

June 2024

Volume 61 Issue 06



<http://www.w1mv>



[https://www.facebook.com/w1mvmara /](https://www.facebook.com/w1mvmara/)



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

Next meeting is June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Social hour 1830 meeting at 19:00pm. Talk-in is on 147.180+ Meetings are at the Town of Bridgewater library in the center of town 15 South St Bridgewater MA. Parking is in the back of the building entry through the side door we meet in the basement classroom.

## **ON THE AIR** Tuesdays at 2000 (8pm) conversations

President: Acting N1BSO John Laiosa

Vice President: open

Secretary: Open acting WA1TOM Tom Luckman

Treasurer: N1XTB Phil MacNamara

Trusties: N1XTB Phil MacNamara

### **Presidents Notes:**

The new Tuesday night format has been very successful thanks to Tom WA1TOM. If anybody else would like to do a net on Tuesday just let Tom or myself know. Also if there is a topic you would like to bring up on the Tuesday net just send it to Tom or myself. Also our annual cookout at Rick KB1TEE is coming up soon, it will be in place of our regular August Tuesday night meeting at the library. There will be more details to follow, all are welcome. If you are interested in any club apparel, send your selections to me. There is a link on our web site for the apparel we are offering.

John Laiosa

## **SECRETARY REPORT** by Phil McNamara

MARA minutes 21 May 2024

Meeting called to order by John N1BSO at 1836 at the Bridgewater Library meeting room.

Attendees

N1BSO John

WA1TOM Tom

N1XTB Phil

N1IQI Loren

N1UMJ John (via zoom)

KC1UQE Mary

KC1JDN Philip

Secretary report as published in the newsletter accepted

Treasurer and Repeater report accepted.

New APRS box is working fine at repeater site

Discussion of equipment listing on club facebook page.

900 MHZ repeater equipment donated from Bridgewater FD is installed

Tom is doing great on the new net format. Averaging 12 people. N1BSO will be backup if Tom has a work conflict.

Club Apparel - 3 people in order backlog. Will need more items to meet a minimum order.

New Business - Reminder about the August BBQSO at Rick's on our usual Tuesday club meeting night.

Anyone wishing to participate in Field day activities can join WARC at their usual spot at the YMCA field site.

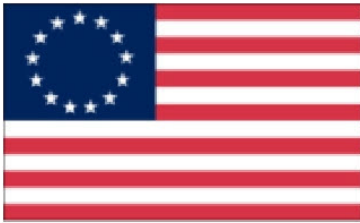
Meeting adjourned at 1847

## **Power Tool Batteries for Portable or Emergency Operation**

Gordon S. Novak, Jr., AF5KA

With the help of a dc-dc converter, power tool batteries can come in handy as a backup power source for your radio during emergency deployments. Read "Power Tool Batteries for Portable or Emergency Operation" by Gordon S. Novak, Jr., AF5KA, to learn the technique. Go to QST to read the full article.

eries For Ham Radio



### The Annual 13 Colonies Special Event

GB13COL

TM13COL

WM3PEN

NY - K2A

VA - K2B

DE - K2E

MA - K2H

NH - K2K

RJ - K2C

MD - K2F

NJ - K2I

SC - K2L

CT - K2D

GA - K2G

NC - K2J

PA - K2M

# 15th Annual 13 Colonies

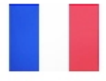


# Special Event

JULY 1ST - 7TH 2023



## SIGNERS OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE



K2A/NY

\**Wm. Floyd*



K2B/VA

\**Thos. Jefferson*



K2C/RI

\**Wm. Ellery*



K2D/CT

\**Wm. Williams*



K2E/DE

\**Caesar Rodney*



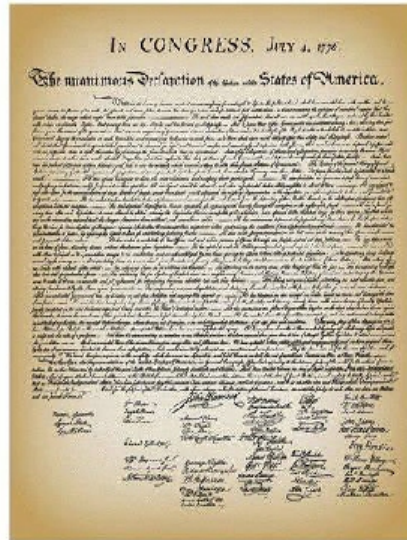
K2F/MD

\**Wm. Paca*



K2G/GA

\**Geo. Walton*



\**John Adams*

K2H/MA



\**John Hart*

K2I/NJ



\**John Penn*

K2J/NC



\**Wm. Whipple*

K2K/NH



\**Thos. Lynch*

K2L/SC



\**Ben. Franklin*

K2M/PA



*H.M. King George 3rd*



*Marquis De Lafayette*

**CLEAN SWEEP**

THIS CERTIFICATE CERTIFIES THAT ARS: **KU2US** HAS PARTICIPATED IN THIS ON - AIR AMATEUR RADIO EVENT HONORING THE ORIGINAL THIRTEEN COLONY STATES, OUR INDEPENDENCE, & OUR ACTIVE MILITARY /VETERANS.

**13**

CONTACTS

*Sample*

**73'**

**WMBEN**

*Ben. Franklin*



## ARRL Field Day JUNE 22, 2024

ARRL Field Day is the most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. On the fourth weekend of June, more than 35,000 radio amateurs gather with their clubs, groups or simply with friends to operate from remote locations.

**Field Day is ham radio's open house.** Every June, more than 40,000 hams throughout North America set up temporary transmitting stations in public places to demonstrate ham radio's science, skill and service to our communities and our nation. It combines public service, emergency preparedness, community outreach, and technical skills all in a single event. Field Day has been an annual event since 1933, and remains the most popular event in ham radio.





## International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend - ILLW

Normally held on the 3rd full weekend in August

This year: 00.01 UTC 17th August to 24.00 UTC 18th August 2024 (48 hours)

For some reason or other August seems to have become the international weekend for lighthouses. Countries all over the world have become involved in one for or another of lighthouse activity. Some years ago the United States Congress declared August 7th as their National Lighthouse Day and during that first week in August amateur radio operators in America set up portable stations at lighthouses and endeavour to make contact with each other. This event is known as the US National Lighthouse Week.

In Britain the Association of Lighthouse Keepers, [ALK](#), conducts International Lighthouse Heritage Weekend on the same weekend as the ILLW in August. Their objective is to encourage Lighthouse managers, keepers and owners to open their lighthouse or lightstation and related visitors centres to the public with a view to raising the profile of lighthouses, lightvessels and other navigational aids, and preserving our maritime heritage.

However, the major event which takes place in August is the International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend, [ILLW](#), which came into being in 1998 as the Scottish Northern Lights Award run by the Ayr Amateur Radio Group. The history of this event can be found elsewhere on this site. The ILLW usually takes place on the 3rd full weekend in August each year and attracts over 500 lighthouse entries located in over 40 countries. It is one of the most popular international amateur radio events in existence probably because there are very few rules and it is not the usual contest type event. It is also free and there are no prizes for contacting large numbers of other stations. There is little doubt that the month of August has become "Lighthouse Month" due largely to the popularity and growth of the ILLW.



## BBQSO and MEETING AUGUST 15<sup>th</sup> STARTING at 5PM

BBQSO 2022 the MARA club will be having its annual meeting with a BBQ. This event is open to all HAMS it is not just open to members. Talk in will be on the 147.180 PL 67 repeater please come on over. The address is 135 Wareham St Middleborough, MA. I will have the gas grill fired up and the wood grill will be burning. You must provide whatever you wish to eat (**you will cook your own**) and please bring something for the pot luck for everyone to share. Cooking utensils and plastic knives, forks, and spoons with paper plates will be available. Coffee will be on I use Dunkin Donuts I will have hot and cold drink cups cream milk sugar and sugar substitutes. Adult beverages are allowed please do so responsibly.

**Bring your own seat**

Thank you Rick KB1TEE



Northeast  
**HamXposition**  
August 22-25, 2024



ARRL New England Division Convention

## Northeast HamXposition, ARRL New England Division Convention

**Start Date:** 08/22/2024

**End Date:** 08/25/2024

**Location:** Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel  
181 Boston Post Rd.  
Marlborough, MA 01752

**Website:** <http://hamxposition.org/>

**Email:** [k1twf@hamxposition.org](mailto:k1twf@hamxposition.org) This year's program is shaping up to be the best one in years! More details can be found in the press release below. Other formats can be found here.

Please feel free to use whatever format or formats fit your needs.

<<https://hamxposition.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/2024-NORTHEAST-HAMXPOSITION.pdf>> PDF copy

<<https://hamxposition.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/2024-NORTHEAST-HAMXPOSITION.docx>> MS Word copy

<<https://hamxposition.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/2024-NORTHEAST-HAMXPOSITION.txt>> Text copy

<https://hamxposition.org/northeast-hamxposition-press-release/>

Let me know if you have any questions. I look forward to seeing YOU at HamXposition!

Bruce, K1BG

HamXposition Marketing and Promotion Committee

# NEAR-Fest

## New England Amateur Radio Festival

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Phil Brooks, KA1PXZ, Chief of NEAR-Fest, is pleased to announce that, effective October 4th, 2024, the New England Amateur Radio Festival, known as NEAR-Fest, will be held at the Hillsborough County Agricultural Society Fairgrounds and Youth Center located at New Boston NH, approximately 15 miles west of Manchester.

The reason for the permanent change in venue is due to ongoing scheduling conflicts with other events at the Deerfield (NH) Fairgrounds, NEAR-Fest's home for the past eighteen years.

The hard decision to move the popular New England hamfest was taken by a unanimous vote of NEAR-Fest's Board of Directors on May 17th, 2024.

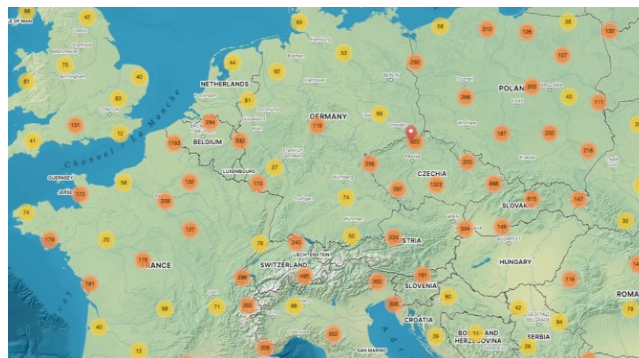
In endorsing the decision NEAR-Fest's Benevolent Dictator Emeritus, Michael Crestohl, W1RC, aka "Mister Mike" commented: "This was inevitable. The Deerfield Fairgrounds is becoming more and more popular with exhibitors and, as a designated agricultural fairgrounds, they have to give priority to agricultural events. We had a fabulous eighteen-year run. I am confident that Phil and Kelley, along with their team, will take NEAR-Fest forward at our new location for many years to come."

Other than the location nothing else will change. It is still the same NEAR-Fest we have all known and loved since 2007!

**NEAR-Fest XXXVI will be held Friday October 4th and Saturday October 5th, 2024 at the Hillsborough County Agricultural Society Fairgrounds, located at 17 Hildale Lane, (Route 13) New Boston NH. GPS Coordinates 42.9842430, -71.6793460.**

**Please keep checking back. The website will be updated as more information is available**

## Ham-Map: OK1SIM creates an interactive park and summit map!



[June 1, 2024 Thomas Witherspoon](#)

I needed a map, so I programmed it!

While planning one of the WWFF activities, I sighed that there was no map that suited me. So I started to program the map myself, even though I'm not a programmer, it's not my job, I have some basics of PHP and



MySQL and I've already done some web applications. I found out first where to download fresh reference data, I created daily synchronization into my own database so that I don't have to worry about adding, deleting or changing. Over reference data, I then created an application using Leaflet and excellent Czech tourist mapmaps [mapy.cz](http://mapy.cz) that shows WWFF, POTA, SOTA and GMA references. It's all in development, I can think of other features. I've newly put it on the domain [ham-map.com](http://ham-map.com) and I'm going to make the OpenSource code available on GitHub.

I place the greatest emphasis on usability on both a classic computer and a mobile phone. There are certainly many similar map applications with references, mine is just another one and it's mine.

In the near future I'll make available downloading data in .GPX format to an offline map application and the ability to view never-activated WWFF areas.

<https://ham-map.com/>

73 de Michal OK1SIM

**Thank you for sharing your resource with us, Michael! I like how detailed the map layer is as well. Well done!**

## The K7RA Solar Update

At 2256 UTC on June 16 the Australian Space Weather Forecast Centre issued a geomagnetic warning: "The solar wind speed on UT day 15-Jun has increased as the Earth entered a coronal hole wind stream after 15/0545UT. Increased geomagnetic activity is expected for 16-Jun with isolated periods of G1-Minor level activity."

Earlier in the day I checked the NOAA planetary K index page, and it showed a jump from K index of about 1.8 at 1200 UTC to about 4.1 at 1500 and again at 1800 UTC, then about 4.5 at 2100 UTC and 5.5 at 0000 UTC on June 16. At 0300 UTC it was down a bit to 5.

See, <https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/products/planetary-k-index> .

Solar activity declined this week, with average daily sunspot numbers dropping from 139 to 122, while average daily solar flux decreased from 166.8 to 154.8. This compares the current reporting week of June 8-14 against the previous seven days.

Average daily planetary A index decreased from 7.3 to 5.7, and average daily middle latitude A index from 8.6 to 6.7.

On June 14 [Spaceweather.com](http://Spaceweather.com) reported two new sunspot groups emerging across the Sun's southeastern horizon.

Forecasters Cundiff and Trost of the U.S. Air Force 557th Weather Wing predict solar flux at 155 on June 16-17, 160 on June 18-19,



then 155, 160 and 165 on June 20-22, 170 on June 23-25, then 168, 165 and 162 on June 26-28, 160 on June 29 through July 4, 165 on July 5, 170 on July 6-8, then 155, 157, 153 and 160 on July 9-12, 150 on July 13-14, 155 on July 15-17, then 160 and 165 on July 18-19, and 170 on July 20-22.

Predicted planetary A index is 18, 12 and 8 on June 16-18, 5 on June 19-20, 8 on June 21-22, 5 on June 23-26, 12 on June 27-28, 5 on June 29-30, then 12 and 8 on July 1-2, 5 on July 3-7, 12 on July 8-10, then 5, 5, and 12 on July 11-13, and 10 on July 14-15, and 5 on July 16-23.

These predictions look great for ARRL Field Day, which is June 24-25. Why? Solar flux peaks at 170 on June 23-25, and the predicted planetary A index is a nice quiet 5 on June 22-26. Next week we will present an updated forecast just prior to Field Day weekend.

### Massasoit Amateur Radio Association Executive Board

President : John Laiosa acting as president

Vice President: OPEN

Secretary: OPEN

Treasurer: Phil McNamara N1XTB

Call Sign Trustee: Phil McNamara N1XTB

Newsletter editor : Rick Emord KB1TEE

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/w1mvmaral/>

Newsletter Editor: Rick Emord

WARC Web Page <http://www.wa1npo.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 3rd Tuesday of each month. Zoom meeting will be at 6:30pm.

Our Meetings-On-The-Air are held all other Tuesday evenings at 8PM on 147.180+

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](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

