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We hope to see you on August 20th 2024 Social hour is from 1700 meeting starts at 1830. Talk-in is on 147.180+ meeting. Our August meeting is the BBQSO at 135 Wareham St Middleborough please see the information below.

ON THE AIR Tuesdays First September 23rd, Second September 10th and Fourth September 24th. Tom Luckman WA1TOM will be the net controller. We are looking for other net controllers please sign up with John Laiosa N1BSO we have a new format please sign in on Tuesdays at 2000 (8pm) and join the new conversation

Presidents Message

President's Message:

I hope everybody is having a good summer. The Tuesday night net is going very well with the new format and thanks to Tom's(WA1TOM) effort. If anyone would like to do a Tuesday night just let Tom or myself know. Also if anyone is interested in club apparel, there is a link on the web site with the different items available. Send your requests to me and when we have a large enough order I will send it in. Hope to see everyone at Rich's(KB1TEE) house next for our annual cookout. This cookout is instead of our normal monthly meeting at the Bridgewater Public Library.

John Laiosa

Secretary report By Phil McNamara N1XTB

MARA minutes 16 July 2024

Meeting called to order by John N1BSO at 1841 at the Bridgewater Library meeting room.

Attendees

N1BSO John

KC1UQE Mary

N1XTB Phil

WA1BEE Allen

N1UMJ John via zoom

KC1GTR Wendy via zoom

Secretary report as published in the newsletter accepted

Treasurer and Repeater report accepted.

Discussion of CERT in Bridgewater and Raynham

Autumn Fest - table at BSU

Allen provided an updated list of remaining equipment for sale

Discussion about having a speaker for Skywarn/NWS presentation in the fall.

Need to send a thank you note to the widow of the former member that provided the donated equipment

Meeting adjourned at 1854

Newsletter editor Rick Emord KB1TEE

Welcome to my home for the annual BBQSO party and meeting come over after 5pm bring a dish to share and bring whatever you wish to cook on the grill. Please let me know if you will be attending kb1tee@gmail.com 135 Wareham St Middleborough, MA. Talk in on 147.180
Bridgewater repeater MARA W1MV





Northeast
HamXposition
August 22-25, 2024



ARRL New England Division Convention

**The ARRL New England Division Convention
at the Best Western Hotel and Conference Center
Marlborough, Massachusetts**

Thursday Evening through Sunday Afternoon | August 22 to 25, 2024

Flea Market: Fri 12 PM to 5 PM, Sat 9 AM to 5 PM, Sun 9 AM to 1 PM

Exhibition Hall: Sat 9 AM to 5 PM, Sun 9 AM to 1 PM

Online [ticketing](#) for Northeast HamXposition 2024 is available. You can order General Admission, Flea Market Spaces, and tickets for the Friday and Saturday dinner events.

Amateur Radio Serves as Hurricane Debby Dumps Rain on East Coast



Hurricane Debby continues to drench the East Coast. The storm originally made landfall in Florida's Big Bend coastal area just after 11:00 PM on Sunday, August 4, as a Category 1, near Steinhatchee, Florida, just 9 miles southeast of where Category 3 Idalia made landfall on August 30, 2023.

The hurricane was downgraded the following day to a tropical storm and National Hurricane Center forecasters reported that sustained winds were 74 miles per hour (MPH), and the storm was moving north and east at 10 MPH.

The [amateur radio station at the National Hurricane Center, WX4NHC](#), the [Hurricane Watch Net](#), and the [VoIP Hurricane Net](#) were activated as Debby slowly traversed the Southeast US and dumped potentially catastrophic rainfall over widespread parts of Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina. On Monday morning, August 5, nearly 248,000 homes and business customers were without electricity.

Scott Roberts, KK4ECR, ARRL Northern Florida Section Manager, reported that Clay County Emergency Services (ARES®) was also active. Arc J. Thames, W4CPD, Northern Florida Section Emergency Coordinator, reported that Alachua County and Franklin County ARES were also activated.

Thames reported an amateur radio operator was stranded due to high water in Suwannee County. He used the statewide repeater network, SARNET, to relay the information and a monitoring operator in Jacksonville was able to coordinate with an urban search-and-rescue (USAR) team with an embedded ham radio operator and was able to facilitate the rescue of a family.



Rick Palm, K1CE, editor of the ARRL ARES Letter, was at his home in Fort White, Florida, when the storm hit.

“It was another wild ride, with huge trees down and river levels rising fast,” Palm reported. “For two days, lots of heavy machinery rolled into our neighborhood to saw up downed trees and restore power.”

Palm also reported to the town shelter and worked with Darren DeMarino, KO4DLN, and had contact with Brad Swartz, N5CBP, who is the Emergency Coordinator stationed at the EOC radio room. He managed to send a “Field Situation Report” via Winlink to the EOC in Lake City. Palm said he was a little rusty but got the form to go through.

The Five Flags Amateur Radio Association, W4UC, located in Pensacola, Florida, was asked by state officials to serve as HF backup for the SARNET system even though they were outside the warned area.

Tropical Storm Debby, now off the Atlantic coast, will move through the Carolinas, and then northeast from the mid-Atlantic into New England.

Navajo code talkers day



Navajo Code Talkers Day is August 14, 2024, and recognizes the contributions of Navajo Marines during World War II.

These “code talkers” encoded and transmitted messages using a complex Navajo language-based code. Secret communication was essential to the war and the code was never broken by Japanese forces in the Pacific. Special event station N7C will be in operation August 14 - 18, 0000Z - 0000Z, from Window Rock, Arizona, on 14.265, 7.265, and 18.133 MHz. A certificate & QSL card are available for \$5.00 USD from Herbert Goodluck, N7HG, PO Box 06, Chinle, AZ 86503.

Every WWII combatant appreciated the need for an unbreakable code that would help them communicate while protecting their operational plans. The U.S. Marines knew where to find one: the Navajo Nation. Marine Corps leadership selected 29 Navajo men, the Navajo Code Talkers, who created a code based on the complex, unwritten Navajo language. The code primarily used word association by assigning a Navajo word to key phrases and military tactics. This system enabled the Code Talkers to translate three lines of English in 20 seconds, not 30 minutes as was common with existing code-breaking machines. The Code Talkers participated in every major Marine operation in the Pacific theater, giving the Marines a critical advantage throughout the war. During the nearly month-long battle for Iwo Jima, for example, six Navajo Code Talker Marines successfully transmitted more than 800 messages without error. Marine leadership noted after the battle that the Code Talkers were critical to the victory at Iwo Jima. At the end of the war, the Navajo Code remained unbroken.

Amateur Radio Participates in World’s Largest Naval Exercise

07/21/2024



“Partners: Integrated and Prepared” is the theme for [Rim of the Pacific \(RIMPAC\) 2024](#), the world’s largest international military maritime exercise, which began June 27, and will come to a close on August 1. Conducted from Joint Base Pearl Harbor – Hickam, Oahu, Hawaii, the exercise encompasses many islands in the Hawaiian chain.

The event included 29 nations, 40 surface ships, three submarines, 14 national land forces, over 150 aircraft, and more than 25,000 personnel, including amateur radio operators working with health care facilities.

The amateur radio portion of the exercise has been completed. ARRL Assistant Section Manager and State Government Liaison Michael Miller, KH6ML, said 36 amateur radio operators from Hawaii volunteered to demonstrate the value of amateur radio in emergency preparedness and response.

“It turned out very good,” said Miller. “Some of hospitals, staff and administrators involved had their first experience with amateur radio. The operators were able to blend their skills using public service radios, satellite phones, as well as amateur radio.”

Miller pointed out that hospitals on the smaller islands don’t usually have a fulltime communications officer so working with amateur radio gives them experience for future emergencies. The amateurs worked with [Health Comm Hawaii](#) which provides amateur radio communications to health care associations in Hawaii during emergencies and disasters.

“Health Comm Hawaii really needs 100 more operators for backup and to build skill sets through monthly exercises,” Miller added.

Vice Adm. John Wade, commander, U.S. 3rd Fleet and RIMPAC 2024 Combined Task Force (CTF) commander, said the Rim of the Pacific exercise has grown over the years to be the world’s largest and premier joint combined maritime training opportunity. “The exercise’s purpose is to build relationships, to enhance interoperability and proficiency and, ultimately, contribute to the peace and stability in the vitally-important Indo-Pacific region.”

Many of the volunteers participating in RIMPAC 2024 are also members of other vital emergency communication groups, such as Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®), Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES), and Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).

Sweat, Signals, and History: A POTA Activation from the Battleship North Carolina's Radio Room!

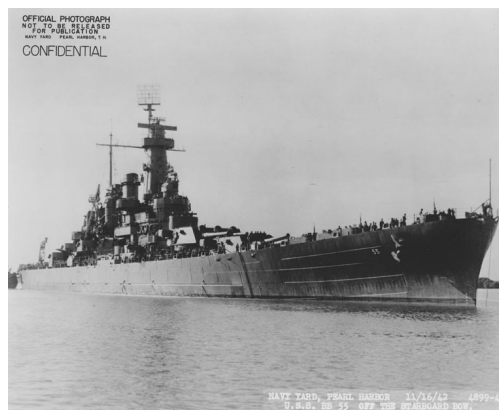
Those of you who know me know that I'm a huge World War II history buff. Ever since I was a child, I've been fascinated by the stories of bravery, sacrifice, and technological innovation that defined this era.

That's why the activation I performed on Tuesday, July 9, 2024, was very special.

I activated the Battleship North Carolina from inside the ship, using a modern transceiver, and one of the original vertical antennas mounted on the ship.

The Battleship North Carolina is a World War II-era battleship that served in the United States Navy from 1941 to 1960. It is currently [a museum ship in Wilmington, North Carolina](#).

The ship was launched in 1940 and commissioned in 1941. During World War II, it served in the Atlantic and Pacific theaters, participating in several major battles, including the Battle of the Atlantic and the Battle of Iwo Jima.



A couple months ago, I mentioned to my buddy [Bob \(K4RLC\)](#), in passing, that one of my daughters was attending a week-long residential program at NC State University while the other daughter would be attending The University of North Carolina Wilmington. My wife and I would stay in Wilmington for the week and I would somehow love to activate the Battleship North Carolina for the POTA program. Fortuitously, shortly thereafter, Bob attended a presentation about the Battleship North Carolina by Mike Hartmann (N12S) at a radio club meeting in Raleigh. Mike is with [the Azalea Coast Amateur Radio Club](#), the caretakers and curators of radio central in the battleship.

Bob put me in touch with Mike who then graciously accommodated my schedule, even though it required his presence throughout the activation. Mike did make it clear that the radio room is three decks below, has no air conditioning and is a proper "sweat box." Turns out, too, that the week we were in Wilmington coincided with a bit of a heat wave which was affecting much of the eastern US. Because of this, I asked if we could meet on Tuesday, July 9, 2024, at the earliest possible time—8:00 AM, when the museum opened.

Mike opened up the actual radio room where an Icom IC-756 Pro III was hidden in one of the original ship radio desks. This being a museum, all modern gear was hidden as well as possible. Mike was right about the room being a sweat box—even in the early morning; it was pretty hot and humid in there. Fortunately, he had two fans he turned on and pointed at us. Mike set up the IC-756 Pro III by connecting it to a power supply,

then attaching a Bencher paddle. I set up my wireless mics—one on me and the other inside the portion of the desk that housed the radio. In truth, I wasn't confident the audio would work out at all. First thing I did when I made it back to the house that day was to check the audio—turns out, it came out pretty darn well all things considered. In fact, the audio in the video was *much* better than my own two ears experienced while operating. Having one of the mics much closer to the speaker and protected from the wind blowing really made a difference. Case in point: In the video, you'll see I struggled to copy OE6GND—his signal was weak, but I copied it first go when I listened to the video. I had scheduled my activation on the POTA website in advance. I was so pleased I did this because, three decks below in a battleship, there's no hint of mobile phone service.

I was a little concerned that 20 meters might not have much life that early in the morning and I was also concerned that propagation might have been poor. Mike had mentioned that they had only recently operated a special events station (13 Colonies, if memory serves) and they struggled to make any contacts. I started calling CQ POTA and my fears quickly dissipated—the contacts started rolling in! All told, I logged 55 stations in 58 minutes. The contact rate could have been higher, but the fan noise, while essential for comfort, made it challenging to hear weaker stations. Listening to the video now, I can hear stations I couldn't easily hear in real-time.

Go to QRPer.com for the full story pictures and more information by [Thomas Witherspoon July 21, 2024](#)

Who You Gonna Call? Ham Radio To the Rescue!

Written by [Jeanne Destro](#)

There's probably no better day than today, while we're in the midst of a global Microsoft outage caused by a faulty Crowd Strike cybersecurity update, to talk about how big, high tech systems can, and do, fail.

That's why Summit County is now hosting Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) equipment on its radio tower at Summit Emergency Communications Center. They're doing so in an effort to ensure reliable communication throughout the county, and with state partners in the event of an emergency.

Did you know, for example, that you can actually send email via radio signals? No? Well, neither did I, until I talked to Summit County ARES Emergency Coordinator, Ken Dorsey.

Find out how "Ham" radio operators are a vital part of our local emergency response network, and how the legacy technology has evolved keep up with the times, since its inception, way back in 1909. Listen now.

You can also find out more about how ARES is working with Summit County Emergency Management, by clicking [here](#).

You can also find out more about how [ARES](#) is working with Summit County Emergency Management, by clicking [here](#).

The K7RA Solar Update

For this Friday's ARRL Propagation Bulletin, ARLP032:

Average daily sunspot numbers in July were the highest since 2001.

From the Athens Space Weather Forecasting Center (ASWFC):

A Geomagnetic Disturbance Warning issued 2337 UTC/07 August 2024 by the Australian Space Weather Forecasting Centre. Recent coronal mass ejection (CME) activity is expected to increase geomagnetic activity from mid - 09 August and on 10 August. Increased geomagnetic activity expected due to coronal mass ejection (CME) from 09 -10 August 2024. Geomagnetic activity forecast 09 August: G0, chance G1 half of UT day; 10 August: G1-G2.

Australian Space Weather Forecasting Centre Bureau of Meteorology: Solar activity jumped quite a bit over the past reporting week, August 1 – 7, with average daily sunspot numbers rising from 208.9 to 222.3 and solar flux from 207.3 to 255.3.

[Spaceweather.com](https://spaceweather.com) reported that sunspot numbers have reached a 23-year high.

Geomagnetic numbers were fundamentally unchanged, with average daily planetary A index shifting from 14 to 15.7 and middle latitude index from 13.1 to 13.4.

Seven new sunspot groups emerged: one on August 1, two on August 2, three on August 4 and one August 7. Predicted solar flux shows 270 and 280 on August 8 - 9; 275 on August 10 - 11; 285 on August 12 - 13; 260 on August 14; 205 on August 15 - 16; then 200 and 185 on August 17 - 18; 180 on August 19 - 22; 200 and 210 on August 23 - 24; 220 on August 25 - 26; 235 on August 27 - 28; 245 on August 29 - 30, and 240 on August 31 through September 7.

Predicted planetary A index is 6, 32, 40 and 15 on August 8 - 11, 5 on August 12 - 21, then 10 and 8 on August 22 - 23, and 5 on August 24 to September 6.

Predicting solar max from the Deccan Herald: <https://bit.ly/3AafcFu>

From News 9: "CME from X-Cass Solar Flare to strike glancing blow to Earth between August 8 - 9"
<https://bit.ly/4dDAPg1>

From AXIOS Seattle: <https://bit.ly/3WWq3f2>

From Science Daily: www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2024/07/240730134746.htm

Sunspot numbers hit 23-year high: <https://bit.ly/3LURJej>; <https://bit.ly/46AGnFL>

ASB Zeitung: <https://aussiedlerbote.de/en/active-sun-many-sunspots-are-visible>

From Devdiscourse: <https://bit.ly/3AdejvP>

Sunspot numbers for August 1 through 7, 2024 were 260, 232, 217, 194, 189, 222, and 242, with a mean of 222.3. The 10.7 -centimeter flux was 234.4, 247.1, 244.6, 240.8, 247.3, 270, and 303.2, with a mean of 255.3. Estimated planetary A indices were 22, 9, 10, 46, 10, 6, and 7, with a mean of 15.7. Middle latitude A Index was 22, 9, 9, 28, 10, 8, and 8, with a mean of 13.4.

Send your tips, questions, or comments to k7ra@arrl.net.

A comprehensive K7RA Solar Update is posted Fridays on the ARRL website. For more information concerning radio propagation, [visit](#) the ARRL Technical Information Service, [read](#) "What the Numbers Mean...", and [check out](#) the Propagation Page of Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA.

Massasoit Amateur Radio Association Executive Board

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Vice President: OPEN

Secretary: OPEN

Treasurer: Phil McNamara N1XTB

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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/w1mvmara/>

ARC Web Page <http://www.wa1npo.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 with Tuesday Night Zoom meeting will be at 6:30pm.

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. We are trying a new format that may not include Westlink.

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, W1ODN 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

BBQSO AUGUST 20th 2024 135 Wareham St
Middleborough, MA. Please let us know if you are
going to be here

