Sablicky, W2ROS, observed the W1AW operation]. At both sites, they indicated that they were impressed with Amateur Radio's ability to deliver messages digitally so that they could be displayed on a computer screen and in a format that matched the format for messages that the Red Cross uses."

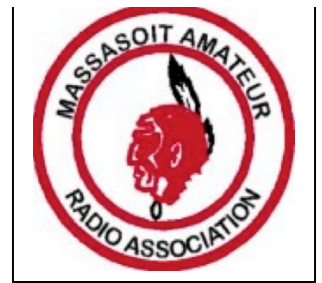


W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia NJ1Q and ARRL Emergency Preparedness Assistant Manager Ken Bailey, K1FUG, are relaying messages from field operators while Red Cross volunteer (and radio amateur) Rosty Slabicky, W2ROS, looks on. *(Photo by Michelle Patnode, W3MVP)*

ARRL Virginia Section Participates After Rebuilding ARES Program, Enhancing Winlink Capability

In Virginia, ARRL Section Manager Dr. Joe Palsa, K3WRY, and Section Emergency Coordinator John Roberts, WB4AXY, participated as well as Greg Butler, KW6GB, who transmitted digital mode messages to W1AW. When the messages collected from all participating stations were transmitted from W1AW to the Red Cross receiving station in Baltimore, Butler provided backup reception of the messages in northwestern Virginia.





The Virginia Section recently underwent a massive rebuilding program, re-establishing its ARES and other emergency communications programs. Butler developed and recently upgraded the state's Winlink capabilities. A weekly exercise, dubbed "Winlink Wednesday" is conducted with about 100 check-ins from Virginia digital stations, and another 20-30 Winlink-equipped stations from outside the state. Check-ins employ multiple modes, such as traditional Winlink hybrid internet connections via HF Pactor and Telnet, Peer-to-Peer (P2P) connections and a new mode called ARDOP, for *Amateur Radio Digital Open Protocol*. The ARDOP project is a joint development effort among Amateur Radio developers that seeks to provide a specification and implementation (software or hardware) for a modern versatile open digital protocol. See <https://qsl.net/kw6gb/> for more information on Winlink Wednesday.

ARRL Field Day 2019 is a Hit, Entries Due by July 23

ARRL Field Day isn't over until participants take that final step of submitting their entries. By Thursday at 1800 UTC, nearly 1,400 had done so. The preferred method of submitting a Field Day entry is via the [2019 Field Day Entry Form](#) on the ARRL website. This app, developed and supplied by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, asks for the call sign used (as well as the GOTA station call sign, if applicable), entry class, number of participants, list of

operators, power source and multiplier, claimed bonus points, contact totals by band and mode, and GOTA station operators and contact totals. It also allows the attachment of supporting information for bonuses. In addition, all entries require a list of stations contacted by band and mode (a dupe sheet). A Cabrillo file is also acceptable. Log files or summary sheets alone sent to ARRL do *not*

constitute a valid Field Day entry. To confirm that your web entry has been received, visit the Field Day [logs received page](#). If the entry indicates "Pending documents," upload the missing items for maximum scoring. Entries must be postmarked or submitted by Tuesday, July 23, 2019. Late entries cannot be accepted.

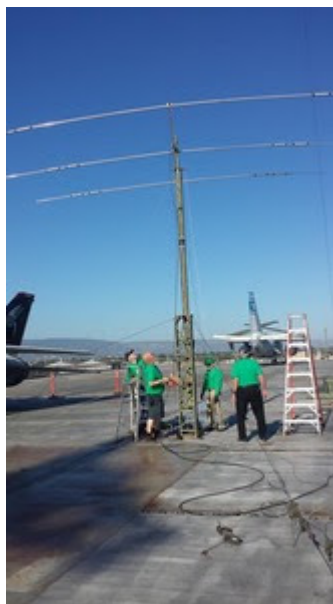




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Field Day is typically a club activity, and by the time the fourth weekend in June had arrived, nearly 1,600 groups had registered their locations.



The South Jersey Radio Association's (SJRA) K2AA operated in the 7A category. "This was a great effort by the SJRA members and guest operators, especially at the low point in the sunspot cycle and what seemed like not very good conditions," Bob Beyer, KE2D, [reported on 3830scores.com](https://www.3830scores.com). "Our digital station was the new star this year, contributing 232 QSOs -- a considerable improvement over other years."

W3AO, the well-known call sign of the National Press Radio Club in Maryland, had an unofficial contact count of 10,000 in the 14 A category. "Propagation on 15 and especially 10 meters was somewhat sub par, same for 6 meters," said Frank Donovan, W3LPL. "FT8 has fundamentally changed the digital landscape; there was very limited RTTY and PSK31 activity. There was also very limited CW and SSB activity on 6 meters."

The NB6GC crew operated from the deck of the USS *Hornet*.

One operator who posted to the [ARRL Field Day 2019 Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/ARRLFieldDay2019) was among those pointing out that propagation was difficult; while he was able to hear stations on the other side of the country and in the Caribbean, they could not hear him. He also reported high atmospheric noise. Nonetheless, others reported openings on 6, 10, and 15 meters, where good propagation has been sparse in recent months.

Wade Harris, KF5IF, was part of the crew at the USS *Batfish* WW2SUB Field Day in Oklahoma. "Everyone seemed to have a good time, but it was a less-than-wonderful Field Day event, mainly due to storms that caused noisy band conditions and



Rob Collins, W8HAP, tweaks the antenna tuning at the Ellsworth (Maine) Amateur Radio Association's W1TU Field Day site. [Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, photo]



severe lightning and high winds that caused everyone to disconnect and drop the antennas to

stay safe," he [said](#) on the ARRL Field Day 2019 Facebook page. Less than a month ago, extreme flooding at the museum floated the World War II submarine downriver, after mooring lines broke.



Donald Purnhagen, K4ILG, in Florida said his 10-year-old daughter, Donalyn, caught the bug operating the GOTA station at the Platinum Coast Amateur Radio Society Field Day site (W4MLB). "After some quick instructions, she was answering CQs, exchanging information, and logging contacts," he [reported](#) on the ARRL Field Day soapbox page. Her dad said Donalyn was eager to return the next day and logged a total of some 40 contacts. "I am pretty sure that she will be ready to take her Technician exam by the time our hamfest rolls around in October," he added.

Michelle Gangi, AC2SQ, who was among the Community Amateur Radio Club (K2SRV) operators in New York, asked in jest if bonus points were available for having a wedding take place in the midst of a Field Day setup. "Apparently, the lighthouse we're set up at double booked," she posted on the ARRL Field Day 2019 Facebook page. "We respectfully shut down our stations for the ceremony."

Brenda Plummer, KD9GDX, narrated a [video](#) tour of the Fort Wayne Radio Club's Field Day operation in Indiana.

IARU

IARU President Offers Assurances Regarding French 144 - 146 MHz Allocation Proposal

International Amateur Radio Union ([IARU](#)) President Tim Ellam, VE6SH/G4HUA, said his organization empathizes with the concerns of radio amateurs worldwide regarding a French proposal to allocate 144 - 146 MHz to the Aeronautical Service on a primary basis, essentially sharing it with Amateur Radio. The band is currently allocated to Amateur Radio on a primary basis around the world. Ellam this week offered assurances that the IARU is on top of



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the matter, which is still a regional issue, and is already working to keep the band in the hands of radio amateurs. While the issue could end up on the agenda of World Radiocommunication Conference 2023 (WRC-23), a lot would have to happen first.

"There is a lot of misinformation circulating as to what the proposal is seeking and how IARU is responding to it," Ellam told ARRL. "While the proposal is a concern, petitions and the like, while well intended, are going to have very limited value and, in fact, may harm the steps being taken in the regulatory environment."



The French proposal, submitted last month to a pre-WRC-19 European Conference of Telecommunications and Postal Administrations (CEPT) meeting, included 144 - 146 MHz within a range of frequencies to be studied for future airborne, non-safety applications in the Aeronautical Service. Germany opposed the move, and IARU "objected strongly," Ellam said. "Nonetheless, the proposal was carried forward to the next meeting of the CEPT Conference Preparatory Group in late August." IARU anticipates that other countries attending the August meeting will oppose the inclusion of 144 - 146 MHz as a frequency range to be considered for the WRC-23 agenda, Ellam said.



**IARU President
Tim Ellam,
VE6SH/C4HHA**

Since the June meeting, IARU Region 1 (Europe, Africa, and the Middle East) has asked its member-societies to contact their national administrations (i.e., governments) to explain the importance of the 144 - 146 MHz primary allocation, Ellam recounted. "IARU is also taking other actions to make its views known to those involved in the proposal," he said.

"If accepted as a WRC-23 Agenda Item, this proposal would require *4 years* of studies by administrations," Ellam stressed. "Considering the challenges of sharing spectrum with aeronautical systems, it seems inevitable that the conclusion of such studies would be that sharing with a



widely used part of the amateur spectrum presents too many problems to be viable.

Ellam encouraged individual radio amateurs who want to help to become members of their IARU member-society. "If anything," Ellam concluded, "this recent news should serve as a timely reminder that defense of the amateur spectrum does not just happen. Your member-societies and the IARU constantly work at defending the amateur allocations."

Keeping Lines of Communication Open—CERT & Ham Radio

July 2019

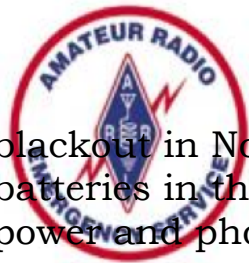


Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members know that communication during an emergency is vital. Don Lewis of the Alexandria Radio Club in Virginia wants CERTs around the country to know how amateur radios can help.

Amateur radios, also known as ham radios, are useful tools. Lewis, who is trained in CERT, explained that ham radios are more powerful than regular radios. They aren't incredibly expensive, and they have a wide range of uses.

Sometimes CERTs may need to work together throughout a large area. They need to be able to report things that they have found. They sometimes even need to request medical support. Using a radio is easier, safer, and more efficient than sending a person back with messages, says Lewis. Ham radios enable a CERT to communicate over much greater distances than standard radios. This can improve the level at which a CERT can coordinate. CERTs already use ham radios in exercises, and they have extended their range and effectiveness.

The City of Berkeley, California's CERT has already begun using ham radios in city-wide disaster drills. In the winter of 2018, they held a 24-hour mock disaster where they practiced their ham radio skills to better prepare their city. They were able to maintain communications in the whole city for the entire 24-hour exercise. This allowed them to relay critical information to citizens and disaster crews. They were also able to use hams to aid the city during a



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blackout in November of 2017. The CERTs used solar powered batteries in their ham radios. Allowing them to function even when power and phones were down.

Ham radio instructions are also built into Pasadena, California's emergency management system. The area experiences earthquakes several times a year. The quakes can destroy cell towers and phones lines in an instant. Ham radios can be a huge asset during a disaster like this, so Pasadena has a network of radio operators trained to take over communications at any time they need. They can contact hospitals or fire stations to better serve their community. Ham operators can even aide families in contacting one another once a disaster has passed.

Then the Amateur Radio Emergency Service ([ARES](#)), a group of radio operators who volunteer for various disasters and public service events. They can provide guidance for training, equipment, licensing, and anything else that you may like to know about hams!

This article first appeared in the monthly Individual and Community Preparedness Newsletter. Subscribe [here](#).





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