



March 2022
Volume 60 Issue 3



<http://www.w1mv.org>



<https://www.facebook.com/w1mvmaral/>



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

Next meeting is April 15, 2022 at 6:30pm at the EOC in Bridgewater.

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 Wendy, KC1GTR, kc1gtr.mara@gmail.com any articles or photos you would like to see in our MARA newsletter, W1MV-MARA Website, Facebook and Twitter.

Meeting was held via Zoom and will return to the EOC next month.

Open: WA1BEE - Allen Hiltz called the meeting to order at 7:02pm

Attendance: Allen - WA1BEE, Phil - N1XTB, Wendy - KC1GTR, Tom Luckman - WA1TOM, Richard - AG1B, John Laiosa - N1BSO, Mike Sellstone - WB1FMA

President - Allen Hiltz - WA1BEE **Vice President** - John Laiosa - N1BSO
Secretary - Tom Luckman - WA1TOM (Acting) **Treasurer** - Phil McNamara - N1XTB

Phil - N1XTB - took notes - Rick is stepping down as newsletter editor.
Allen is planning sales at the nearfest in the Spring and will need someone else to help.

Discussion topic with Phil N1XTB is to build crew for the Bridgewater EOC. Phil will send the winlink net material to Allen. Bridgewater CERT is still active - during the storm - the shelter support was put on stand by per Wendy.

Wendy said she can pick back up as the newsletter editor.

Phil talked about his time at the Carver EOC during the big winter storm.



Allen to send file for club patch to Mike Sellstone - he knows a guy that does patches

Allen closed the meeting at 7:34pm

After the meeting, Allen displayed a mobilink tnc3

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:

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:

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 Prac Net, K1SMH Rptr, 147.195+ PL 127.3 900 MHz

Friday:

8:00 PM Fairhaven Weather Net, SEMARA Rptr, 147.000 + PL 67.0
8:00 PM Great Hill Swap Net, K1USN, 145.390 and Echollink/Irpl 9127

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 - John Laiosa – N1BSO
Secretary Tom Luckman – WA1TOM (Acting)
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/w1mvmaraf/
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, for time being, Tuesday Night Zoom meeting will be at 7:00pm. Allen will advise if we can go to in person for next month's.



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.

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

ARES SKYWARN

NWS Boston/Norton has announced 2022 Virtual SKYWARN training sessions. All 2022 SKYWARN Training is virtual due to COVID. Details and registration for the online presentation as well as the optional online quiz to become a spotter or refresh/renew your spotter training as an existing spotter can be found on the wx1box.org web site at the following link:

<http://wx1box.org/2022/03/12/special-announcement-2022-virtual-skywarn-training-sessions-announced-all-2022-skywarn-training-virtual-due-to-covid/>

This information has also been posted on the WX1BOX Facebook and Twitter feeds as well. We hope many can attend the 2022 virtual SKYWARN training sessions. Thanks to all for their continued support of the NWS Boston/Norton SKYWARN program!

Respectfully Submitted,

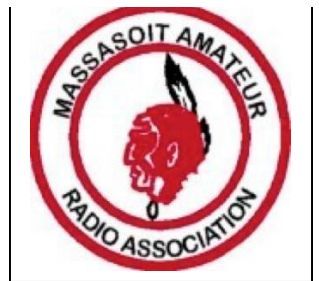
Robert Macedo (KD1CY)
ARES SKYWARN Coordinator
Eastern Massachusetts ARES Section Emergency Coordinator
Home Phone #: (508) 994-1875 (After 6 PM)
Home/Data #: (508) 997-4503 (After 6 PM)
Work Phone #: 508-346-2929 (8 AM-5 PM)
Email Address: rmacedo@rcn.com

<http://ares.ema.arrl.org>

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The K7RA Solar Update

03/11/2022

The K7RA Solar Update

Tad Cook, K7RA, Seattle, reports: On March 11 at 0431 UTC, Australia's Space Forecast Centre issued this warning: "A slow coronal mass ejection has been observed late on 10 March, and event modeling suggests arrival at the Earth late on 13 March. Increased geomagnetic activity is expected for 14 March 2022."

We observed an active sun this week. Geomagnetic indicators peaked on Saturday, March 5, when Alaska's high latitude college A index reached 42.

Again this week, sunspots covered the sun every day. Average daily sunspot numbers rose from 44 to 87.4, and average daily solar flux went from 98.5 to 115.5. Geomagnetic indicators were also higher. Average daily planetary A index increased from 7.3 to 11.4.

Predicted solar flux is 120 on March 11 – 12; 115 on March 13; 110 on March 14 – 16; 105 on March 17; 100 on March 18 – 21; then 101 and 103 on March 22 – 23; 104 on March 24 – 27; then 110, 115, and 116 on March 28 – 30; 118 on March 31 – April 1; 120 on April 2; 116 on April 3 – 4; then 115 and 112 on April 5 – 6; 110 on April 7 – 9, 108, 102, 98, and 99 on April 10 – 13, and 100 on April 14 – 17.

Predicted planetary A index is 12 on March 11; 5 on March 12 – 13; 10, 18, 15, 5, and 8 on March 14 – 18; then 12 on March 19 – 20 15 on March 21 7 on March 22 – 24; then 5, 10, and 8 on March 25 – 27; 5 on March 28 – 29; then 10, 12, 25, 20, and 10 on March 30 – April 3; 5 on April 4 – 6; then 15, 20, and 12 on April 7 – 9; 5 on April 10 – 13; 8 on April 14, and 10 on April 15 – 16.

F.K. Janda, OK1HH, wrote, "The power density of solar radio noise at a wavelength of 10.7 centimeters — more briefly referred to as "solar flux" — remains above 110 for a week. Because we see two more active areas beyond the eastern limb of the solar disk (thanks to the STEREO Ahead satellite), solar flux should stay that way for another week.

"The concurrence of increased solar activity with seasonal changes during the approaching equinox results in improved conditions for short-wave ionospheric propagation.

"Occasional irregular occurrences of a slight increase in geomagnetic activity (as was the case on March 5 – 6) cause only a slight deterioration. Possible recurrent disturbance is expected until the beginning of April, probably already in its first days."

Russ Hunt, WQ3X, wrote on March 4: "Yesterday I heard WA2BOT on 10 meter FT8 working DX on the long path and aimed my beam due south. In just over a half hour's time I worked 33 JAs, two DUs, and VR2XYL. I had a pileup six deep at times while using 250 W and a five-element Yagi at 50 feet. It was probably the most exciting time I've had in the last 20 years. Today I worked two more VR2s and three JAs, also long path, just after sunrise."



A few hours later he wrote, “During the middle of the day we get some VK/ZLs starting around 3 PM local time. But try sunrise and sunset and you will find a lot of DX.

“I hear the 6s and 7s working a lot of Asia in the evening. Here we get EU, Africa, and the Middle East in the mornings. I’ve done WAC about four or five times a week, but now running out of new stations to work.”

Robert Strickland, KE2WY, asked about a good source for the latest daily sunspot numbers, and I sent him to [this site](#).

On March 10, N9II sent some observations of last week’s ARRL International DX Contest (SSB). “I operated single band 15 meters in the ARRL DX contest but made a few QSOs on other bands. Twenty was open well to Africa and south in the 0100 UTC hour Saturday, some very loud Caribbean signals. Ten was open for many hours to the south. Some booming signals even from low-power stations in Puerto Rico and the Turks and Caicos, as well as many high-power stations such as J68HZ on St Lucia, PJ4G on Bonaire, and PJ2T on Curacao.

“On 15, a disturbance and slightly low solar flux made for some challenging conditions to Asia and northern Europe.

“Saturday evening the disturbance rendered Japan nearly completely closed, with Sunday evening conditions fair with most signals less than S-9.

“I made 600 15-meter QSOs, working 86 DXCC entities.

“On 10 CW starting at 1414 UTC on March 8, I worked three new ones in a row: 7Q6M in Malawi, 5X1NA in Uganda, and JY5HX in Jordan.

“Then on 10 SSB, Dov, 4Z4DX, in Israel. On 10 CW, V26K Antigua, and OA1F Peru.

“Later on 17 CW V4/G0TLE St. Kitts, then topping off with E51BQ South Cook Islands on 10 SSB at 2325 UTC.

“On 12 meter CW on March 9 at 1550 UTC I worked V26K. I called CQ on 10 SSB at 1557 UTC and was called by Spain, then Francisco, TT8FC, in Chad, ZS1PPY in South Africa, then 3B8HE in Mauritius! March 10, featured excellent high-band propagation with the solar flux climbing to 127. I heard Indonesia peaking at S-8 on 15 SSB at 1340 UTC, then worked 4L1AN in Georgia at 1344 UTC (new) and VU2DSI India at 1353 UTC.

“Turning to 10 SSB, I found Selki, S01WS, Western Sahara, and CU1EZ in the Azores for #100 on 10 SSB. Then at 1551 UTC for the next hour, 10 blew wide open to Europe starting with Bulgaria, Italy, and Hungary.

“Several stations with simple end-fed wires were S-9, and the loudest signals were S-9 + 20 dB or a bit stronger. This was one of the best openings all winter, but others were more widespread farther north.”

Here is [an email list](#) for operators of, or anyone interested in, HF beacons.



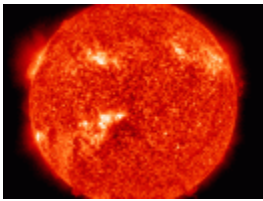
The vernal equinox arrives in just over a week from now, at 1533 UTC on Sunday, March 20. That's when Earth will be bathed in an equal amount of solar radiation over both southern and northern hemispheres — good for HF propagation. It is the first day of spring in the northern hemisphere, and the first day of fall in the southern.

Sunspot numbers for March 3 – 9 were 92, 77, 95, 82, 84, 93, and 89, with a mean of 87.4. The 10.7-centimeter flux was 110.9, 113.1, 120.1, 115.7, 118.3, 115.3, and 114.8, with a mean of 115.5. Estimated planetary A indices were 5, 10, 27, 18, 9, 6, and 5, with a mean of 11.4. Middle latitude A index was 3, 7, 19, 13, 7, 5, and 4, with a mean of 8.3.

For more information concerning radio propagation, [visit](#) the ARRL Technical Information Service, [read](#) “What the Numbers Mean...,” and check [this propagation page](#) by Carl Luetzelshwab, K9LA.

A propagation bulletin [archive](#) is available. For customizable propagation charts, visit the [VOACAP Online for Ham Radio](#) website.

[Instructions](#) for starting or ending email distribution of ARRL bulletins are on the ARRL website.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

NE1PL/USTNR

We will be on the USS Massachusetts April 23rd 2022 we will be remembering The Doolittle Raid, also known as the Tokyo Raid, was an air raid on 18 April 1942 by the United States on the Japanese capital Tokyo and other places on Honshu during World War II.

NE1PL

May 14 th 1000-1400 Armed forces day activation. We are looking for operators for this event this is in addition to our annual 4 events I don't have all the details at this time please email me if you can make it.

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



Annual Armed Forces Day Cross-Band Exercise Set for May 14, 2022

The 2022 running of the Armed Forces Day (AFD) Cross-Band exercise will be held on May 14, 1300 – 2200 UTC. A complete list of participating stations, modes, frequencies, times, and other details [will be announced](#) on April 1. The event is open to all radio amateurs. Armed Forces Day is May 21, but the AFD Cross-band military-amateur radio event traditionally takes place 1 week earlier, in order to avoid conflicting with Dayton Hamvention®. During the exercise, radio amateurs listen for stations on military operating frequencies and transmit on frequencies in adjacent amateur bands.

Military and amateur stations have taken part in this event for more than 50 years. It's an exercise scenario, designed to include ham radio and government radio operators alike.

Per previous announcements: "The AFD Cross-band Test is a unique opportunity to test two-way communications between military communicators and radio stations in the Amateur Radio Service, as authorized in 47 CFR 97.111. These tests provide opportunities and challenges for radio operators to demonstrate individual technical skills in a tightly controlled exercise scenario that does not impact any public or private communications."

Military stations in various locations will transmit on selected military frequencies and announce the specific ham band frequencies they are monitoring.

An AFD message will be transmitted utilizing the Military Standard (MIL-STD) serial PSK waveform (M110), followed by MIL-STD Wide Shift FSK (850 Hz RTTY), as described in MIL-STD 188-110A/B. The AFD message will also be sent in CW and RTTY.

Full details will be released on April 1.





MARANews
MARANews



Ford Kanzler | When all else fails, ham radio works



Dan Selling N6RJX runs ham radios during a Scotts Valley Demonstration at Sky Park. (Bob Fike — Contributed)

By [Ford Kanzler](#) |

February 8, 2022 at 4:05 p.m.

When things go sideways, the all-volunteer Santa Cruz County ham radio communications team says, “No Phone, No Electricity, No Problem.”



The Santa Cruz Amateur Radio Emergency Service helps at a triathlon in Santa Cruz. (Bob Fike — Contributed)

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), long known as ham radio operators, is a national association for hams. The 75 members of the Santa Cruz chapter help in wide range of activities and events including emergencies. They create backup radio communications networks from their homes or vehicles, relaying information where needed or when traditional systems aren't available.

“All ARES members are ham radio operators and maintain an FCC-issued amateur radio license,” explained Patrick Hung, Santa Cruz ARES member. “We’re continuously training and ready responders for a range of needs. These can be helping event organizers keep track of activities, to locating missing people or connecting emergency agency personnel when their radios become inoperable.”

Continuous readiness

ARES members participate in countywide communications drills with Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) and weekly statewide communications drills with city and the county Emergency Services Office to maintain preparedness.

“ARES is an integral part of the county’s emergency services,” said Michael Beaton, who directs the county’s General Services Department and Emergency Operations Center. “They were instrumental during the CZU fire and gave us a big lift. They’re very well versed in emergency response and a great group of folks.”

Beaton became an ARES fan and now is a ham operator himself.



During the 2020 CZU August Lightning Fire, local members provided communications to Equine Evacuations. They coordinated horse transportation at stables in the mountains when many forms of communications were out. Backup communications at the fairgrounds were provided for arriving evacuees needing shelter. ARES stationed members on-site 24/7 for a number of days, operating alongside CERT members.

More often ARES creates communications for local events including the Aptos July Fourth parade, Fire in the Sky airport fireworks, Santa Cruz County Fair, Fireworks 50 horse endurance race, Santa Cruz Triathlon and the Strawberry Fields Forever and Sea Otter Classic.

Bob Fike, the ARES chapter's emergency coordinator and ham operator since 1990, loves being part of the organization and appreciates the growing community interest.

"We're training 50 or 60 new members a year and have a 'no-egos' team," Fike explained. "Our communications are extremely local and mobile. It can be linked to CERT team members with multi-use radios. I appreciate helping keep our community as safe as possible. It's like a church choir, amateur volunteers but very professional. We do take donations if event organizers choose to do that," he adds.

Why do they call it ham radio? The name "ham" is derived from the call letters of the first amateur wireless station operated by members of the Harvard Radio Club in 1908. They were Albert S. Hyman, Bob Ablmy and Poogie Murray. They decided to use the first letter of each last name as the station's call or identity and became the first ham operators.

Ford Kanzler is a Watsonville resident.

Boston Marathon

Monday, April 18, 2022

As the principal sponsor, John Hancock continues to ensure the stability of the world's oldest annual marathon. Amateur Radio volunteers will be in use.

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Amateur Radio Satellites - Updated by IARU Satellite Frequency Coordination Panel - CubeSats being deployed are:

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



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/>