



February 2021  
Volume 59 Issue 3

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<http://www.w1mv.org>



<https://www.facebook.com/w1mvmar/>



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

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**Next meeting is April 20, 2021 at 7:00pm via Zoom Meeting – to join the next meeting contact Allen. This may be in person, if that is the case, we will contact everyone and let them know.**

### **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](mailto: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](mailto:n1xtb@powersrvcs.com) or Wendy KC1GTR [kc1gtr.mara@gmail.com](mailto:kc1gtr.mara@gmail.com) any articles or photos you would like to see in our MARA newsletter, W1MV-MARA Website and Facebook page. Jeff - AJ1L has created a link to twitter to help get the word out even more!

### **Secretary’s Notes – MARA Meeting 02/16/2021 – Wendy White-KC1GTR**

#### **Zoom Meeting**

**Open:** WA1BEE - Allen Hiltz called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

**Attendance:** Bob M. N1EBM, Allen WA1BEE, Tom WA1TOM, Jeff AJ1L, David Stern KC1ABH, Barry N4NMF, Ray Ball KC1RAB, Richard AG1B, Phil N1XTB, Wendy KC1GTR & George Stephan KC1GXS.

**President** - WA1BEE - Allen Hiltz      **Vice President** – AJ1L – Jeff Lehmann

**Secretary** – KC1GTR – Wendy White      **Treasurer** - N1XTB - Phil McNamara



**Club Treasurer Report** – Phil gave the treasures report and we now have \$677.77 in the bank and on hand. Allen approved the payment for the connector cable Jeff needed. Jeff will send the receipt to Phil. Motion to accept Treasurer's report was made by Tom WA1TOM and the motion was seconded by Richard AG1B. All in favor, 0 opposed.

**Repeater Report** –Jeff AJ1L diagnosed issue with the repeater as needing a new cable connector. It is at 25 watts right now. Motion to accept Repeater report was made by Tom WA1TOM and the motion was seconded by Richard AG1B. All in favor, 0 opposed.

There were no new member applications. David Stern – KC1ABH and George Stephan KC1GXS is interested in pursuing the group. They have instructions for obtaining the application and where to send the dues.

**New Business** – we will be having a special guest speaker at next month's meeting. Topic to TBD Skywarn Training or A.R.E.S.

More information will be sent out prior to the Zoom meeting.

Need more mock trainings for A.R.E.S. and Red Cross. Phil will schedule more simplex relay testing VHF 2 meters.

Tom WA1TOM made a motion to close the meeting and Barry N4NMF seconded the motion. All in favor, 0 opposed.

### **HAM RADIO LOCAL AREA NETS**

Any additions or corrections contact John – N1UMJ at: [N1UMJ@arrl.net](mailto:N1UMJ@arrl.net).

All Frequencies are in MHz and 6 Meters (50.0 MHz and up.) are FM Mode unless otherwise noted.

#### **Sunday:**

8:30 AM WA1NPO – WARPSN Net, Whitman ARC Rptr, 147.225 +, PL 67.0 8:45 AM New England phone net, 3.945 +/---- LSB

#### **Daily:**

7:00 PM NE Cracker Barrel Net, Matt – W1AEM, NCO, 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.

7:00 PM Plymouth N1ZIZ Rptr, 146.685 – PL 131.8

7:30 PM Falmouth N1YHS Rptr, 147.375 + PL 110.9 Genesis ARC CW Training Net

8:00 PM Eastern MA 2 Mtr Traffic Net, Boston W1BOS Rptr, 145.230 – PL 88.5

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

#### **Monday:**



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- 6:00 AM Cape and Islands Weather Net, M-S, Dennis K1PBO Rptr, 146.955 – PL 88.5
- 8:00 PM Fairhaven Weather Net, SEMARA Rptr, 147.000 + PL 67.0
- 8:00 PM Norfolk County Emergency Preparedness Net, Walpole Rptr, 146.895 – PL 123.0
- 8:30 PM New England DMR net, DMR---MARC repeaters talk group 3181 New England  
Falmouth ARA Net, Falmouth K1RK Rptr, 146.655 – PL 88.5
- 9:00 PM Boston ARC Rag Chew Net, Boston W1BOS Rptr, 145.230 – PL 88.5

**Tuesday:**

- 7:30 PM Plymouth N1ZIZ Rptr, 146.685 – PL 131.8
- 8:00 PM Fairhaven Weather Net, SEMARA Rptr, 147.000 + PL 67.0
- 8:00 PM Massasoit ARA Net, , Bridgewater W1MV Rptr, 147.180 + PL 67.0 (Except 3rd Tue!)  
Genesis ARC 2 Mtr Rag---Chew Net,
- 8:00 PM Norwood Amateur Radio Club Net, Norwood Rptr, 147.210 + PL 100.0 220 MHz  
Day! Try to find a 220 Repeater near you and give a call out!

**Wednesday:**

- 7:00 PM Blackstone Valley ARC, 2 Mtr Simplex Net, 146.565
- 8:00 PM Cape and Islands ARES Net, Dennis K1PBO Rptr, 146.955 – PL 88.5
- 8:00 PM Fairhaven Weather Net, SEMARA Rptr, 147.000 + PL 67.0
- 8:00 PM Whitman ARC 10 Meter Rag---Chew Net, 28.333.0 USB - Except 1st Wed!
- 9:00 PM Waltham Wranglers Swap Net., Waltham W1MHL Rptr , 146.64 – PL 136.5

**Thursday:**

- 7:00 PM Genesis ARC CW Training Net, Plymouth N1ZIZ Rptr, 146.685 – PL 131.8 10 Mtr
- 8:00 PM Fairhaven Weather Net, SEMARA Rptr, 147.000 + PL 67.0
- 8:00 PM General Class Rag---Chew Net, 29.470.0 FM
- 8:30 PM Sturdy Mem. Hosp. ARC ARES Practice Net, K1SMH Rptr, 147.195 + PL 127.3 900  
MHz

**Friday:**

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

**Saturday:**

- 8:00 PM South Shore Skywarn Net, 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 – AJ1L

Secretary Wendy White – KC1GTR

Treasurer: Phil McNamara N1XTB

Call Sign Trustee: Phil McNamara N1XTB

<b>2M Repeater</b>	147.180+ (Tone 67.0)
<b>440 Repeater</b>	444.550+ (Tone 88.5)
<b>APRS Node</b>	Node 144.39 W1MV-1
<b>Packet BBS</b>	145.09 N1XTB-4
<b>Packet Node Brockton</b>	145.09 W1JOE-7 (BROCK)
<b>MARA Web Page</b>	<a href="http://www.w1mv.org/">http://www.w1mv.org/</a>
<b>Facebook</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/w1mvmara/">https://www.facebook.com/w1mvmara/</a>
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	<a href="mailto:kc1gtr.mara@gmail.com">kc1gtr.mara@gmail.com</a>
<b>ARC Web Page</b>	<a href="http://www.wa1npo.org">http://www.wa1npo.org</a>
<b>Qsl via</b>	<a href="http://www.eqsl.cc">www.eqsl.cc</a>
<b>Skywarn</b>	<a href="http://wx1box.org">http://wx1box.org</a> and <a href="http://www.powersrvcs.org/w1gmf/skywarn.htm">www.powersrvcs.org/w1gmf/skywarn.htm</a>
<b>Mailing Address</b>	P.O. Box 428 Bridgewater, MA 02324

**Monthly meetings** are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month, for time being, on the Tuesday Night Zoom meeting at 7:00pm.

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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

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





## The K7RA Solar Update

03/12/2021 (Courtesy of ARRL Newsletter)

Tad Cook, K7RA, Seattle, reports: Although solar activity remains low, in recent days, as a sunspot rotates to the west off the visible solar disc a new one emerges in the east. Sunspot group 2807 recently moved over the sun's western horizon, but on March 9 new sunspot group 2808 moved across the eastern horizon, and a newer group (2809) has now emerged just south of the center of the solar disc. This brought the daily sunspot number higher from 11 on Wednesday to 23 on Thursday, March 11.

Recent sunspot activity and solar flux still seem soft when compared to activity toward the end of 2020, however.

In Bulletins ARLP048, 49, and 50 in 2020 — covering November 19 – December 9 — average sunspot numbers were 27.9, 57.6, and 28.9, while average daily solar flux was 90.1, 108.1, and 91.9. For the past 3 weeks, the overall average daily sunspot number was 19 (2 weeks prior had no sunspots), and average daily solar flux was 77.1.

We cannot do anything but wait and watch, although we *can* look forward to the vernal equinox on Saturday, March 20. Like the autumnal equinox, this is always a positive influence on HF propagation, when the northern and southern hemispheres are bathed in approximately equal amounts of solar radiation. You can count on it.

The average daily sunspot number this week hardly changed, from 18.9 last week to 18.4. Average daily solar flux shifted marginally higher from 76.7 to 78.9.

Solar wind has slackened, so average daily planetary A index went from 14.7 to 7.6, and the middle latitude numbers changed from 10.4 to 6.1.

Predicted solar flux for the next 30 days is 78 on March 12 – 19; 75, 76, 78, and 81 on March 20 – 23; 80 on March 24 – 25; 78 and 76 on March 26 – 27; 75 on March 28 – April 1; 78 on April 2 – 3, and 70, 74, 76, 72, 71, 72 and 70 on April 4 – 10. After April 18, solar flux may rise again above 80, then back to 75 by April 24.

Predicted planetary A index is 12, 20, and 10 on March 12 – 14; 5 on March 15 – 17; 12 on March 18 – 19; 20, 18, 12, and 8 on March 20 – 23; 5 on March 24 – 27; 25, 20, 20, and 10 on March 28 – 31; 5, 15, and 8 on April 1 – 3; 5 on April 4 – 7, and 18, 12, 5, and 15 on April 8 – 11. A recurring coronal hole may rotate into a geo-effective position on April 15 – 16 and another around April 24 – 25, raising the planetary A index again to around 20 – 25.

Here is the geomagnetic activity forecast for March 12 – April 6 from F.K Janda, OK1HH.

The geomagnetic field will be:

quiet on March 17, (26 – 27,) April 1, 6

quiet to unsettled on March 12 – 13, 16, 25, April 3 – 5

quiet to active on March 21 – 24, 31

unsettled to active March 14 – 15, 18, 29 April 2

active to disturbed March 19 – 20, 28, 30

Solar wind will intensify on March (12 – 14, 18 – 19,) 20 – 23, (27,) 28 – 31, April (1 – 2)



Parenthesis means lower probability of activity enhancement. Predictability of changes remains very low, as there are ambiguous indications.

Dennis, K7BV, reported: “March 7, while checking the bands for DX, I went to 15 meters on FT8 about 1650. The strongest signal by a huge margin was S79KW (LI75rj Seychelles) at +27 dB! After a quick contact, I moved to a clear frequency to call CQ. Almost immediately 4S6RSP, –8 dB strong, called. A few minutes later VU2AMW at –1 dB called. I also noticed YC5YZ calling CQ. Nothing else heard from the region, but S79KW remained strong well after this brief 15-meter opening to Southern and Southeast Asia.”

Unfortunately, the averages at the end of this bulletin sometimes change from the preview that appears in Thursday’s edition of [The ARRL Letter](#). This is my fault and happens from time to time. Thanks so much to Don Wright, AA2F, who catches these every time, and makes sure the correct averages appear in Friday’s bulletin.

[Aurora season](#) has returned in Colorado.

David Moore sent [this](#) from *Science News*: “The aurora’s very high altitude booster.”

Sunspot numbers for March 4 – 10 were 32, 14, 23, 14, 12, 23, and 11, with a mean of 18.4. The 10.7-centimeter flux was 81.4, 73.2, 77, 77.5, 79.9, 83.7, and 79.4, with a mean of 78.9. Estimated planetary A indices were 11, 5, 16, 10, 6, 3, and 2, with a mean of 7.6. Middle latitude A index was 11, 5, 11, 7, 5, 2, and 2, with a mean of 6.1.

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

New Zoom In Eyeglasses – I promised I would share this site. Game changer!

[https://getvisionfocus.com/article?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIyevm-Omw7wIVUfHtCh1LwARiEAEYASAAEgJHqPD\\_BwE](https://getvisionfocus.com/article?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIyevm-Omw7wIVUfHtCh1LwARiEAEYASAAEgJHqPD_BwE)



They are using Vision Focus technology.



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Courtesy of Space Weather

## Current Conditions

### Solar wind

speed: **536.8** km/sec

density: **7.7** protons/cm<sup>3</sup>

more data: [ACE](#), [DSCOVR](#)

Updated: Today at 2149 UT

### X-ray Solar Flares

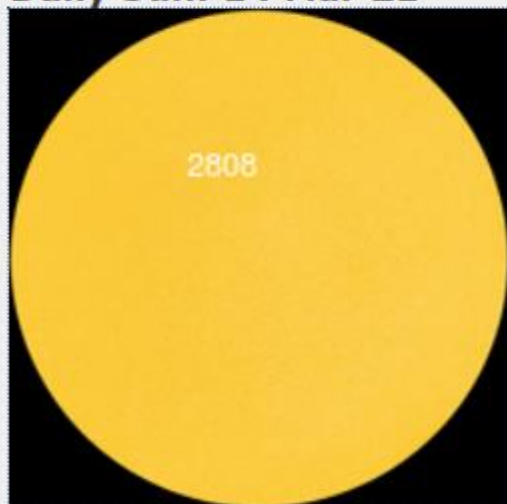
6-hr max: **A5** 2113 UT Mar14

24-hr: **A7** 1409 UT Mar14

[explanation](#) | [more data](#)

Updated: Today at: 2155 UT

### Daily Sun: 14 Mar 21



Sunspot AR2808 is decaying and poses no threat for strong solar flares. Credit:

### Sunspot number: 12

[What is the sunspot number?](#)

Updated 14 Mar 2021

### Spotless Days

Current Stretch: 0 days

2021 total: 32 days (44%)

2020 total: 208 days (57%)

2019 total: 281 days (77%)

2018 total: 221 days (61%)

2017 total: 104 days (28%)

2016 total: 32 days (9%)

2015 total: 0 days (0%)

2014 total: 1 day (<1%)

2013 total: 0 days (0%)

2012 total: 0 days (0%)

2011 total: 2 days (<1%)

2010 total: 51 days (14%)

2009 total: 260 days (71%)

2008 total: 268 days (73%)

2007 total: 152 days (42%)

2006 total: 70 days (19%)

Updated 14 Mar 2021

### Thermosphere Climate Index

today:  $5.48 \times 10^{10}$  W **Cold**

Max:  $49.4 \times 10^{10}$  W **Hot** (10/1957)

Min:  $2.05 \times 10^{10}$  W **Cold** (02/2009)

[explanation](#) | [more data: gfx, txt](#)

Updated 14 Mar 2021



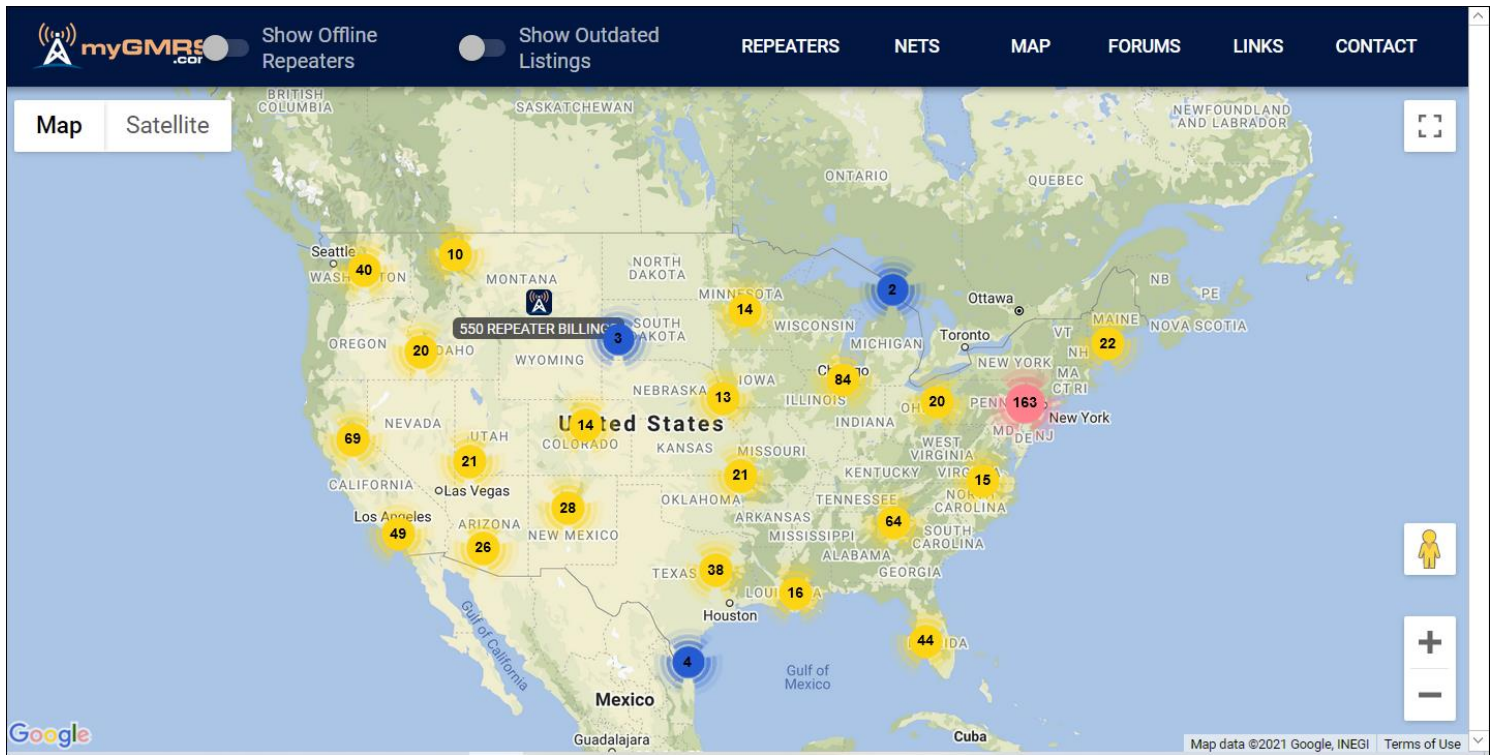


## What's New?

Courtesy of ARRL Newsletter - For the first time in virtual ham history, **participate in an exciting build-a-thon of live virtual kit building workshops**. Workshops are targeted at all levels of ham radio experience. And it is not a problem if you cannot get a kit in time for the Live period - just order now and build the kit by watching the workshop video during the on-demand period through April 12. Check out Kits to see all the cool and exciting things to build!

You can use your GMRS radio on the GMRS repeaters <https://mygmrs.com/map/#/> Once you have purchased your license.

<https://mygmrs.com/>



Facebook - Ham Radio's Page - has been having a tremendous amount of new Ham's signing up for their license. I have been seeing hundreds of people passing their Tech Exams. Some passing Tech and General during the same setting and posting their new call signs. A few accomplishing all 3 in one setting. Many dormant Ham's are reactivating.





# MARANews

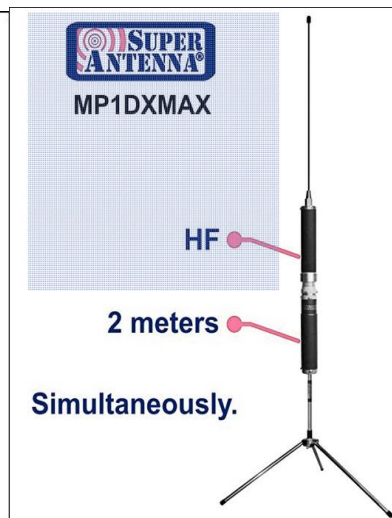


Portable antenna what are your thoughts on this antenna. <http://newsuperantenna.com/>

**Frequencies:**  
**3.5 MHz ~ 54 MHz.**

**+ plus 144 ~ 148 MHz simultaneously**

**Meter Bands adjustable to:**  
 80m - 75m - 60m  
 40m - 30m - 20m  
 17m - 15m - 12m  
 11m - 10m - 6m  
 + *plus*  
**Simultaneous 2m**



Birds-4 Satellites Deploy March 14<sup>th</sup> – Courtesy of QRZ Now

**BIRDS-4 Satellites' DEPLOYMENT FROM ISS**

**MAR 14**

6:15 PM (JST)

TSURU  
MAYA-2  
GUARANISAT-1

**BIRDS-4**  
JOINT GLOBAL MULTI-NATION BIRDS SATELLITE PROJECT

Streaming Live via YouTube

**Amateur radio satellites deploy March 14**

Eight satellites, all coordinated by the IARU Satellite Frequency Coordination Panel, are planned to be deployed from the International Space Station on Sunday, March 14. The deployment should be streamed live on YouTube, watch from 09:15 GMT at

The CubeSats being deployed are:

- OPUSAT-II
- Tsuru (BIRDS-4)
- TAUSAT-1
- GuaraniSat-1 (BIRDS-4)
- RSP-01
- STARS-EC
- Maya-2 (BIRDS-4)
- WARP-01

It is understood the BIRDS-4 satellites are carrying digipeaters and TAUSAT-1 has an FM transponder. Further information including the IARU coordinated frequencies are at <http://amsat.org.uk/iaru/>