



# MARANews



May 2012

Volume 51 Issue 05

## Secretary's Report

### MARA Minutes 4-17-2012

18:30 Meeting called to order by Barry, N1EZH – dedicated to Gil W1GMF, a moment of silence was observed.

Present were: Loren, N1IQI; Walt, W1WCF; Jay, N1FDX; Rick, N1TEE; Bill, KA1TXK; Jeff, N1ZZN; Carl, N1FY; Pete, N1NVV; Barry, N1EXH; Bob, N1LCY; Roy, KB1CYV; and Bruce, NI1X.

Secretary's Report - accepted as printed in the newsletter

Treasurer's Report accepted as read by Barry. N1EZH

Repeater Report - Jeff - operating normally - amplifier?

EOC Antenna party in May - email Carl ([caave@peoplepc.com](mailto:caave@peoplepc.com)) if you can help.

Searchdogs overview - Rick making this an annual event now. Next year planning to be in Freetown State forest.

Fox Hunt Saturday AM -Whitman

Brockton YMCA Road Race – meet opposite 555 Main St. April 21 'tween 7:30 & 8am

Upcoming Road races - June 2, July & Sept

RACES situation - ACS on hold for now.

Election of officers - nomination committee

Speakers for meeting - suggestions welcome

Titanic - Marconi radio station

May 4th & 5th NearFest Deerfield, NH

19:00 meeting adjourned

Silent Keys: Gil Follett W1GMF Apr. 11, 2012 & Leo Alves WB1EZC Feb. 2, 2012

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Keene, N1LCY  
Secretary

## Nominations for Officers

Nominations for candidates for Officers of MARA for the 2012-2013 year have been requested and to date none have been forthcoming . It is important that new persons are involved in the direction of the club otherwise it becomes stagnant and falls into

lethargy. If you are interested in serving as an officer or wish to nominate someone who you think would be a good candidate, please attend the meeting on Tuesday next and make your position known. Nominations will be taken from the floor and a vote taken so that the new slate of officers can take office for the year beginning in June 2012. Many of the members have served as an officer in one or more positions. Perhaps we could participate again doing something new. See you on Tuesday

## **Next Meeting**

MARA's next meeting will be held on May 15, 2012 at the Bridgewater Public Library. The business meeting will begin at 6:30 pm followed by a presentation

## **WB1EZC – Leo St. John Alves – Silent Key 2/2/2012**

Leo was a long time member of MARA and a familiar face at all club events up until just last year, when he advised me that due to health issues he could not attend events in the future.

### **Leo St. John Alves**



Leo St. John Alves, of Randolph, passed away Feb. 2, 2012, at the age of 82. Husband of Joyce Bambi Alves. Step-father of Carrie Horman of NH and Barton Jokinen of the U.A.E. Also survived by his grandchildren, Aiden Horman, Kathrin Jokinen, Kirsten Jokinen and Natalie Jokinen. Born in Lowell, he had lived in Randolph since 1936. He grew up in Randolph and was a graduate of Boston College High School. He was a retired electrician who worked at General Dynamic, Fore River Shipyard for many years, a former machinist at Walworths, Braintree, and a truck driver for the Commonwealth of Mass, MDC. A [Korean Conflict](#) veteran and member of Randolph D.A.V. Post and the Trench Rats (division of the DAV), Amvets Post 51, Randolph, Vera Cruz Council Knights of Columbus and the Randolph Lodge of Elks 2130. He was also a ham radio operator, call sign WB1~EZC and member of the Massasoit Radio Club, Bridgewater. Also know for always saying fine and dandy. Reposed at the Cartwright Funeral Home, 419 No. Main St., Randolph until 9 a.m. Friday, Feb. 10, followed by a funeral Mass at 10 a.m. in St. Bernadette Church, Randolph. Burial in St. Mary Cemetery, Randolph. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to either Macular Degeneration Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 531313, Henderson, NV 89053 or to the MSPCA-Angell Headquarters, 350 South Huntington Ave., Boston, MA 02130. For additional information, directions or to leave a sympathy message, visit our web site at [www.cartwrightfuneral.com](http://www.cartwrightfuneral.com).

Published in Randolph Herald from February 7 to February 14, 2012



**Ham Support Group YMCA Road Race Brockton April 21 2012**

**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 ~\_\_\_\_~

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2012	Contact	Source
19 May Goshen CT SoBARC @FG \$4@8		Lee K1LEE 860 435 0051 W
20 May Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Third Sunday April thru October		Nick 617 253 3776 F
20 May Sorel-Tracy PQ CRA-ST @Colisie \$8@9 \$15@6		Luc VE2DWE 450 743 8676 W+
2 June Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Outdoor		John 860 673 0518
2 June Hermon ME PSARA @HS		Jerry K1GUP 207 848 3400 A+
2 June Woonsocket RI BVARC 8AM @HI FortinDr FreeTG		Bob W1YRC 401 333 2129 W+
3 June Bethpage NY LIMARC \$6@9 \$10/Sp@7		Richard K2KNB 516 694 4937 W+
10 June Queens NY HoSARC @HoS		Stephen WB2KDG 718 898 5599 A
16 June Newington CT NARL @StMarySch \$5@8 \$15/T		Vinnie W1VJA 203 987 2108 W+

16 June Brookline NH NEAntqRC@EvtCtr\$10@7:30\$4@8:30\$0@10 Bruce 603 772 7516 W+

17 June Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F

15 July Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F

11 Aug St Albans VT STARC @VFW \$5@8 Arn N1ARN 802 309 0666 F+

11 Aug Milo ME PARC @AmLegion George WA1JMM 207 441 6112 A+

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  
Third Sunday April thru October

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

9 Sept Newtown CT CARA @TownHall \$5@8:30 \$10/TG \$15/T Joe AB1DO 203 938 4880 W

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

29 Sept Center Conway NH WMARC @RecCtr \$5@8:30 Thaire W2APF 603 447 2376 +

7 Oct Wallingford CT Nutmeg John N1GNV 203 440 4973 T+

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

3 Nov Londonderry NH IRS @Lions \$3@8 S@6 Chris KB1QVM 603 434 6137 F+

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

## **FCC Seeks Public Comments on Emergency Communications by Amateur Radio and Impediments to Amateur Radio Communications**

In response to the Congressional directive to prepare a study to assess Amateur Radio's role in emergency and disaster communications and the impact of private land use regulations on the amateur community's ability to provide such communications, the FCC issued DA 12-523 soliciting comments from the public. The period for public comment runs until May 17, 2012.

"As part of the study contained in Public Law No. 112-96, the Commission has opened a 45 day period for comments to be filed on the issue," said ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND. "Because of the short deadline for the study to be completed and presented to Congress -- before the end of August -- the ARRL and the amateur community must quickly mobilize their response."

The FCC *Public Notice* focuses on two specific areas for comments. The first is the role that Amateur Radio has played and continues to play to support emergency and disaster relief organizations, such as FEMA and local/state emergency management agencies. The second is to determine impediments to enhanced Amateur Radio communications. This would include the impact that private land-use regulations -- such as deed restrictions and homeowner association covenants -- have on the ability of licensed amateurs to fully participate in providing support communications to the served agencies.

"This study is not about zoning ordinances or regulations adopted by the local or state governments," Henderson explained. "Amateurs already have the limited protection of **PRB-1** to assist them with those situations. The areas of concern here are the limitations that are placed on a property when it is purchased, either as part of the deed of sale or by restrictions imposed by the neighborhood/homeowner's association. Those restrictions -- sometimes referred to as CC&Rs -- are not currently covered by the FCC's PRB-1 decision from 1985."

To allow the ARRL to quickly collect and collate relevant information from the amateur community to help support the filing it will make with the FCC on this issue, a website has been setup. The site -- [www.arrrl.org/ccr-study-information](http://www.arrrl.org/ccr-study-information) -- provides details about what kind of information is needed by the ARRL.

Also on the site, you will find links to two online data collection forms. The first form allows you to provide information about specific emergency communications in which Amateur Radio has played a role since January 2000. The second form asks for specific information on the CC&Rs/deed restrictions that control your property. It also asks you to provide information on how those restrictions have impacted your ability to fully support emergency communications.

"Whether you are an ARRL member or not, your information and situation are important to helping us make the case for all amateurs," Henderson said. "Whether your support communications are with ARES®, RACES, SKYWARN, CERT or other emergency and disaster groups, your voice should be heard. If you cannot operate effectively from home during an emergency because CC&Rs prohibit adequate antennas on your property, that is important to document and quantify. This issue affects all of Amateur Radio, not just ARRL members."

Henderson said that due to the short timeframe that the FCC has allotted for public comment, time is of the essence. In order to allow the ARRL to develop its comments, the ARRL asks that all information sent by the amateur community be received at the ARRL no later than April 25, 2012: "We realize this is a very short turnaround asking for your response, but this is based on the time provided by the Commission for the comment window."

It is important that when you provide specifics of your CC&R, you also provide the ARRL with a copy of its actual wording. If you have the CC&R in a digital format (or you can scan the document into a file), it can either be uploaded through the website above or it

can be sent via an e-mail to [CCRinfo@arrl.org](mailto:CCRinfo@arrl.org) . If you do not have an electronic format, a hard copy may be sent via US mail to: CCR Study Information, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.

"We need factual, specific details," Henderson said. "The more accurate information we have -- including copies of the CC&R language -- the stronger case we can make. Having copies of the exact CC&Rs is important. It allows us to demonstrate the wide variation of restrictions. Including the specific text is as important as any other piece of information you provide."

If you have questions about what is being requested, you may contact the ARRL Regulatory Information Office via [e-mail](#). "Again, time is of the essence in this matter," Henderson said. "This is the best opportunity that amateurs have had to address the impact of overly burdensome private land use restrictions. If Amateur Radio is to succeed in this effort, it is going to take all of us working together."

## **Register Your ARRL Field Day Site on the Field Day Locator**

First introduced in 2008, the ARRL's [Field Day Station Locator Service](#) has proved a popular addition to the Field Day toolbox. This service -- an interactive map that helps amateurs or those interested in Amateur Radio find a [Field Day](#) site near them -- is free to clubs or individuals who will be operating public Field Day stations. Stations can also be listed by state or province. So far, hams in 49 states, Puerto Rico and eight Canadian provinces, as well as a station located just outside Bogotá, Colombia, have listed Field Day sites on the Field Day Locator. If your group would like to be a part of the Station Locator Service, it's easy to get started -- just go to the Field Day Station Locator [website](#) and follow the instructions. ARRL Field Day is the most popular on-the-air operating event in Amateur Radio. On June 23-24, join tens of thousands of radio amateurs as they gather for a public demonstration of the Amateur Service.

## **From State Government Liaison Shawn O'Donnell, K3HI:**

The renumbered hands-free bill is H.3938. It leaves in the previous exemption for "federally licensed 2-way radio" in one section, but then prohibits the use of "a mobile telephone or mobile electronic device... unless said telephone or device is being used as a hands-free mobile telephone or to activate, deactivate, or initiate a feature or function." If a police officer considered an HT or a mic to be a "mobile electronic device," (since they /are,/) then a ham could be in trouble, despite the other section of the law mentioning us. The bill was passed out of the Committee on Transportation a couple of weeks ago (about two months after the last hearing,) and now it has been forwarded to the Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security. They will have to have a hearing on the bill before anything else happens. As of now, there is no hearing scheduled.

## **The 2014 World Radiosport Team Championship**

The 2014 World Radiosport Team Championship organization continues its ongoing work, including selection of sites in Eastern and Western MA.

Volunteers are being sought for the July 2012 trial run. Details are at <http://ema.arrl.org/node/1950>.

## **FCC Seeks Higher Vanity Call Sign Fee**

The FCC released a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* on May 4, seeking to raise the fee for Amateur Radio vanity call signs. Currently, a vanity call sign costs \$14.20 and is good for 10 years; the new fee, if the FCC plan goes through, will go up to \$15 for 10 years, an increase of 80 cents. The FCC is authorized by the *Communications Act of 1934 (as amended)* to collect vanity call sign fees to recover the costs associated with that program.

## **Heathkit Educational Systems Closes Up Shop**

For the second time since 1992, Heathkit Educational Services has shuttered its doors. Rumors of the legendary kit-building company's demise were posted on QRZ.com, with several readers bringing the news to the attention of the ARRL. In August 2011, Heathkit announced it was returning to the kit building business, and in September, that it would once again be manufacturing Amateur Radio kits.

## **This Week on the Radio**

- May 11 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- May 12 -- FISTS Spring Sprint
- May 12-13 -- Nevada Mustang Roundup; EUCW Fraternizing CW QSO Party; VOLTA WW RTTY Contest; CQ-M International DX Contest; 50 MHz Spring Sprint
- May 13 -- SKCC Weekend Sprintathon; WAB LF Phone Contest
- May 14 -- NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint
- May 17 -- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint

## **Next Week on the Radio**

- May 19 -- Feld Hell Sprint
- May 19-20 -- His Majesty King of Spain Contest (CW); EU PSK DX Contest; Baltic Contest
- May 21 -- Run for the Bacon QRP Contest
- May 21-22 -- Aegean RTTY Contest
- May 23-24 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

## **DX NEWS**

MALDIVES, 8Q. Operators JA2LSS, JA2AIC, JA2AAU, JA2ATE and JA2ZS are QRV as 8Q7CJ, 8Q7IC, 8Q7NK, 8Q7TE and 8Q7ZS, respectively, from North Male Atoll, IOTA AS-013, until May 16. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK. QSL to home call.

ANGOLA, D2. Craig, MM3YNP is QRV as D2SG for about one year. QSL

via GM4FDM.

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, DA. Special event station DL250COAL is QRV until December 31 commemorating the completion of coal mining in Saarland. Activity is on all bands and modes. QSL via DK8VR.

BALEARIC ISLANDS, EA6. Special event station EH6ITU will be QRV May 12 to 17 to commemorate International Communications Day. Activity will be on 40 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and various digital modes. QSL via EA6QY.

BELARUS, EU. Special event station EV1150P is QRV in celebration of the 1150th anniversary of the city of Polotsk. QSL via EW6DX.

NEW CALEDONIA, FK. Jacky, ZL3CW is QRV TX5CW from Noumea until May 29. QSL to home call.

DOMINICA, J7. Operators JA8RUZ, JK1KHT, JN1THL, JQ1LCW and JF1UOX are QRV as J79RZ, J79YK, J79KT, J79YL and J79JF, respectively, until May 17. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters, and possibly 6 meters, using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL J79RZ via JA8RUZ and all others direct via JN1NDY.

JORDAN, JY. Paolo, IK0BOU is now QRV as JY9ET and is generally active on 80 to 10 meters daily from 1400 to 2100z using CW and SSB. QSL via M0OXO.

SEYCHELLES, S7. Heye, DJ9RR will be QRV as S79RR from Mahe, IOTA AS-013, from May 15 to 23. Activity will be holiday style on 40 to 10 meters using CW and RTTY. QSL to home call.

DODECANESE, SV5. John, N5ER will be QRV as SV5/N5ER from Rhodes, IOTA EU-001, from May 15 to 20. Activity will be holiday style during his mornings and evenings using CW mainly on the lowbands. QSL direct to home call.

SOMALIA, T5. A group of operators are QRV as 6O0CW until May 18. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL direct via I2YSB. This one counts for Italian Somaliland for the Diamond DXCC Award.

BELIZE, V3. Mike, VE2XB is QRV as V31XB from Caye Caulker, IOTA NA-073, until May 31. Activity is on all bands. QSL to home call.

INDIA, VU. Manju, VU2SMS is QRV with special event call sign AU50GOA from Goa until May 31 to celebrate 50 years of independence. Activity is on 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters. QSL direct to home call. This one counts for Goa for the Diamond DXCC Award.



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., 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](mailto:maranews@w1mv.org)

**WARC Web Page** <http://www.wa1npo.org>

**Qsl via** [www.eqsl.cc](http://www.eqsl.cc)

**Skywarn** [www.powersrvcs.org/w1gmf/skywarn.htm](http://www.powersrvcs.org/w1gmf/skywarn.htm)

**Mailing Address** P.O. Box 428 Bridgewater, MA 02324

**Monthly meetings** are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month, in Braintree. Contact Bill Needham, K1WN, at 781-843-4400 or via email at [k1wn@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto:k1wn@aol.com) to confirm a reservation.