



September 2024

Volume 61 Issue 09



<http://www.w1mv>



<https://www.facebook.com/w1mvmara/>



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

Next meeting is September 17, 2023 Social hour is from 1800 meeting starts at 1830. Talk-in is on 147.180+ meeting will be at the Bridgewater public library.

ON THE AIR Tuesdays 1st Oct 31st, 2nd Oct 8th, and 4th 22nd 5th Oct 29th
Happy Halloween. Tuesdays at 2000 (8pm) October meeting is on October 17th

Presidents Message

President's Message:

I hope everybody had a great summer. Another great summer cookout at Rick, WB1TEE's house, nice company and great food. I would like to also thank Rick's wife Patty for helping and the great desert. The Tuesday night net has become very popular and maybe generating interest for some of the participants in joining our club. Anyone who would like to try running the net on Tuesday night, just let Tom, WA1TOM or myself know. There was talk at last month's meeting to have another guest speaker, potentially for the National Weather Service. Anyone interested in club apparel, go to the web site and send your requests to me.

John Laiosa

Secretaries report Phil N1XTB

No business was conducted at the BBQSO, but a good time was had by all who attended.

BBQSO 2024 pictures from Phil N1XTB



Newsletter editor Rick Emord KB1TEE

I have been having an issue with Microsoft Word it keeps placing a header and footer on every page. I have need of some advice on how to fix it. I've tried the google advice it fixes it temporarily but when I close the program it comes back. Please let me know if you know how to fix it. kb1tee@gmail.com

Just Ahead in Radiosport

Yearlong -- [ARRL Volunteers On the Air](#) (VOTA). See the State Activations Schedule for weekly [W1AW Portable Operations](#), including:

- September 16 - 22 -- Vermont W1AW/1
- September 16 - 22 -- Oklahoma W1AW/5

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 Hilldale Lane, (Route 13) New Boston NH. GPS Coordinates 42.9842430, -71.6793460.

Amateur Radio Field Exercise sponsored by Walpole EMA/CERT

On Saturday, September 21st from 9 AM to 2 PM at Adam's Farm at 999 North St, Walpole, MA, Walpole Emergency Management Agency and Community Emergency Response Team will be sponsoring an exercise by amateur radio operators to deploy and test their communications capabilities in the field. A variety of antennas, radio transceivers and power systems will be tested to understand the functionality and behaviors of the various options. These include sending test messages across Eastern Massachusetts and, if the equipment is successfully deployed, across the continental US. We would love more participants (contact don.rolph@gmail.com to participate), visitors, and also amateur operators willing to work the event from their home stations.

The operating schedule will be

9 AM arrive and begin setup

9:30 Walpole EMA on air with monitoring/net on Walpole Repeater: 146.895, pl 123.0

11:00 80 meter voice on 3930 KHz moving up to first free frequency

11:30 80 meter NBEMS on 3582.5 KHz MARIDN net: pass NTS traffic

12:00 60 meter voice on channel 1 dial 5330.5 KHz

12:30 20 meter NBEMS with Transcontinental NBEMS net: 14,068 KHz

1:00 40 meter voice on 7200 KHz

We would love to have you join us!

73,
AB1PH
Don Rolph

USS Wisconsin BB 64 Norfolk VA. N4WIS

Special Event - Decommissioning of the Battleship Wisconsin BB64

This special shipboard operations event will be NEXT weekend, Saturday and possibly Sunday. Sunday operation depends on if anyone would like to operate. Hours Of Operation: Saturday September 21, 2024 - 8:30am - 4PM Sunday September 22, 2024 - 10AM - 4PM (if anyone would like to operate) Parking is available at the Plume Street garage, which is located directly across the street from the ship. Nauticus will validate parking slips for free parking. Operators don't need to be a member to join in on the fun, newcomers are welcome. These special events are lots of fun by all. If you would like to participate, please send me an email to let me know what day you would like to operate (N3WM@yahoo.com).

I look forward to seeing everyone next weekend.

Best 73's

Bill N3Wm
President

USS Massachusetts NE1PL USTNR group

The NE1PL USTNR group will be on the air Saturday September 21st celebrating the launch anniversary of the ship. We are looking for anyone who would like to come down to operate from the ship.



I am looking forward to seeing everyone next Saturday.

Best 73's

Rick KB1TEE
President

The K7RA Solar Update

September is National Preparedness Month

September is **National Preparedness Month**, a time to focus on being ready for emergencies. Our Department of Emergency Management and Security wants everyone to be prepared, not just in September, but all year round.

Sandy Kenyon, a technical specialist with the department, says the theme for 2024 is **“Start a Conversation.”** This means talking about emergencies with your family, even if it’s not always easy.

Here are some tips to get started:

- **Watch the news:** Sometimes, current events can bring up these important topics naturally.
- **Think about weather:** Even though Fairfax County is inland, we are still in a hurricane zone. Use a weather event as an excuse to start talking.
- **Include everyone:** Make sure all family members know the plan. Everyone needs to be on the same page.

“A lot of times, talking about bad things that could happen like a disaster or an emergency isn’t always the easiest,” Kenyon explains. “But we need to have these conversations, so we know what our plan is for when things go sideways.”

For a ham or any other public safety responder, whether paid or volunteer, it is not uncommon to be called out to provide assistance during disasters. We often do not know when we will be called or exactly what the call will involve. We also do not know how long we may be deployed. In the last edition, we focused on our go kit and the tools we should have to deploy as an amateur radio volunteer. But have we made sure our family is prepared for these times, whether we are deployed or will be staying home?

As the theme of this month suggests, ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston, KE5MHV, says it comes down to being prepared. “Make a plan with your family and ensure basic supplies are available including water, food and first aid capabilities. Do you have a generator or alternate power capabilities and do your family members know how to use it? Have a communications plan, including backup communications, with family members and friends,” he said.

Johnston says to ensure your family knows where to go if they must evacuate for some reason. Always remember your family and your health and safety should always come first.

ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston, KE5MHV, suggests that hams and their families have a “go-bag”. He says there are a few things to consider: “You need to be able to function while activated, so that means you need a kit for your needs and a kit for your radio needs. If your family is impacted by the situation, they also need to have some gear at the ready.”

On the ARRL website, there’s an [Emergency Prep Kit Checklist](#). It lists the common items such as food and water for several days, a first aid kit, medications, chargers for your devices and other useful items.

Emergency Prep Kit Checklist

It's hard to think clearly during an emergency, and the last thing you want to do is leave something important behind. Use this checklist to gather essential items and prepare today for what might happen tomorrow.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, HAVE THESE ITEMS READY

- Food and Water**
A 3-day supply of water and food. Include 1 gallon of water per person per day and non-perishable food items like energy bars, cereal, dried fruit, nuts, peanut butter, and canned meats.
- Utensils**
Eating utensils, plates, cups, bowls, a can opener, and paper towels.
- Clothing**
A change of clothes for each person, rain gear, extra shoes, and waterproof boots.
- Day-to-Day Living Items**
Garbage bags, toilet paper, matches in a waterproof container, a multipurpose tool, dust masks, duct tape, plastic sheeting, Mylar® blankets, a whistle, local maps, and bleach.
- Personal Items**
Toiletries, an extra pair of glasses/contact lenses, tweezers, and nail clippers.
- First Aid Kit**
Sterile gloves and dressings, bandages, soap, antibacterial towels, hand sanitizer, burn ointment, antibiotic ointment, eye wash, and a thermometer.
- Medications**
A 3-day supply of prescription medications, pain relievers, cold and sinus relief, anti-diarrhea medicine, antacids, and laxatives.
- Devices**
A cell phone, a charging cord, a portable charger or battery pack, a hand-crank radio, an LED flashlight with extra batteries, and a headlamp.
- Important Documents**
Copies of birth certificates, driver's licenses, insurance cards, medication lists, medical records, proofs of address, passports, wills, bank records, marriage licenses, adoption papers, and emergency contact lists.
- Cash**
Small denominations and change.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- For Babies**
Diapers, baby wipes, baby powder, diaper rash cream, baby wash and lotion, formula, baby food, bottles, bibs, burp rags, pacifiers, teething tablets or gel, and blankets.
- For Seniors**
Medications, hearing aids and batteries, extra eyeglasses, syringes, portable oxygen, mobility supplies, and contact information for doctors and caregivers.
- For Children**
Books, toys, puzzles, crayons, and comfort items.
- Ham Radio Gear**
A handheld, a mobile radio, chargers, extra batteries, antennas, power cords, and a laptop.



In late August, Hawaii's big island was threatened by three major tropical storms and amateur radio operators were prepared to assist as the threat grew more intense. Russell Roberts, KH6JRM, Public Information Officer, Hawaii County, ARRL Pacific Section, said that beginning August 23, storm watches and warnings were being issued for tropical storms Hone, Gilma, and Hector, all churning off the island's southern coast.

By August 31 and September 1, Hone had become a Category 1 hurricane with winds over 75 miles per hour (MPH), occasional gusts to 100 MPH and heavy rain. Gilma was next as a Category 1, but later intensified to a Category 3 hurricane, dropping 28 inches of rain which flooded roads, along with high winds that brought down trees, power and communications lines.

"We had 3 Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®) operators on the net for about 24 hours beginning August 30 and they handled 41 contacts," said Roberts. "Some repeaters were out of fuel, so we switched to HF to pass traffic and assess the damage."

The storms never made landfall and while there were no fatalities or injuries, the damage was severe. Nearly 30,000 residents were affected. Power is still out for over 200 customers, cleanup and road repair are active.

"We were very fortunate," said Roberts. "There was concern a fire warning would need to be issued for several parts of the island. But the approaching weather brought rain and lowered temperatures."



The 32nd Annual
Nutmeg Hamfest
and ARRL Connecticut State Convention



Sponsored by the Meriden Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Sunday, October 13th, 2024 - 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM

MALONEY HIGH SCHOOL

121 Gravel Street, Meriden CT 06450

Free Parking – Food – Vendors – Loads of Tailgating!

ADVANCE TICKETS VIA PAYPAL
OR VENMO AVAILABLE NOW!



www.w1nrg.com/activities/nutmeg-hamfest

\$10.00 + \$1.00 Transaction fee.

The K7RA Solar Update

09/13/2024

With sunspot numbers up and solar flux decreasing, we saw ten new sunspot groups this week; two on September 6, three on September 7, two on September 8, one on September 9, and two on September 11.

Average daily sunspot numbers increased from 155.3 to 178.4, while average daily solar flux declined from 230.3 to 223.7.

Geomagnetic indicators were quiet, with average daily planetary A index dropping from 14 to 7.9 and middle latitude numbers from 12.7 to 11.7.

The solar flux forecast calls for 10.7 cm numbers at 210 on September 13-14, 205 on September 15-20, then 225 and 220 on September 21-22, then 225 on September 23-24, then 230, 235, 230 and 225 on September 25-28, and 240 on September 29-30, then 240, 245 and 230 on October 1-3, 220 on October 4-5, 225 on October 6-7, 220 on October 8-9, 225 on October 10-11, 220 and 215 on October 12-13, 210 on October 14-15, then back up to 240 at the end of the month.

Predicted planetary A index is 35 and 25 on September 13-14, then 15 on September 15-16, then 12, 15, 12 and 12 on September 17-20, 5 on September 21-25, then 25, 25, 15 and 10 on September 26-29, then 5 on September 30 through October 4, 10 on October 5-6, then 30, 22 and 8 on October 7-9, 5 on October 10-13, 8 on October 14-15, and 5 on October 16-22, then 25 on October 23-24.

Weekly Commentary on the Sun, the Magnetosphere, and the Earth's Ionosphere - September 11, 2024 from OK1HH:

"The solar wind speed, as measured in geostationary orbit, increased in two jumps on 12 September - first shortly after midnight UTC from 360 km/s to 430 km/s, then to 520 km/s after 0818 UTC. Meanwhile, the polarity of the longitudinal (north-south) component of the IMF (Bz) was negative. The consequence was a significant deterioration of shortwave propagation conditions.

"The development continued on 12 September as the X1.3 solar flare was detected at 0943 UTC. The source was a new AR turning into view off the southeast limb (former AR 3792, whose high activity during the parade on the Sun's far side was well known thanks to helioseismological observations).

"However, the strong (G3) Geomagnetic Storm followed, while

threshold was reached at 14:43 UTC. Values of critical frequencies fOF2 in the mid-latitudes of the northern hemisphere of the earth were 2 MHz lower compared to the previous days. Now it can be expected geomagnetic disturbance around September 14 (possible arrival of particles from the September 11 CME). We may wait until September 18 for quiet days."

WP3GW wrote:

"After a 4 month hiatus, just began again on FT8. I have noted that the SFI has been more than 200, and have worked European stations at about 2200 UTC, three hours after propagation normally closes to the Caribbean.

"And have seen signals late night and in mornings before the Sun comes up in 10 meters, making it a twenty plus hours open band. Have made 7 new countries on FT8 in almost 3 weeks.

"Hope these conditions keep good for this contest season.

"Cheers, Angel Santana WP3GW."

Jeff, N8II wrote:

"There have been somewhat limited openings to Europe on 10 meters for about 2 weeks. On Monday September 2 I worked several Southern EU and several UK stations, some with good signals. Today, the 8th was exceptionally good. Not only was the 10 meter band open to all but possibly NE Europe, but stations in the Middle East were S9 to S9+20 dB. On SSB I worked A42K, Oman, and 4K6FO, Azerbaijan. Also, UA9CTT, Asiatic Russia was S9+20 dB and UN4L, Kazakhstan was peaking S8 all of them working the All Asia Contest. I called CQ with the majority of my callers from the UK all with good signals, many over S9. The only somewhat weak Brit was a mobile running 5W who was peaking S5. OH6TS, Finland answered my CQ, and I heard SM5CAK, Sweden over S9. I was also called by Hungary and Romania. It was like the middle of October on a good day, very surprising 2 weeks before the equinox. All of my QSOs were between 1400-1520Z. I also worked JE6RFM on 15M SSB during that time and heard a JA5 about S7. There was an Indonesian also on 15M working the Asian contest who was S9+.

"The Summer has been frustrating with very limited activity except in contests above 20M. 20M was open through most of the night to Europe throughout the June-August period.

"The sporadic-E was poor this year, fewer openings and mostly single hop. Every day 10M was open to Central and South America. Around the middle of August, we started getting daily openings to the West

Coast. Since then, most days were open to AF and OC. Hawaii has been loud on several occasions including the NAQP Phone test 2nd weekend of August and was also briefly loud during the Hawaii QP last weekend of August.

"Today September 12 there was a good F2 opening to EU; I worked two R4s (next to Asia), several SP, DL, I, HB9, F. YL3BF called and was about S4-6. The UK was not part of the opening. One of the Germans was running 15W to a 5M long indoor wire and was peaking S9!"

The latest from Dr. Tamitha Skov, WX6SWW, Space Weather Woman:

<https://youtu.be/RHphr4iloHs>

Impressive sunspots:

<https://bit.ly/3zjgl8o>

Send your tips, reports, observations, questions and comments to k7ra@arrl.net. When reporting observations, don't forget to tell us which mode you were operating.

For more information concerning shortwave radio propagation, see <http://www.arrl.org/propagation> and the ARRL Technical Information Service web page 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/> .

Also, check this:

<https://bit.ly/3Rc8Njt> "Understanding Solar Indices" from September 2002 QST.

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

Massasoit Amateur Radio Association Executive Board

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Secretary: OPEN

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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)

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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 start at 6:30pm.

Our Meetings-On-The-Air are held all other Tuesday evenings at 8PM on 147.180+ with a new discussion format.

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



QSL card of the month