



March, 2016
Volume 55 Issue 03

MARA News



Next meeting March 15, 2016 at the Bridgewater Library

March will be a Smoke detector and Co detector information night By Rick Emord KB1TEE

Presidents notes N1EZH Barry Kennedy

Presidents Monthly Message for March 2016 from Barry – N1EZH:

Winter is more than half way over and Spring is in the air! Almost time to get cracking on those outdoor Ham Radio projects again!

I have completed another of my indoor Ham Radio projects which was to connect my Kenwood MC-60A Desk Mic to the HF Transceivers so I can just switch the Mic to the Transceiver I am using at the time instead of the individual hand Mics. I also installed 2 MFJ-1704 – 4 Position Coax Switches so I do not have to keep swapping the Coax Cable for the third HF Xcvr! (Please see the photos below). I am making progress with the cleanup of my Ham Shack too! If any of you have worked on a Ham Radio project recently, please take some photos and submit them to Rick – KB1TEE@gmail.com so he can put them in our Monthly MARA Newsletter.

New and Additional Net Controls: We now have a couple of new Net Control Operators to help us with our weekly MARA and Skywarn Nets. Richard – KC1EHG, and Denise – KC1CFO. Thank you for stepping forward to help those of us that have been doing this for a while. Our plan is to come up with a rotation which we can discuss at our March Meeting as there were only 5 Club members at our February Meeting! If others would like to try being a Net Control Operator, you are welcome to join us for either our Weekly MARA Net (Tue – 8:00 PM) or South Shore Sky Warn Net (Sat 8:00 PM)! This is *Your Club*, so please consider participating as Net Control for one of our Nets. I have a copy of our preamble and will customize it with your Name & Call Sign information and email it to you, and will be glad to answer any questions you may have!

MARA facebook Page: For those of you that are on Facebook, we have a *Massasoit Amateur Radio Association* Facebook Page! I have been updating the page with Club Events, Meeting photos, etc. so that it can be another resource for us in 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. Please send Rick – KB1TEE@gmail.com and Barry – N1EZH@comcast.net any articles or photos you would like to see in, or on our MARA Newsletter, W1MV – MARA Website and / or Facebook Page.

MARA Annual “Spring Fling” Potluck Dinner Party: We discussed having our MARA Annual “Spring Fling” Potluck Dinner Party to be held at our April MARA meeting from 1800-2000 Hours (6:00 – 8:00 PM) on Tuesday April 19th at either The Bridgewater EOC, or possibly another location yet to be determined, however I am open to suggestions? This has been a fun event in the past and expect the weather will at least be warmer in April! I will be sending out a request for our Members and their Guests along with the Food or other items you would like to bring to our MARA Annual “Spring Fling” Potluck Dinner Party as we get closer to the event.

March 2016 Meeting Dues Collection: Please Note: Our Annual Dues for 2016 will continue to be collected at our March meeting. Thank you very much to our members that have paid their Annual Dues so far. This goes toward helping

to keep our Repeater and Antenna Systems Operational due to the great efforts by Jeff – N1ZZN, Gary – AB1CQ, Phil – N1XTB and others!

In closing, I look forward to seeing all of you at our Tuesday, March 15th Meeting at 6:30 PM in our usual room downstairs at the Bridgewater Public Library!

73 de Barry – N1EZH

President – Massasoit Amateur Radio Association



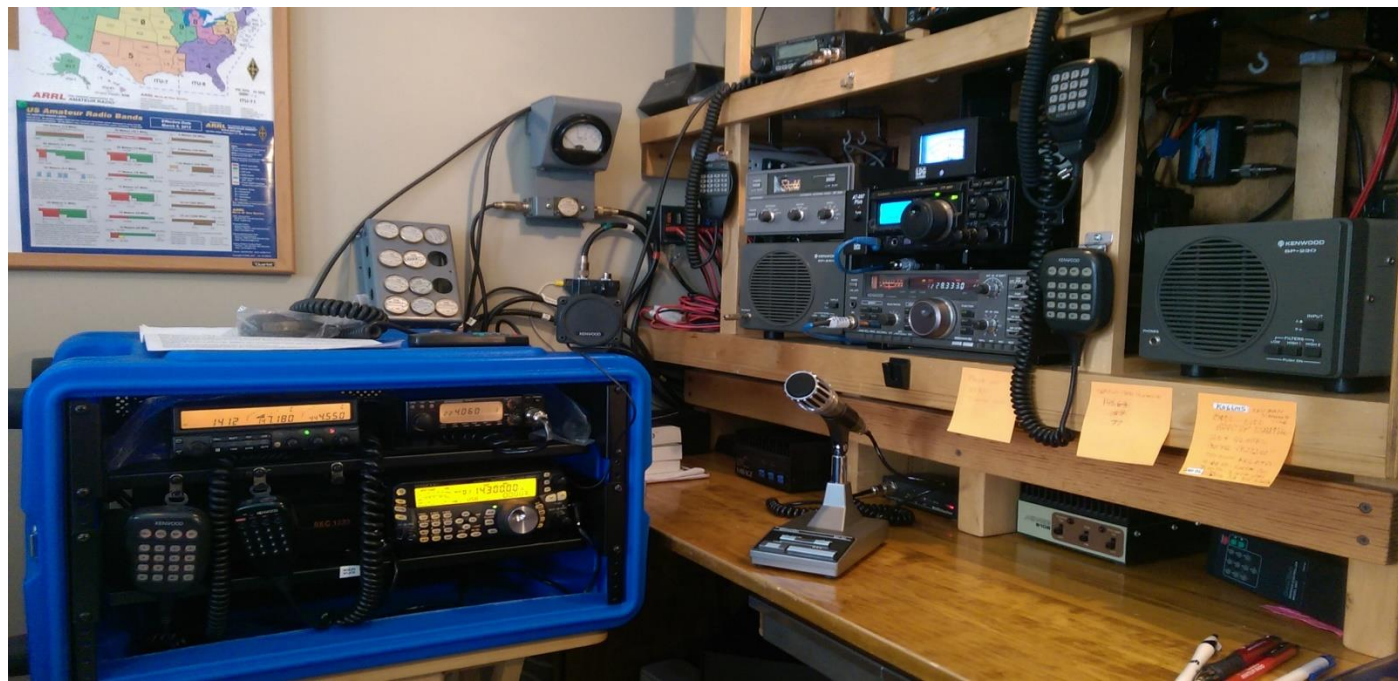
In the Photos – Top Left: At our February MARA Meeting Richard – AG1B gave his presentation on his Foxbox where he can leave in a hidden spot in the woods, or just about anywhere as in the accompanying photo! Top Right: Richard –

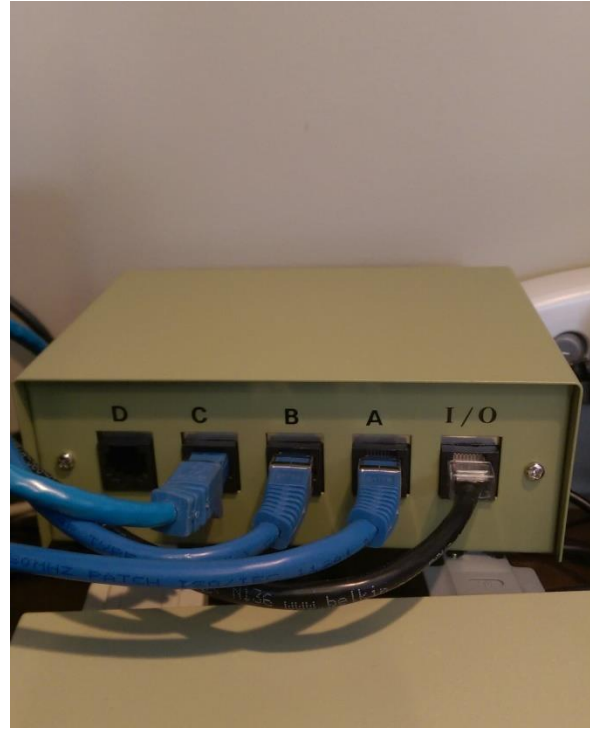
AG1B with his Antenna / Attenuator box and his Baofeng Transceiver typically set to 146.535 MHz in order to search for the Fox! Photos by Barry – N1EZH





In the Photos Top Left: At our February MARA Meeting A close up of Richard – AG1B Fox finding Antenna / Attenuator box and his Baofeng Transceiver typically set to 146.535 MHz in order to search for the Fox! Top Right: Richard – AG1B demonstrates his Foxbox in operation with Phil – N1XTB and Jeff – N1ZZN looking on! Bottom: Philip – SWL and Loren – N1IQI also Looking on as Richard – AG1B gives his Foxbox presentation! Photos by Barry – N1EZH





Above Top: In the Ham Shack of Barry – N1EZH, Go Kit with Kenwood TS-480SAT, Ham Shack Shelf with Yaesu FT-897D, Kenwood TS-140S, Kenwood MC-60A Desk Mic. and West Mountain Radio Rigblaster. The Kenwood MC-60A Mic Output goes into the WMR Rigblaster, then out through a RJ-45 Cable to the Switch Box Input (Bottom Left Top Photo (Front) and Right Photo (Back). The Modular RJ-45 Mic Output Cables then go from the Mic Switch Box to the RJ-45 or 8-Pin Round Connectors to each of the Transceivers Mic Inputs! Photos by Barry – N1EZH



Above Photo: Two MFJ-1704 4 Position Coax Switches for selection of Transceiver to Antenna selections. Photo by Barry – N1EZH

SECRETARYS NOTES – MARA MEETING 02/16/16 – Barry Kennedy, N1EZH

OPEN: President **Barry Kennedy – N1EZH** opened the meeting at 6:45 pm, 02/16/16.

ATTENDANCE: 6 members and guests were present including 3 elected officers (This was a short meeting due to the few members in attendance.).

N1EZH Barry Kennedy (Pres)

N1ZZN Jeff Lehmann (V.Pres)

N1XTB Phil McNamara (Treas)

AG1B Richard Metcalf

N1IQI Loren Pimentel

SWL Philip McNamara

MEETING MINUTES :

Motion to accept the February 2016 MARA Secretary's report as published in the February 2016 newsletter made by **Richard – AG1B** with a second by **Loren – N1IQI**. Motion passed vote by attending club members.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Motion to accept the February 2016 MARA Treasurer's Report as presented by Club Treasurer **Phil – N1XTB** made by **Richard – AG1B** with a second by **Loren – N1IQI**. Motion passed vote by attending club members.

NEW / OLD BUSINESS:

Jeff – N1ZZN provided a repeater update. One of our two Antennas had gone bad, so we are using the old Station Master for both Transmit and Receive (Duplex) on our 2 Meter, 147.180 – W1MV Repeater system at this time. A discussion took place about having a climber come to perform the work on the Antenna System when the weather improves. One option is for a Climber for \$300.00 at 4 hours from Industrial Communications. Jeff suggested that the jumpers that are in place now could be replaced with ½ " Superflex Coax Cable to correct some of the issues we are having. We also discussed that the use of a Folded Dipole Array by Sinclair to replace the Station Master could be a feasible option.

Barry – N1EZH discussed the upcoming Special Event headed up by Rick – KB1TEE on plans to operate W1BSA onboard the *USS Massachusetts* on April 23, 2016 from 0800 – 1600.

Barry – N1EZH reminded everyone that club dues are now due.(\$25 Individual, \$20 Senior, \$30 Family). Members can pay **Barry – N1EZH** or **Phil – N1XTB** at our club meetings or mail in their dues to P.O. Box 428 Bridgewater MA 02324. Please indicate this is a Member's dues payment and include your name and callsign to assure it's correctly recorded for you.

Barry – N1EZH reminded everyone to check the MARA club facebook page often for new

updates: <https://www.facebook.com/Massasoit-Amateur-Radio-Association-301368416677713/>

Barry – N1EZH again mentioned having our April meeting be our Spring Pot Luck Dinner

meeting. A general discussion took place on where to hold the dinner meeting. Both the

Bridgewater EOC or the North Middleboro Fire Station would be the best places if available and

accessible. Other suggestions are welcome, however time is growing short if planned for April.

CLOSE: A motion to Adjourn our meeting made by **Loren – N1IQI** with a second by **Richard – AG1B**. Motion passed by attending club members. **Barry – N1EZH** closed the meeting at 7:20pm, 02/16/16.

PRESENTATION:

Following our meeting, **Richard – AG1B** gave a very interesting Show & Tell presentation on his Home made Foxbox along with his Baofeng Xcvt with homemade 2 Meter Tape Measure Beam Antenna / Attenuator used for finding the Foxbox during Foxhunting. . Thanks Richard!

Air Force Pledges Continued Cooperation with Amateurs During Cape Cod Radar Upgrades

As updating of the [Pave PAWS](#) radar installation gets under way at the Cape Cod Air Force Station in Massachusetts, the US Air Force has reached out to the Amateur Radio community to continue the positive working relationship developed between the two parties since March 2007. Pave PAWS radar installations on both coasts have required the modification of some 70 centimeter Amateur Radio systems to mitigate interference to the military radars. The Amateur Service is secondary on 70 centimeters. ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, said work now has begun to install the updated early-warning radar standards at Cape Cod.

"This is the new version of Pave PAWS and it will bring the Cape Cod radar up to the same higher standard already employed at the Beale Air Force Base Pave PAWS facility in California, as well as at others in the Space Early Warning system," Henderson said. "The radar will be a little more sensitive, so some additional mitigation is possible, but nothing like that required when the project started in 2007. This is the last Pave PAWS site to be upgraded."

Henderson, who has served as the League's point person on this project, and ARRL New England Division Director Tom Frenaye, K1KI, were briefed in late 2015 on the changes by officials at the Cape Cod facility. "The fact that the Air Force reached out to inform us of the pending changes speaks volumes about the excellent working relationship we have managed to build with them over the past 9 years," said Henderson. "



The Pave PAWS radar (right) at the Cape Cod Air Force Station.

The Amateur Radio communities in proximity to both the Cape Cod and Beale sites have stepped up to the plate and demonstrated their willingness to be good-faith partners with the Air Force, accepting their responsibility as secondary users of this part of the spectrum, and, in almost all cases, taking the necessary steps to achieve the required mitigation standards while still maintaining Amateur Radio access to this spectrum."

"In the coming months we will be undergoing upgrades to our facility which will help us improve our capabilities to locate and track satellites for entities such as NASA and SpaceX," Dutcher said. "The improvements will also ensure utilization of cutting-edge technology to protect our eastern sea border from incoming Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles and Sea Launched Ballistic Missiles. As always, we ask that you be mindful and courteous of our frequency range. We do not anticipate any interference or spurious emissions to any [Amateur Radio] frequencies." Henderson asked amateurs with questions about the project to [contact](#) him.

US Amateur Radio Numbers Continue to Soar

Amateur Radio is alive and well! Growth in the US continued in 2015, with a record 735,405 licensees in the FCC's Universal Licensing System ([ULS](#)) database by the end of the year. That's up 9130 over December 2014, a 1.2 percent rise, continuing a steady increase in the US Amateur Radio population in every year since 2007. In 2014, the ranks grew by a net 8149 licensees. The figures, compiled by ARRL Pacific Section Manager-elect Joe Speroni, AH0A, on his FCC Amateur Radio Statistics web pages, exclude expired licenses within the 2-year grace period and club station licenses. Over the past 10 years, the Amateur Radio population in the US has expanded by 72,805 licensees -- or nearly 11 percent.



The trend was onward and upward in 2015 for Amateur Radio numbers in the US.

As expected, the biggest growth by license class was in Technician licensees, which rose by 6570 in 2015. Technician licensees still comprise a little less than one-half of the US Amateur Radio population.

General ranks increased by 3079, and Amateur Extra numbers went up by 3496.

The 2015 overall numbers faltered a little in April, before rebounding in July. The introduction of a new General class question pool on July 1 appeared to have only a slight effect on month-to-month numbers in that license class. ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, said 2015 was another banner year for ARRL VEC-sponsored test

sessions.

"For the second year in a row, we have conducted more than 7000 Amateur Radio exam sessions in a year, an important milestone for the

ARRL VEC," she said. "A total of 7358 ARRL-sponsored exam sessions were administered in 2015, compared to 7216 in 2014. The number of exam applicants was down slightly in 2015, compared to the previous year, and the number of examination elements administered also dipped slightly, she noted. "Since 2014 was a record-setting year, the numbers of 2015 examinees didn't drop so much as return to more typical levels," Somma explained.

As of December 31, some 47,850 Advanced and 10,800 Novice licensees remained in the FCC database.

Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society Seeks New Leadership: The Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society ([ARLHS](#)), sponsor of Intercontinental Lightship-Lighthouse Week, is looking for a new leader. Jim Weidner, K2JXW, who founded the ARLHS in 2000, has resigned as owner and president, due to serious illness. The organization's stated purpose is to promote public awareness of both ham radio and lighthouses, "preserving lights that are in danger of extinction, and paying tribute to the role that hams and lighthouse keepers have played in contributing to maritime safety." Headquartered in New Jersey, the ARLHS has about 2000 dues-paying members. "Anyone wishing to take over the membership list and trusteeship of club station W7QF is welcome to do so and is guaranteed our full cooperation in the transition," said a solicitation distributed by Weidner on February 29. "We intend to keep the ARLHS active until June 30, 2016, after which time we will terminate the web page, [BeaconBot](#), and all club activities, if no one is willing to assume ownership and leadership." For more information, contact Weidner via [e-mail](#) or telephone, [\(856\) 486-1755](#).

ARISS Celebrates its 1000th Educational Amateur Radio Contact with Video

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station ([ARISS](#)), the first-ever ISS payload activated by the crew, is gearing up for its 1000th educational ham radio contact in March. A video jointly produced by ARRL, NASA, and AMSAT, titled, "[Celebrating the 1000th Contact](#)," has been posted on YouTube.

ARISS celebrated 15 years of a permanent ham radio presence in space last December. In 2000, several pupils and a teacher got to chat on 2 meters with the first ISS Commander, William "Shep" Shepherd, KD5GSL. Since that first ARISS school contact, astronauts and cosmonauts aboard the station have talked with students in 44 states in the US and in 51 other countries.

ARISS anticipates the 1000th educational radio contact will occur during March.

On an application basis, ARISS organizes scheduled Amateur Radio contacts between ISS crew members and students at a school or less-formal education venue. Experienced Amateur Radio volunteers work with ARISS and individual schools to handle the technical aspects. Through these radio contacts, students, educators, parents, and communities learn about space, space technologies, and Amateur Radio.



A jointly produced ARRL-NASA-AMSAT video, "Celebrating the 1000th Contact," has been posted on YouTube.



ARISS touches tens of thousands of students per year. One ARISS goal is to inspire an interest among young people in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) subjects and in STEM careers. Another is to provide an educational opportunity for students, teachers, and the public to learn about space exploration and satellites, as well as about wireless technology and radio science through Amateur Radio.

ARISS Online Information Session

The ARISS program coordinator will offer an online information session on March 10 at 7 PM ET for schools and organizations interested in hosting an Amateur Radio contact with a member of the International Space Station crew. The hour-long session is aimed at providing additional details regarding US ARISS contacts and the proposal process. There will be an opportunity to ask questions. Advance registration is *required*. [Contact](#) ARISS to sign up.

Prospective ARISS contact sponsors are not required to attend an online information session, but they are strongly encouraged to do so.

ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology Announces 2016 Schedule

The deadline is May 1 for educators to apply for a spot in this summer's ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology sessions. These educational opportunities are offered by the ARRL Education & Technology Program ([ETP](#)). Two introductory sessions and one advanced session are scheduled. The *Introduction to Wireless Technology* course (TI-1) will be presented June 20-24 at Parallax Inc in Rocklin, California, and July 25-29 at ARRL Headquarters in Newington, Connecticut. The advanced *Remote Sensing and Data Gathering* course (TI-2) will be offered July 18-21 at the Dayton Amateur Radio Association in Dayton, Ohio. The TI-1 course is a prerequisite to TI-2. An [article](#) in the March 2016 issue of *QST* offers more details about each 4-day



course, or [visit](#) the ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology page on the ARRL website.

Now in its 13th year, the ARRL Teachers Institute is an *expenses-paid*, intensive professional development opportunity for educators who want to receive training and resources to explore wireless technology in the classroom and integrate science and math with engineering and technology.

Applicants must be teaching in a school, college, or professional educational organization serving grade levels 4-12+, or leading a school-affiliated enrichment program in an official capacity.

[Visit](#) the ARRL website for more information, and to download and complete an application and the pre-workshop survey.

US championships of Amateur Radio Direction Finding

The US [championships](#) of Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) return to the Lone Star State this spring. Sponsored by Texas ARDF and the Austin Orienteering Club ([AOC](#)), the event will take place April 7-10 near Killeen, Texas. On-foot foxhunting fans of all skill levels will gather for 4 days of intense competition.



National ARDF championships typically take place in the late summer or early fall, but because the ARDF World Championships in Bulgaria take place in early September this year, the national event is being held in April to provide plenty of time to select Team USA members and to make travel arrangements.

An optional training day just prior to the championships on Wednesday, April 6, will feature an 80 meter short course. Thursday, April 7, will be devoted to [foxoring](#), a combination of radio direction finding and classic orienteering, on 80 meters. Friday morning will be the formal 80 meter [sprint](#) event, followed by a catered lunch, competitor meeting, and model event for equipment

testing.

Classic 2 meter and 80 meter competitions will take place on Saturday and Sunday, respectively. An awards banquet on Saturday evening will honor winners of the foxoring, sprint, and 2 meter classic events. Awards for the 80 meter classic event will be given Sunday afternoon, immediately following the competition.

Lead organizers, event hosts, and course planners are Jennifer and Kenneth Harker, W5JEN and WM5R, assisted by members of the Austin Orienteering Club.

Stateside winners of the US championships will be considered for membership in ARDF Team USA, which will travel to Albona, Bulgaria for the [18th ARDF World Championships](#).

List of US House Amateur Radio Parity Act Cosponsors Continues to Grow:

Three more members of the US House of Representatives have stepped forward to cosponsor The Amateur Radio Parity Act, H.R. 1301. That brings the total to 123. The latest to sign on are Reps Evan Jenkins (R-WV), Stephen Knight (R-CA), and Charles Boustany Jr (R-LA). In a voice vote on February 11, the US House Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, chaired by Rep Greg Walden, W7EQI, sent [H.R. 1301](#) to the full House Energy and Commerce Committee with a favorable report for further consideration. [More information](#) on The Amateur Radio Parity Act is on the ARRL website.

Frequency" TV Series Now Planned for The CW Network

The buzz from Hollywood is that a TV series based on the 2000 movie "Frequency" is in development and -- appropriately enough for a show featuring ham radio -- on The CW network. Amateur Radio served as a plot device in the movie and will play the same role in the TV series.



Actor Jim Caviezel in the 2000 movie, "Frequency." [Courtesy of New Line Cinema]

In November 2014, *The Hollywood Reporter* indicated that NBC had committed to a "Frequency" series, but those plans apparently fell by the wayside. Now, The CW has ordered a pilot episode of "Frequency," and, if the network does go forward with the project, the modern-day version of "Frequency," the TV series, would feature a young female police detective named Raimy, who uses ham radio to communicate through time with her deceased father.

Actress Peyton List is said to have landed to role of Raimy, reprising Jim Caviezel's movie character. Riley Smith would play her father.

When the original "Frequency" movie debuted, the ham radio theme and the chance to see vintage ham gear and real, glowing vacuum tubes on the big screen generated considerable interest within the community of

"boatanchor" enthusiasts. ARRL worked with the film's producers.

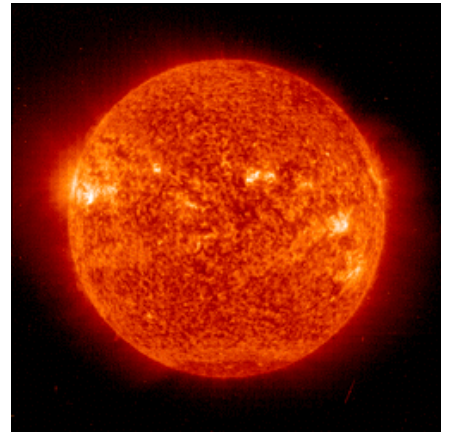
The K7RA Solar Update

Tad Cook, K7RA, Seattle, reports: Average daily sunspot numbers were marginally higher over our reporting week (February 25-March 2) than during the previous 7 days -- rising from 37.9 to 41.4. Average daily solar flux was down by just one point, to 92.9. The average planetary A index dipped from 10.1 to 5.9, and the average mid-latitude A index declined from 12.6 to 5.3.

Predicted solar flux for the near term is 100 on March 3; 105 on March 4-5; 110 on March 6-10; 105 on March 11-13; 100 on March 14-15; 95 on March 16-20, and bottoming out at 90 on March 21-26. Flux values then peak at 115 on March 30-31.

The planetary A index prediction shows 8 on March 3-4; 12, 20, 15, 10, and 5 on March 5-9; 8 on March 10-11; 5 on March 12, and 12 on March 13. The predicted A index then makes a huge jump to 30 on March 14-16. This is perhaps the result of a recurring coronal hole, because on April 10-12 the A index again goes to 30. Note that there were similar numbers -- 38, 34 and 29 -- for February 17, 18 and 19.

Sunspot numbers for February 25 through March 2 were 26, 41, 37, 38, 44, 39, and 65, with a mean of 41.4. The 10.7 centimeter flux was 91.7, 89, 90.4, 93.2, 90.9, 96.8, and 98.2, with a mean of 92.9. Estimated planetary A indices were 5, 7, 4, 4, 5, 9, and 7, with a mean of 5.9. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 6, 5, 3, 4, 4, 8, and 7, with a mean of 5.3.



This week's bulletin will look at changes in our 3-month moving averages of sunspot numbers, which should indicate the further decline in the current solar cycle. We'll also have a quantitative report from NP3A on band-by-band changes in *CW Skimmer* logs between the ARRL International DX Contest 2015 and 2016 numbers.

[Send](#) me your reports and observations.

W1BSA ON THE USS MASSACHUSETTS OPERATIONS



Billy K1UFO with Mike WA1MAD and Fred KC1ACG in the back is John N1UMJ

April 23, 2016 0900-1600

Setup on Friday April 22 0830 at the ship no climbing easy walking running wires about the superstructure

Please come out and help us operate from the ship last year we had a grand time hoping for more operators to come out and participate this year

Contact Rick KB1TEE please email so I will not forget you kb1tee@gmail.com



Jay N1FDX at Rick KB1TEE's go kit station working 20 meters

Wisconsin QSO Party



March 13, 2016 - 1800Z to 0100Z March 14
(1:00PM CDT to 8:00PM CDT on Sunday, March 13)

NEAR-Fest XIX April 29 & 30, 2016 Deerfield, New Hampshire



New England Area Ham - Electronic Flea Market

19 Mar	Dayville CT	ECARA @StJosephCh	\$3@8A \$10/T	Peter K1LNX	401 603 1485	
20 Mar	Southington CT	@HS	\$5@8 \$20/T	John WA1JKR	860 621 8791	
25,26 Mar	Lewiston ME	AARC ME Conv @Ramada @8		Ivan N1OXA	207 784 0350	
2 Ap	Newton MA	PHSNE Photographica Sat Only @AmLegion @9A		John	781 592 2553	+
9 Ap	Windsor CT	VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Indoor/Out		John	860 673 0518	+
9 Ap	Hampton NH	PCARC @MasonLdg	\$5@8 \$10/T@7	Mark K1RX	603 775 0220	F+
9 Ap	LaSalle PQ	MARC @RC Legion	\$5@9 \$10/T@8:15	Jim	514 990 1965	W+
10 April	Framingham MA	FARA @KeefeTech @9	\$25/T	Eric KB1PJN	508 310 5913	
16 April	Gails Ferry CT	RASON Auction	\$5@9 S@8	Stan KT1SS	860 376 3770	
16 Ap	S Portland ME	PAWA @Am Legion	\$6@8 \$10/T@6:30	Bryce K1GAX	207 415 0498	W+
17 Apr	Cambridge MA	Flea at MIT		Mitch	617 253 3776	
		Third Sunday April thru October				
24 Ap	Middletown NY	OCARC		Bruce K2ULZ	845 391 3620	A+
29,30 Apr	Deerfield NH	NEARfest XIX @FG		Mike K1TWF	978 250 1235	
14 May	E Greenbush NY	EGARA @FireCo	\$6@8 \$6/T@6	Tom KC2FCP	518 272 1494	

Just Ahead in Radiosport

- 📅 March 5 -- Wake-Up! QRP Sprint (CW)
- 📅 **March 5-6 -- [ARRL International DX Contest \(SSB\)](#)**
- 📅 March 5-6 -- Open Ukraine RTTY Championship
- 📅 March 6 -- UBA Spring Contest (CW)
- 📅 March 6 -- DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest
- 📅 March 6 -- SARL 40 Meter Simulated Emergency (SSB)
- 📅 March 7 -- RSGB 80 Meter Club Championship (Digital)
- 📅 March 8 -- ARS Spartan Sprint (CW)
- 📅 March 9-13 -- AWA John Rollins Memorial DX Test (CW)

U S Navy veteran and Hurricane watch net member SK



A veteran of the Hurricane Watch Net ([HWN](#)) and the Maritime Mobile Service Network ([MMSN](#)), Capt David Lefavour, W7GOX, of Los Lunas, New Mexico, died on February 8. He was 82. Lefavour served for more than 28 years in the US Navy as a fighter pilot and later worked in law enforcement. An ARRL member, he was a member of the HWN for more than 20 years, serving as the net manager from 2006 until 2009 and receiving manager emeritus status in 2013. He also was a net controller for a similar tenure for the MMSN.

"Dave was one of few I've met who had a very calming and reassuring voice during any emergency situation," HWN Net Manager Bobby Graves, KB5HAV, said.

Lefavour will be interred at Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors.

Mysterious burst of radio waves traced to galaxy billions of light-years away



For the first time, a mysterious blast of energy known as a Fast Radio Burst (FRB) has been precisely traced to a distant galaxy, bringing scientists even closer to figuring out the origins of these odd cosmic flashes.

On April 18, 2015, a telescope caught sight of the FRB, and mere hours later, other telescopes found its location, tracing the source of the burst to a galaxy about 6 billion light-years away, according to a new study published in the journal *Nature* this week.

This marks the first time the distance to an FRB has been measured.

FRBs send out as much energy in a fraction of a second as the sun puts out in 10,000 years, but they are exceedingly difficult to find.

SEE ALSO: Mysterious cosmic radio burst spotted in real time from Australia

Plus, no one is sure exactly what creates them.

"Our discovery opens the way to working out what makes these bursts," Simon Johnston, one of the team members who made the FRB discovery, said in a statement.

The authors of the *Nature* study suggest that the April FRB — which took six days to fade — may have been produced by the merger of two compact stars, which sent out the radio burst.

It's also possible that more than one kind of cataclysmic event in the universe can create an FRB. For instance, some models suggest that a supernova explosion or a pulsar — a rotating neutron star — pulse could create an FRB.

"I've been pretty skeptical of the 'compact object merger' hypothesis, but the authors' observations are just beautifully consistent with what you'd expect," astronomer Peter K.G. Williams, who is unaffiliated with the study, told *Mashable* via email.

"But I've also heard rumors about other results that other teams that are working on that are totally *inconsistent* with this hypothesis, so the theorists still have a lot of work left to do! It's an exciting time."

Astronomer Duncan Lorimer, the author of a News and Views companion piece in *Nature*, gets a little more specific and suggests that this FRB may have been produced when two neutron stars merged.

That possibility could present even more exciting options for follow up studies during future events.

"Such a system would emit a large fraction of its energy in the form of gravitational waves, which are produced by accelerating bodies, according to Einstein's general theory of relativity," Lorimer wrote.

If FRBs can be produced by neutron star combinations, and if gravitational waves — ripples in the fabric of space-time — can be detected with them, it could have serious implications for the future of astronomy.

HAM RADIO LOCAL AREA NETS

If you know of a Ham Radio Local Area Net that is not listed here, a typo on the information, or a Net listed which is no longer active, please contact Barry – N1EZH at: N1EZH@comcast.net, so this list can be updated. All Frequencies are in MHz and 6 Meters (50.0 MHz and up.), are FM Mode unless otherwise noted. Thanks!

Sunday: **WA1NPO – WARPSN Net, 8:30 AM, Whitman ARC Rptr, 147.225 +, PL 67.0**
6 Mtr AM Net, 5:00 PM, 50.400.0 AM, Scituate
Pilgrim Amateur Wireless Assoc. 10 Meter Net, 7:30 PM, 28.375.0 USB
Cape & Island Traffic Net, Every 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 82.5
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
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 82.5
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: **Taunton ACG, KC1TAC, 2 Mtr Simplex Net, 8:30 PM, 145.770**
Whitman ARC 10 Meter Rag-Chew Net, 8:00 PM, 28.333.0 USB (Except 1st 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 82.5
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/>

Treasurer: Phil McNamara N1XTB
Secretary: Larry Kenney K1LJK
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 kb1tee@gmail.com

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 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.

Editor Rick Emord KB1TEE



Monthly post of TV /movie pictures using radios



Destination Tokyo is a 1943 submarine war film. It was directed by Delmer Daves and written by Daves, former submariner Steve Fisher and Albert Maltz, and stars Cary Grant and John Garfield with featured performances by Dane Clark, Robert Hutton and Warner Anderson. Production began on June 21, 1943 and continued through September 4, 1943, and the film premiered in Pittsburgh on December 15, 1943. It was released generally in the U.S. on December 31, 1943.

On Christmas Eve, the submarine USS *Copperfin*, under the command of Captain Cassidy (Cary Grant), departs San Francisco on a secret mission. At sea, Cassidy opens his sealed orders, which direct him to proceed first to the Aleutian Islands to pick up meteorologist Raymond (John Ridgely), then to Tokyo Bay to obtain vital weather intelligence for the upcoming Doolittle Raid.

The USS *Copperfin* depicted in the WWII movie "Destination Tokyo" (one of my favorites, as it is with most submariners) was not a real submarine, nor was the film made aboard an actual navy boat. It was filmed on board a full scale model, with fake interior equipment layouts to confuse any enemy who would see it (remember the film was released in 1943 in the middle of WWII). In 1943 all combat ready submarines were still trying to hold the Japanese from expanding into the Pacific until the fleet could be rebuilt and reinforcements brought to bear. Using an actual submarine for a movie wasn't even considered. Footage of the boat sinking ships is also of models - you can tell from the clarity of the water (it's fresh water, not salt - the ocean is never that clear and bright).



There are a lot of different radios used during this film I could not get any pictures so I do not know if they were real or HOLLYWOOD!

