



MARANews



March 2012

Volume 51 Issue 03

Secretary's Report

MARA Minutes 2/21/12

18:30 Meeting called to order by Barry N1EZH.

Present were:

Barry, N1EZH; Bob, N1LCY; Steve, N1JFU; Loren, N1IQI; Bruce, NI1X; Rick, KB1TEE; Bump, W1BON; Carl, N1FY; Walt, W1WCF; and Jeff, N1ZZN.

Secretary's Report: no meeting previous month

Accepted as printed in the Nov newsletter

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer not present

Repeater Report: Working as normal - IRLP still may be moved

220 Tuesday - If you've got a 220mhz radio, get on your local repeater every Tuesday!

900 Thursday – The same with your 900mhz radio on Thursdays!

Field Day preparation was discussed

Dues collected from members – collected by Barry

Races meeting update - change of location Atlas Box in Sutton, MA Rt 146

W1MPN @ arrl.net

South Shore Fox Hunters - Sat 3/3 10am Foxhunt

Antenna party at the EOC - relocating antennas on tower

New radio

18:50 Adjourned business meeting

Search Dogs Northeast – Rick Emord – need volunteers - Wheaton Farm – 519 Bay Road, Easton, MA 3/25 Sunday 8:30 AM

Volunteers email kb1tee@verizon.net

Bump, W1BON - Ugly Balun presentation

Next Meeting

MARA's next meeting will be held on March 20, 2012 at the Bridgewater Public Library. The business meeting will begin at 6:30 pm followed by a presentation by Carl NIFY

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.

New 10m Ragchew Net Beginning March 1, 2012

I am starting a 10m ragchew net on FM. This is in addition to the 10m ragchew net on SSB Friday nights at 8 PM on 28.485. Thanks. 73 Ken KB1KVL

Attention all HAMs General class & above:

There will be a 10m ragchew net starting Thursday night at 8 PM on 29.680 MHz. The mode will be FM. It is called FMers Ragchew Net.

You may be surprised with the signal reports from those that check into the net. As an example, my signal report from Abington to Norton (Bump W1BON's QTH) was 20 dB over S9. That is a distance of 18 air miles.

This net will run every Thursday night beginning March 1, 2012.

Time: 8 PM

Place: 29.680 MHz.

Mode: FM

All HAMs General class and above are welcome. This is a ragchew net. Hope to hear you on it. I will be the net control.

73

Ken Kavaljian KB1KVL

Field Day: 2012 Field Day Packet Now Available

It's that time of year again -- time to start gearing up for ARRL Field Day, June 23-24, 2012! ARRL's flagship operating event -- always held the fourth full weekend in June -- brings together new and experienced hams for 24 hours of operating fun. 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 GOTA stations and a kit to publicize your event with the local press. A brief one-page flyer with basic "What is Field Day" information 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 for information tables.

Payroll Tax Bill Includes Provision for Amateur Radio Study

A bill that passed both the House and the Senate on February 17 -- and signed into law by President Obama on Wednesday, February 22 -- includes a provision for a study of the uses and capabilities of Amateur Radio Service communications in emergencies and disaster relief.

Section 6414 of the *Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012* mandates the completion of the study, with a report of the findings to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. This study would "use the expertise of stakeholder entities and organizations" to recommend how to best use radio amateurs in emergency communications and disaster relief efforts, and how to best utilize the Amateur Radio Service in coordination with the federal government in these efforts. In addition, the study would also discuss the effects of unreasonable or unnecessary private land use restrictions on residential antenna installations and recommend ways to remove such impediments.

The bill passed in the House by a vote of 293-132. In the Senate, it passed by a 60-36 vote

On the Air: Republic of South Sudan Assigned Z8 Prefix

After a wait of more than seven months after being [accepted as a member of the United Nations](#), the Republic of South Sudan [received its prefix block from the International Telecommunication Union](#) (ITU): Z8. On July 14, 2011 -- after South Sudan's admittance to the UN -- the new country became a DXCC entity by way of Section II, 1(a) of the [DXCC rules](#).

ARRL Publishes New Guidelines for 60 Meters

Thanks to the FCC's [Report and Order](#) issued November 18, 2011, radio amateurs will enjoy a number of new privileges on the 60 meter band, beginning at midnight (EST) March 5. These new privileges include a boost in effective radiated power from 50 to 100 W, as well as the ability to use CW and certain digital modes.

Late last year, the ARRL HF Band Planning Committee surveyed 60 meter operators to gather opinions about how to best use the new privileges. On the subject of creating a specific band plan, the survey results indicated little consensus beyond the fact that 5403.5 kHz should retain its status as a *de facto* "DX channel." On the other hand, survey respondents made a number of suggestions for general operating practices.

Based on the survey results and subsequent research, the committee declined to propose a specific band plan for 60 meters at this time. Instead, the committee created a "Recommended Practices" document (click [here](#) for the document). The [60 meter pages](#) on the ARRL website have been updated to reflect the changes brought about by the *Report and Order*.

The April issue of *QST* will also include an article by ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, offering a detailed discussion of the new 60 meter privileges and recommended operating practices.

MEMA's New Auxiliary Communications System

The Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) has implemented a new Auxiliary Communications System (ACS) to operate MEMA's radio

system. ACS will replace the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) as the primary communications organization serving MEMA. Acting State RACES Officer Mike Neilsen, W1MPN, outlined the changes at a statewide meeting in Sutton, MA on Feb. 25, 2012.

While MEMA relies primarily on the Web-based WEB EOC system for reporting and communications, ACS volunteers will operate MEMA's backup radio network that operates on non-amateur frequencies. The volunteers will not be required to hold Amateur Radio licenses.

Amateur Radio will continue to play an important part in disaster intelligence gathering through its SKYWARN program and MEMA has asked Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) leadership to help develop the new ACS program, criteria and training for delivering damage reports from the local cities and towns to MEMA.

Regional EMA headquarters will continue to operate, and RACES operations will continue in the cities and towns that support the Plymouth, Seabrook and Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant Evacuation Plans. According to Neilsen, "these same RACES operators will likely continue to be involved with ACS at the local town and city level in other disaster related scenarios at the discretion of the Emergency Management Agency Director."

Road Race Support Needed

The South Shore Hospital ARC will provide communications support for road races on St. Patrick's Day, March 17. If you can help, drop an email to ssharc@gmail.com.

Bump W1BON 's Ugly Balun Presentation to MARA Feb 2012

In case you missed it I have attached a copy of the Ugly Balun presentation Given to MARA at the February meeting. The photo below is of MARA Vice President Barry N1EZH with Bump W1BON and the Ugly Balun.



NEW ENGLAND FLEA SCHEDULE – COURTESY W1GSL

New England Area Ham - Electronic Flea Market *** DATES *** 2012 P 1 of 2
 All events are Ham Radio/ Electronic related except ~____~

2012	Contact	Source
17 Mar Daville CT ECARA @StJoseph \$3@8 \$10/T		Paul KE1LI 860 928 2456 W+
18 Mar Southington CT SARA @HS \$5@8 \$20/T@6:15		Norm W3IZ 860 584 1403 F
18 Mar Henniker NH CVRC @ComSch		Don N1ZIH 603 651 8000 W+
23-24 Mar Lewiston ME AARC ME Conv @Ramada		Ivan N1OXA 207 784 0350 A
24 Mar Montreal PQ LLARC \$5@9 \$10/T@7		Normand 514 708 8033 R+
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

14,15 Ap Wakefield MA Photographica @AmericalCtr ~photo~ John 781 592 2553 +

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

21 Ap S Portland ME PAWA @AmLegion John W1JLB 207 776 2288 A+

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

19 May Goshen CT SoBARC @FG \$4@8 Lee K1LEE 860 435 0051 W

20 May Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F
Third Sunday April thru October

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

10 June Queens NY HoSARC @HoS Stephen WB2KDG 718 898 5599 A

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

24-26 Aug Boxboro MA FEMARA NE Conv @HI Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235 W+

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

22,23 Sept Wakefield MA Photographica @AmericalCtr ~photo~ John 781 592 2553 +

12,13 Oct Deerfield NH NEARFest XII @FG Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235 +

14 Oct Queens NY HoSARC @HoS Stephen WB2KDG 718 898 5599 A

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

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

This Week on the Radio

- March 17 -- 10-10 International Mobile Contest; Feld Hell Sprint; AGCW VHF/UHF Contest
- March 17-18 -- North Dakota QSO Party; Oklahoma QSO Party; Virginia QSO Party; Russian DX Contest
- March 17-19 -- BARTG HF RTTY Contest
- March 19 -- Run for the Bacon QRP Contest
- March 22 -- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint

Next Week On the Radio

- March 24-25 -- CQ WW WPX Contest (SSB)
- March 26 -- QRP Homebrewer Sprint
- March 28 -- SKCC Sprint
- March 28-29 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

DX NEWS

TONGA, A3. A group of operators are QRV as A35YZ until March 24. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, SSTV and PSK31 with several stations active. QSL via DL7DF.

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, DA. Special event station DQ0STRATEX is QRV until January 31, 2013 to commemorate the March 10 and March 24 launches of the stratospheric balloon projects named StratexB. Activity is on all bands and modes. On the balloons an APRS beacon will be on 144.800 MHz and a speech beacon on 430.375 MHz FM. QSL via DK4REX.

BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA, E7. Special event station E720RS is QRV until the end of 2012 to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the founding of Republika Srpska, the Serbian entity in Bosnia-Herzegovina. QSL via E78CB.

JAPAN, JA. Special event station 8N5KOCHI is QRV until March 22 to mark an ARISS school contact from Kochi on Shikoku Island, IOTA AS-076. QSL via bureau.

JAPAN, JA. Special event station 8N1MOMO is QRV until April 5 to celebrate the 36th Koga-City Momo, or peach blossom, festival and the 19th fire balloon contest. QSL via bureau.

DENMARK, OZ. Stefan, DL7AOS is QRV as 5P5K until March 24. Activity is on 80 to 6 meters. This includes an entry in the upcoming Russian DX contest. QSL to home call.

SLOVENIA, S5. Members of the Radio club Skofja Loka are QRV as S540DKR until the end of April in celebration of its 40th jubilee. QSL via S59DKR.

SEYCHELLES, S7. Tom, DL5NEN and Claudia, DO5NEN will be QRV as S79NEN from Mahe and La Digue, both IOTA AF-024, from March 12 to 28. Activity will be on 40 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. This includes entries in the upcoming CQ WPX SSB and BARTG HF RTTY contests. QSL via DO5NEN.

CHAD, TT. Elvira, IV3FSG is QRV as TT8ES from N'Djamena until March 18. Activity is on the HF bands using SSB and digital modes. QSL via IK3GES.

TANZANIA, 5Z. Maurizio, IK2GZU will be QRV as 5H3MB while working in a hospital and orphanage at the Ilembula mission from March 4 until April 4. Activity is in his spare time on the HF bands. QSL to home call.

GHANA, 9G. Rob, PA3DEW and Vincent, PA3FQX are QRV as 9G1AA from the Dormaa hospital until March 20. QSL via PA3ERA.

THE GAMBIA, C5. Willy, ON4AVT is QRV as C5AVT from near Banjul until March 20. Activity is mostly on 15 meters using QRP power and PSK31. QSL to home call.

NETHERLANDS, PA. Fred, PA0FAW is QRV as special event station PA100NOM until March 28 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the National Open Air Museum in Arnhem. QSL to home call.

FIJI, 3D2. Yoshida, JA1NLX is QRV as 3D2YA on Yageta Island, IOTA OC-156, until March 21. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using mainly CW with SSB and RTTY. QSL to home call.

AZERBAIJAN, 4K. Axel, DL6KVA is QRV as 4K0CW in Baku until March 20. This includes an entry in the Russian DX contest. QSL to home call.

SENEGAL, 6W. Mike, RA9FW and Igor, UA9CDC are QRV as 6V7Z from the Le Calao Resort until March 28. This includes entries in the Russian DX contest and the upcoming CQ WPX SSB contest. QSL via RA9FW.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO, 9Q. Barney, ZS6TQ is QRV as 9Q6/ZS4U until April 8. Activity is generally between 1300 to 1500z on 40 to 6 meters using CW, SSB and PSK31. QSL via K3IRV. In addition, Sergiy, UV5EVJ is QRV as 9Q0HQ/7 from Lubumbashi until May 22. Activity is on the HF bands using CW and SSB. QSL to home call.

BOTSWANA, A2. Frosty, K5LBU, Keith, VE7MID, Don, VE7DS and Joel, N5JR will be QRV as A25CF, A25KW, A25DS and A25JR, respectively, from the Lotsane Safari Lodge from March 18 to 27. Activity will be on the HF bands with three stations. They will be active as A25HQ in the upcoming CQ WPX SSB contest. QSL to home calls.

CHILE, CE. Esteban, XQ7UP will be QRV from Coyhaique from March 17 to 25. Activity will be holiday style on the HF bands using mostly SSB, RTTY and PSK31. This includes an entry in the upcoming CQ WPX SSB contest. QSL to home call.

CAPE VERDE, D4. Rick, N6KT will be QRV as D44TRS from Monte Verde near Mindelo on Ilha do Sao Vicente, IOTA AF-086, from March 17 to 29. He will be active as D4A in the upcoming CQ WPX SSB contest. QSL via KU9C.

ETHIOPIA, ET. Operators UY5LW and UW7LL will be QRV as ET3AA in the Russian DX contest as a Multi Op entry. QSL direct to ET3SID.

MONGOLIA, JT. Enkhbayar, JT1DA will be QRV as JT1F in the Russian DX contest and will be active on 15 meters. QSL direct to home call.

SVALBARD, JW. Magne, LA2XNA and Jon, LA8HGA are QRV as JW2XNA and JW8HGA, respectively, until March 20. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters, with an emphasis on the high bands, using CW, SSB and PSK. QSL to home calls.

LITHUANIA, LY. In commemoration of the 22nd anniversary of the Act of the Re-establishment of the State of Lithuania, special event station LY22A is QRV until April 11. QSL via LY5A.

SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE, S2. Matt, K0KKO and Ed, K0GUV are QRV as S92DX, S9CW and S9SX from Ilheu das Rolas, IOTA AF-023, until March 23. Activity is on the HF bands, including 6 meters, using CW, SSB and EME. QSL via operators' instructions.

NAMIBIA, V5. Operators GI4FUM, GI8MIV, GI4DOH and DM3BJ will be QRV as V5/home calls on March 19 using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK31. They plan to be active as V55B in the upcoming CQ WPX SSB contest. QSL all calls via GI4FUM.

CANADA, VE. Special event station XL3T is QRV until the end of April in remembrance of the RMS Titanic disaster. QSL via VE3AT.

VIET NAM, XV. Retu, OH4MDY is QRV as XV2RZ until April 16. Activity is on 80 to 6 meters with an emphasis on the digital modes. QSL to home call.

CAMBODIA, XU. Sei, JA7LU and Kondo, JA2VWG will be QRV as XU7NPD and XU7DDD, respectively, from Sihanoukville and then from Koh Rong Samloem Island, IOTA AS-133, from March 22 to 26. Activity will be on 40, 20, 10 and 6 meters using SSB and digital modes. QSL via operators' instructions.

LAOS, XW. Alex, XW3DT will be QRV in the Russian DX contest as a Single Op on 10 meters entry. QSL direct to home call.

OPERATIONS APPROVED FOR DXCC CREDIT. The following operations are approved for DXCC credit: Laos, XW1A and XW0ZJZ, current operations.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The 10-10 International Mobile Contest, BARTG HF RTTY Contest, Russian DX Contest, QRP CW Fox Hunt, NCCC Sprint, SARL VHF/UHF Analogue/Digital Contest, CQIR - Ireland Calling, Oklahoma QSO Party, AGCW VHF/UHF CW Contest, Virginia QSO Party, Feld Hell Sprint, North Dakota QSO Party and the UBA Spring 6-Meter Contest are all on tap for this weekend. The Bucharest Contest and Run for the Bacon QRP Contest are scheduled for March 19. The QRP CW Fox Hunt is scheduled for March 21. The CLARA HF Contest begins March 20 and runs at various times until March 25. Please see March QST, page 86 and the ARRL and WA7BNM Contest Web Sites for details.



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.