



November, 2019  
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<http://www.w1mv.org>



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



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

**Next meeting is December 17, 2019 at 6:30am at the Bridgewater Public Library in Bridgewater Center. Talk-in is on 147.180+**

### 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 Denise KC1CFO [denigs1@aol.com](mailto:denigs1@aol.com) any articles or photos you would like to see in our MARA newsletter, W1MV-MARA Website and Facebook page. Jeff N1ZZN has created a link to twitter to help get the word out even more!

**Open:** WA1BEE - Allen Hiltz called the meeting to order at 6:33pm led by the pledge of allegiance.

**Attendance:** 9 were present including 3 elected officers.

**President** - WA1BEE - Allen Hiltz

**Vice President** - N1ZZN - Jeff Lehmann

**Secretary** - ~~KC1GTR - Wendy White~~

**Treasurer** - N1XTB - Phil McNamara

W1VP Larry Kenny  
KA1YL Connie Franciosi  
N1IQI Loren Pimental

N1EDM Bob Mandeville  
WA1Q Bob Azanow  
K1WGU Bob Bass



OPEN: President Allen WA1BEE opened the meeting at 6:40pm, 10/15/2019 led by the pledge of allegiance.

**Secretary Notes - KC1GTR - Wendy White MEETING MINUTES:**

Phil N1XTB stood in for Wendy to take the meeting notes.

Motion to accept the September 2019 MARA Secretary's report as published in the October 2018 Newsletter was made by Larry, Loren seconded the motion, Motion passed by all attending members.

Club treasurer Phil N1XTB read the October 2019 treasurers report. Motion to accept was made by Larry, Loren seconded the motion. Motion passed by all attending members.

Jeff N1ZZN provided a repeater report. 2m repeater is operating at 100 watts with amplifier. Motion to accept was made by Larry, Loren seconded the motion. Motion passed by all attending members.

**Old business**

Condolence card was sent to Don Benecchi.

Repeater is available for the Boy Scout JOTA event.

No new business was brought up. Presentation was given by Bob N1EDM. See photo's at the end of the newsletter.

Meeting was closed to allow Bob N1EDM to make his R/C aircraft and drone presentation.

**Reminders - Upcoming Events**

Dec 7<sup>th</sup> USS Wisconsin – N4W1S will be on the air – remembrance of Pearl Harbor.

December – Whitman's Winter Fest-

Fundraisers – this could be an ongoing fundraiser – take donated items, snap some pictures, gather some information on the items and list them on the Facebook Page, Twitter, Instagram and in the marketplace, etc. Phil to discuss with his son and see if he would like to spearhead this endeavor, if not Wendy – KC1GTR will tackle this.

Still looking for other suggestions on fundraising and ways to increase membership.



## The K7RA Solar Update

### The K7RA Solar Update

11/15/2019

Even with little to no solar activity, it is amazing how many long-distance HF contacts are possible, even without using weak signal modes such as FT8.

Recent DXpeditions, such as the ones on Pitcairn Island and Marquesas, had little trouble piling up the contacts, even on ten meters. It helps that we are in the fall season.

No sunspots over the past week, and average daily solar flux was about the same as last week's report, 70.3 compared to 70.4. Geomagnetic indices were still quiet, with average daily planetary A index at 4 (last week was 4.1) and middle latitude A index at 3 (compared to 2.7).

Predicted solar flux is 71 on November 15 to December 3, 70 on December 4-18, and 71 on December 19-29.

Predicted planetary A index is 5, 12 and 8 on November 15-17, 5 on November 18-19, then 18, 25, 18, 12 and 10 on November 20-24, 8 on November 25-26, 5 on November 27 through December 16, then 15, 25, 18, 12 and 10 on December 17-21, 8 on December 22-23, and 5 on December 24-29.

This forecast is the same as the one appearing on Thursday in the ARRL Letter. Check daily updates at <ftp://ftp.swpc.noaa.gov/pub/forecasts/45DF/>. These are updated daily after 2100 UTC, most recently between 2110-2151 UTC.

**Geomagnetic activity forecast for the period November 15-December 10, 2019 from OK1HH.**

**Geomagnetic field will be**

**Quiet on: November 18-19, 29-30, December 1**

**Quiet to unsettled on: November 15, 27-28, December 4-10**

**Quiet to active on: November 16 (-17, 25-26), December 2-3**

**Unsettled to active on: November 20, 24**

**Active to disturbed: November 21-23**

**Solar wind will intensify on: November 21-26, (27-29)**

**Parenthesis means lower probability of activity enhancement.**

Bill Paul, KD6JUI, is still operating regularly from his kayak in Northern California. *QST* published an article about his boat and antenna in the November 2016 issue. "I was again operating from a kayak (November 9, Saturday), this time from Lake Berryessa in northern California. The first contact I had (17-meter CW at noon Pacific time) was with "Moz" VK3CWB in Australia. I was, as before, running 10 W into a 34-foot end-fed half-wave wire vertical set up in a fallen-over tree at the edge of the lake. Although at first, he had trouble copying my call sign, he did give me a 539 report.



“What amazed me was that directly behind me was a hill that I thought would cut my signal in his direction. Perhaps my signal was bouncing off the hills on the other side of the lake.

“One of my reasons for writing in is to show that QRP signals even in this time of low solar activity can get through overseas, especially if one is operating from a watery location.

“I go out in the kayak around once a week and operate. The antenna is loadable on 17, 20 and 30 meters. There was plenty of activity on all those bands yesterday, but I only had contacts on 17 and 30. My buddy caught his first trout on his end of things. A good day all around.

“I get a very good QSL-card return from foreign stations when I send them my kayak QSL card.”

KA3JAW reported an 11-meter sporadic-E opening on the evening of November 13. Local sunset was 4:44 PM and the opening began 2 hours and 31 minutes later and ended 4 hours and 16 minutes after sunset. He is in Easton, Pennsylvania and heard transmissions from Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia.

ARRL Phone Sweepstakes is this weekend. See <http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes>

Here is an interesting page from NASA showing how solar rotation varies according to latitude: [https://www.nasa.gov/mission\\_pages/sunearth/science/solar-rotation.html](https://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/sunearth/science/solar-rotation.html). Thanks to N2IC and N0AX via *ARRL Contest Update*.

If you would like to make a comment or have a tip for our readers, email the author at [k7ra@arrl.net](mailto:k7ra@arrl.net).

For more information concerning radio propagation, see the ARRL Technical Information Service at <http://arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. For an explanation of numbers used in this bulletin, see <http://arrl.org/the-sun-the-earth-the-ionosphere>.

An archive of past propagation bulletins is at <http://arrl.org/w1aw-bulletins-archive-propagation>. More good information and tutorials on propagation are at <http://k9la.us/>.

Monthly propagation charts between four USA regions and twelve overseas locations are at <http://arrl.org/propagation>.

Instructions for starting or ending email distribution of ARRL bulletins are at <http://arrl.org/bulletins>.

Sunspot numbers for November 7 through 13, 2019 were 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, and 0, with a mean of 0. 10.7 cm flux was 69.8, 70.2, 69.6, 70.8, 69.5, 70.8, and 71.1, with a mean of 70.3. Estimated planetary A indices were 5, 3, 4, 3, 7, 4, and 2, with a mean of 4. Middle latitude A index was 3, 2, 3, 2, 7, 3, and 1, with a mean of 3.





Parenthesis means lower probability of activity enhancement."

Even more news on huge solar blasts in the past: <https://bit.ly/2Mw7LMe>

Mike Schaffer, KA3JAW, of Easton, Pennsylvania reported: "Yesterday, Friday, October 4, the same 11 meter band double-hop Es event (reported last week) repeated itself.

"This time it started later during the day, sometime prior to 4:45 PM and vaporized at 6:10 PM ET. From 5:14 PM onward, local (within 10 miles) 11-meter operators were heard mixing with the Puerto Rican DX.

"The signal strength was fairly-good, at times slow short duration fading with slight distortion due to multipath propagation.

"Other signal reports included:

- 2136 UTC WP4O FK68ke 28.075.7 DIGI AB1HL FN42kj 2717 km
- 2142 UTC WP4O FK68ke 28.075.7 DIGI W1ZQ FN42fu 2773 km
- 2151 UTC W1NT FN42lu 28.025.0 CW HK1MW FK20lt 3582 km CW
- WP4O Bayamon, PR - AB1HL Cambridge, MA, 1688 miles
- WP4O Bayamon, PR - W1ZQ Amherst, NH, 1723 miles
- W1NT Newton, NH - HK1MW Barranquilla, Colombia, 2225 miles

"On Wednesday, October 9, the 11-meter band opened with double-hop Es down to the northern Caribbean Sea, from Cuba over to Puerto Rico.

"It started at 4:40 PM ET (2040 UTC) and vaporized at 6:04 pm (2204 UTC), twenty-eight minutes prior to local sunset.

Signal strength ranged from Faint (1) to Fair (5)."

Ken, N4SO, of Alabama sends us his 17-meter notes: "I was on 18.100 MHz using FT8 on October 7. The band opens near sunrise each day, with a variety of European stations, including Ukraine and Oman. Wales appeared first today. When the band opened, there are no US or South American stations, but they appeared about two hours later.

"There are very few Maritime Mobile stations on FT8. However, Vladimir, UW5EJX/MM, was operating from a tanker and we made contact at 1846 UTC.



184645 -13 0.3 2649 ~ CQ UW5EJX/MM

“Using 15 W to my half-square antenna, I also managed to pick up...

120630 -15 0.1 1047 ~ CQ DX GW0PLP IO72 Wales  
133430 2 1.5 1713 ~ N4SO OM3SEM 73 (Slovak Rep.)  
135700 -1 0.1 1606 ~ <N4SO> HB9SPACE RR73 (Switzerland)  
141530 -9 0.4 1551 ~ N4SO EA4HBK RR73 (Spain)  
140730 -17 0.3 1737 ~ CQ E75C JN93 Bosnia-Herzegovina  
143700 -11 0.1 2378 ~ N4SO EB3JT JN01 (Spain)"

Martin McCormick, WB5AGZ, wrote: “I believe there is a way to tell if the propagation one is hearing is Sporadic E or F2.

“When Sporadic E occurs, the path goes from the transmitter to a patch of sky in which the E layer is ionized to form a reflective surface like a mirror which bounces it back to Earth somewhere else. It is a simple path and the resulting echo fades up and down in strength but there is no selective fading to give that characteristic shortwave sound, as if somebody was continually twisting the tone controls. The signal just gets stronger and weaker.

“F2 reception is more complex because there is more than one F layer. Since radio signals are nothing more than a different color of light, they travel at the speed of light with nulls and nodes that enhance or nullify the carrier on any given frequency from second to second. This is what can briefly make an AM signal sound like sideband and, if you switch to sideband mode, you may hear a tinny-sounding restoration of the AM audio because the null of the carrier only kills the carrier, not the side bands.

“The effect is much like sweeping a RF notch filter across an AM signal because that is what the physics of the multiple reflective layers which may be many miles apart are doing to the signal.”

Here is the latest video from Tamitha Skov, WX6SWW: <https://youtu.be/Vs5vWvvyvGE>

If you would like to make a comment or have a tip for our readers, email the author at [k7ra@arrrl.net](mailto:k7ra@arrrl.net).

For more information concerning radio propagation, see the ARRL Technical Information Service at <http://arrrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. For an explanation of numbers used in this bulletin, see <http://arrrl.org/the-sun-the-earth-the-ionosphere>.

An archive of past propagation bulletins is at <http://arrrl.org/w1aw-bulletins-archive-propagation>. More good information and tutorials on propagation are at <http://k9la.us/>.

Monthly propagation charts between four USA regions and twelve overseas locations are at <http://arrrl.org/propagation>. Instructions for starting or ending email distribution of ARRL bulletins are at <http://arrrl.org/bulletins>. Sunspot numbers for October 3 through 9, 2019 were 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, and 0, with a mean of 3.1. 10.7 cm flux was 68.2, 68.1, 67.8, 67.4, 67.7, 67.1, and 68.1, with a mean of 67.6. Estimated planetary A indices were 5, 7, 7, 5, 6, 5, and 9, with a mean of 14.4. Middle latitude A index was 5, 6, 6, 5, 4, 4, and 7, with a mean of 11. If you would like to make a comment or have a tip for our readers, email me at [k7ra@arrrl.net](mailto:k7ra@arrrl.net).



For more information concerning radio propagation, see the ARRL Technical Information Service at <http://arrrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. For an explanation of numbers used in this bulletin, see <http://arrrl.org/the-sun-the-earth-the-ionosphere>.

An archive of past propagation bulletins is at <http://arrrl.org/w1aw-bulletins-archive-propagation>. More good information and tutorials on propagation are at <http://k9la.us/>.

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Sunspot numbers for September 5 through 11, 2019 were 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, and 0, with a mean of 0. 10.7 cm flux was 68.3, 68.9, 73.9, 67.5, 68.8, 70, and 68.1, with a mean of 69.4. Estimated planetary A indices were 14, 8, 7, 10, 14, 4, and 5, with a mean of 8.9. Middle latitude A index was 11, 9, 6, 9, 11, 4, and 4, with a mean of 7.7.

## **New England Area Ham - - - Electronic Flea Market DATES 2019**

New England Area Ham - Electronic Flea Market

All events are Ham Radio/ Electronic related except *** 2019	Contact	Source
Dec 7th Windsor CT VR+CMus8	Antique John	860 673 0518 +

## **HAM RADIO LOCAL AREA NETS**

Any additions or corrections, contact John – N1UMJ at: [N1UMJ@arrrl.net](mailto:N1UMJ@arrrl.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 Practice Net, K1SMH Rptr, 147.195 + PL 127.3  
900 MHz Day! Try to find a 900 Repeater near you and give a call out!
- 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 - N1ZZN

Secretary Wendy White - KC1GTR

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](mailto:kc1gtr.mara@gmail.com)

**ARC Web Page**

<http://www.walnpo.org>

**Qsl via**

[www.eqsl.cc](http://www.eqsl.cc)

**Skywarn**

<http://wx1box.org> and

[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 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>



In the News  
Courtesy ARRL

## 2019 ARRL Board of Directors Election Results

11/15/2019

A new Director and Vice Director have been elected in the ARRL's Southeastern Division, based on results from ballot tabulations on Friday, November 15, in the 2019 ARRL Board of Director elections. Mickey Baker, N4MB, defeated incumbent Director Greg Sarratt, W4OZK, 2,132 votes to 1739 votes. Also, challenger James Schilling, KG4JSZ, (1,356 votes) defeated incumbent Vice Director Joseph Tiritilli, N4ZUW, (1,209 votes) and challenger Jeff Stahl, K4BH, (1,281 votes).

In the other contested race, incumbent Director John Robert Stratton, N5AUS, defeated challenger Madison Jones, W5MJ, to be re-elected as Director of the West Gulf Division. The vote was 2498 for Stratton and 1,405 for Jones.

Seats for Director and Vice Director in three other ARRL Divisions – Pacific (Director Jim Tiemstra, K6JAT, and Vice Director Kristen McIntyre, K6WX); Rocky Mountain (Director Jeff Ryan, K0RM, and Vice Director Robert Wareham, N0ESQ); and Southwestern (Director Richard Norton, N6AA) -- were unchallenged, with incumbents running for election in all but one case. Also, in the West Gulf Division Vice Director Lee Cooper, W5LHC, was running unopposed. In the Southwestern Division, Mark Weiss, K6FG, ran unopposed for the seat being vacated by Ned Stearns, AA7A.

All candidates having no opposition were declared elected at the close of the nominations period.

### Emergency Management

#### [If you're an individual Emergency Communication volunteer...-](#)

You need to be trained. In order to provide support in the event of an emergency—or even in a non-emergency situation—you need to have the proper training and [licensing](#). Learn more about the ARRL [Emergency Communications Training](#) course.

You need to be equipped with sustaining skills. What if when you get to a location, there is no food and the sleeping conditions are undesirable? Before you leave on your assignment, you need to make sure you have coping skills that enable you to be able to do your job operating under the conditions you are assigned to—from hardship conditions to making sure you're able to work the equipment.

You need to prepare your family for your absence. When you leave home and head for a disaster area, your family must be both physically and mentally able to cope. After a disaster, when a volunteer comes home, he or she can be confronted by some mental health issues, for



which there are several resources. Many volunteers experience everything from fatigue or exhaustion to depression.

How can you volunteer, become a member of your local ARES, CERT, RACES or local emergency management organization? Then try the [American Red Cross](#) or Web sites like [Ready.gov](#).

### Future Events

June 2020, Sota, Summits on The Air – Rick – KB1TEE is looking into this.

Thank you to Bob N1EDM for the R/C Aircraft and Drone Presentation.







# MARANews

