



MARANews
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December 2024

Volume 61 Issue 12



<http://www.w1mv>



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



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

There is no December meeting. Happy Holidays see you on January 21st 2025
Social hour is from 1800. Meeting starts at 1830. Talk-in is on 147.180+

Meetings **ON THE AIR** Tuesdays 1st is Jan 7th, 2nd Jan 14th , and 4th Jan 28th

Presidents Message

By John Laiosa N1BSO President of MARA

President's Message:

We had a great presentation for Rob Mecedo on the Skywarn System and how it is used. There was even some talk about having a Skywarn training class. The Tuesday net has been going well with others showing interest in doing the net. I unfortunately have missed the last 5 weeks or so because I was teaching a General Class. If there is a subject you would like to presented on the Tuesday night net, send it to me or Tom, WA1TOM. As always, any apparel orders, please send them to me. There will be no meeting in December, the next meeting will be in January. Reminder that dues are due in January.

Happy Thanksgiving and Happy Holidays.

John Laiosa

Secretary report

By Phil McNamara N1XTB MARA minutes 19 November 2024

Meeting called to order by John N1BSO at 1830 at the Bridgewater Library meeting room.

Attendees

N1BSO John

WA1TOM Tom

KC1TLT Wendy

N1UMJ John (via zoom)

N1IQI Loren

AC1SO Phil

N1XTB Phil

KA1YL Connie

Secretary report as published in newsletter accepted

Treasurer and Repeater report accepted.

Discussed emergency power arrangements for repeater

Old Business

Reminder about Rob Macedo KD1CY as speaker for Skywarn/NWS presentation on Saturday 23 November.

Will be open to the public. Library published about the presentation on the library website.

At least three MARA members will be attending.

Tom WA1TOM said Tuesday night net is going well. Wendy KC1TLT agreed to cover a night. Likely she will cover the first Tuesday of the month. KC1SKS Allen maybe joining in.

John N1BSO provided an update on the K1USN club. He has been assisting in breaking down their equipment. The club is looking for a new home. They need to vacate their existing place within two months. N1BSO then talked about a number of local repeater sites.

No meeting in December because of the holidays. Next club meeting in January. Annual dues are due 1 Jan.

Meeting adjourned at 1848

Newsletter editor Rick Emord KB1TEE

Everything seems to be going good after my surgery my Doctor are happy with my progress. I can't wait to get back to work I'm going stir crazy. I have set dates for the USTNR group operations on the Battleship Massachusetts. April 19th, June 6-8, September 20th. I am hoping to add some on board single day operations. Any ideas or other groups news please let us know at my email! kb1tee@gmail.com



WA1NPO winter fest

WinterFest 2025 Saturday-January 18th 9am-1pm \$5 entry fee

We still have \$15 tables available for The Hamfest on Saturday, January 18th 2025 at Rt. 18 1195 Bedford St. Whitman, Ma 02382

You can send a check to PO Box 48 Whitman, Ma 02382

Or

Visit our website and use the PayPal Link http://www.wa1npo.org/WF/2024Winterfest_hasPayPal.html

Thank you

The First Best Ham Fest of the Year Whitman Amateur Radio Club K of C Hall Rt. 18 Whitman MA

\$5 entry fee with Raffle Prizes (drawn at noon VE testing sessions for Tech/General/Extra

Refreshments Talk-In on the Whitman club repeater: 147.225Mhz +pl67 Vendors call: 781-523-5010

or Visit: www.WA1NPO.org Tables Cost: \$15

WINTER FIELD DAY 2024

Greetings, January 25th-26th starts at 100 UTC Saturday Ends 2159 UTC Sunday

At the Winter Field Day Association, our mission is to encourage emergency operating preparedness during the winter months when the potential for freezing temperatures, snow, ice, and other hazards may present unique operational challenges.

Winter Field Day is a communications exercise. WFD is held on the last full weekend in January. WFD can be worked from the comfort of your home or in a remote location. You can participate by yourself or get your friends, family, or whole club involved. Winter Field Day is open to participants worldwide. Amateur radio operators may use frequencies on the HF, VHF, or UHF bands and are free to use any mode that can faithfully transmit the required exchange intact. Similar to the ARRL's Field Day, bonus points are earned in several ways, including using non-commercial power sources, operating from remote locations, satellite contacts, and more.

· All stations are limited to a maximum of 100 Watts PEP.

- Event times have changed, and the event has been extended beyond 24 hours.

- Locations do not have to remain fixed during the entire event.

- Objectives (previously called bonuses) are now multipliers.

- Several objectives have been added.

· All logs must be in the Cabrillo format and submitted online at www.winterfieldday.com

· Mexico stations should use MX as their location identifier.

· Bonuses are now listed as objectives and are recorded separately.

· Multiple transmitters are allowed to operate on the same band/mode at the same time.



Testing New POTA Gear: High-Band QMX, Explorer Carbon Fiber Mast, Pressure Paddle, and a Packed Nemo Resolve 25L

November 12, 2024 Thomas Witherspoon

Please note that this POTA (Parks On The Air) activation took place on September 19, 2024—eight days before [Hurricane Helene devastated western North Carolina](#). This is one of a few field reports and activation videos I'll be sharing that took place before Helene's arrival.

As I mentioned [in my last field report](#), I haven't been back to the Vance State Historic Site since the storm, as it's been closed. Located in the Reems Creek valley, the site likely experienced extensive flooding. I hope this park can recover and reopen soon.

I hope you enjoy this field report and activation video. I've thoroughly enjoyed reliving it while preparing this for you.

Thank you!

Thomas (K4SWL)

On Thursday, September 19, 2024, I made time for a POTA activation at the Zebulon Vance Birthplace (US-6856) and brought along a few new items to make it even more interesting.

I packed my new gear along with extra equipment to fill out my new Nemo Resolve 25L backpack. I wanted to see how well it could handle a full load and how comfortable it would be to carry.

Turns out, it's very comfortable, and I could easily fit more in this pack than I'd likely ever need. It's a keeper.

First, I brought along a new QRP Labs QMX transceiver. If you've been a long-time reader, you'll know I've had a QMX for about a year and think it's a brilliant little radio. This one, however, is the "high band" version, meaning it covers 20-10 meters. My other QMX is the "low band" version, covering 80-20 meters.

As soon as the high band QMX was announced by QRP Labs, I grabbed one. I purchased an assembled version, knowing it could be a year (or much longer) before I'd have time to actually build one.

When I received this new QMX—I'm not sure, months ago?—I tucked it away in a drawer while reorganizing my shack, then promptly forgot about it (in my defense, I had a crazy year). I eventually rediscovered it, and here we are!

I'd been looking forward to taking it to the field.

I rediscovered in September was a VK3IL pressure paddle my good friend Brian (K3ES) gave me at Four Days in May during Hamvention. His version is a standard VK3IL pressure paddle, but with some padded material under the heat shrink, making it easier for big hands to grip. Brian's paddle paired nicely with the QMX! With everything set up, it was time to hit the air.

Radio

- [QRPLabs QMX](#) (High Band/Low Band)

Antenna, Support & Cable Assembly

- [TennTennas 49:1 Transformer](#) trimmed as a 20M EFHW
- [Explorer POTA20Carbon Fiber Mast](#) and [Adventure Gear Ground Spike](#)
- [ABR Industries 25' RG-316 cable assembly with three in-line ferrites \(Use Coupon Code **ABR10QRPER** for 10% Discount!\)](#)

Packs & Cases

- [NEMO Resolve 25L Backpack](#)
- [Tom Bihn Handy Little Thing \(HLT\) Size 2](#)

Speakers & Headphones

- [Anker Soundcore Mini Speaker](#)

Logging Supplies

- [GraphGear 0.9mm 1000 Automatic Drafting Pencil](#)
- [Rite In The Rain Top Spiral Notebook](#)

Key and Key Accessories

- K3ES version of [VK3IL Pressure Paddle V2](#)

Battery

- [Bioenno 3 aH \(9V\) LiFePo Battery \(Model BLF-0903W\)](#)

Camera/Audio Gear

- [DJI OSMO 4](#) action camera with [Joby Telepod Sport Tripod](#)
- [DJI Wireless Microphones](#)
- Read more at
 - [https://qrper.com/2024/11/testing-new-pota-gear-high-band-qmx-explorer-carbon-fiber-mast-pressure-paddle-and-a-packed-nemo-resolve-](https://qrper.com/2024/11/testing-new-pota-gear-high-band-qmx-explorer-carbon-fiber-mast-pressure-paddle-and-a-packed-nemo-resolve-25l)

25l



Anyone looking for Christmas GIFT IDEAS Wish List



Unique Metal Décor, Personalized Ham Radio Call Sign Customizable Design [Etsy](#)



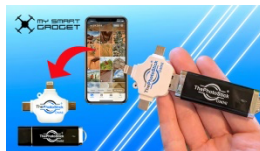
Funny HAM RADIO OPERATOR Gift Mug for Men and Women Personalized Custom Name Coffee Mug [Etsy](#)



The First Social Media - Ham Radio Amateur Radio Operator T-Shirt [Amazon](#)



Onebttl Ham Radio Gifts for Men, Amateur Ham Radio Gifts, 20oz Stainless Steel Insulated Tumbler with Lid & Straw [Amazon](#)



ThePhotoStick Omni– Find & Protect ALL Your Memories [ThePhotoStick Omni](#)



hamcrazy.com

The K7RA Solar Update

Weekly Commentary on the Sun, the Magnetosphere, and the Earth's Ionosphere - November 28, 2024, by F. K. Janda, OK1HH:

"After the unexpected solar proton flare of 21 November, which took place beyond the Sun's western limb, a rain of higher-energy protons hit the Earth's atmosphere. This solar radiation storm had a greater impact at higher latitudes in the southern hemisphere, where it caused a significant increase in attenuation.

"Two days later, two new large sunspot groups appeared near the southeastern limb of the Sun. These produced moderate eruptions daily, which is more or less normal for the 11-year maximum. These are AR3905 and AR3906, which have grown rapidly to a size where they can be observed with the naked eye. There is a relatively small coronal hole near them that could be influencing the solar wind enhancement.

"Following the eruption of a plasma filament near AR3901, a G2 class geomagnetic storm is possible on November 28-29, when a CME is expected to impact. However, around 1900 UT on November 28, when this information is written as usual, nothing is still happening. We will see what happens next. It is quite possible that the plasma cloud will only hit the Earth a little and it is also not out of the question that it will miss the Earth completely. So, any prediction at this point has a low probability of coming true."

New video from Dr. Tamitha Skov, WX6SWW:

<https://youtu.be/1P4sCwn8TZI>

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.

Sunspot numbers for November 21 through 27, 2024 were 148, 170, 156, 164, 140, 163, and 141, with a mean of 155.7. 10.7 cm flux was 166.2, 179.1, 199.9, 202.7, 220.4, 222.3, and 225, with a mean of 202.2. Estimated planetary A indices were 8, 12, 8, 7, 11, 7, and 5, with a mean of 8.3. Middle latitude A Index was 5, 10, 7, 7, 9, 6, and 3, with a mean of 6.7.

I want to wish you all a very happy holiday season hopefully we can get some ideas on things to improve the club so we can include everyone please get involved and help us.

Thank you Rick KB1TEE

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/w1mvmara/>

Newsletter Editor kb1tee@gmail.com

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, Tuesday Night Zoom meeting will be at 6:03pm.

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

The South Shore Skywarn Net is held every Saturday evening at 8PM local time on 147.180+ and is open to all hams.

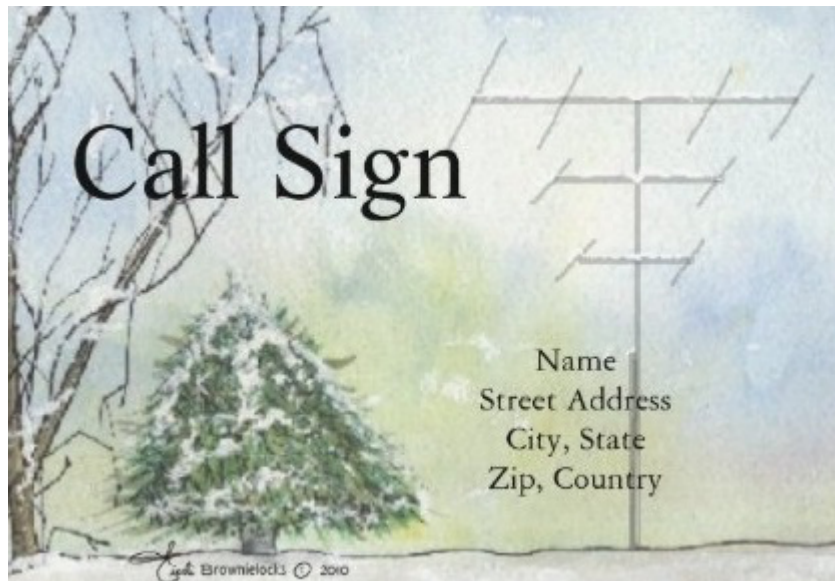
VE Exams are held the 2nd Saturday of every month, in Braintree contact Steve Cohen, W1OD via email w1od@arrl.net. Walk-ins are no longer permitted. We will be hosting VE exams at 8:45 at the Watson building. If you know of anyone planning to take an exam, please have them drop a note to Steve to confirm a reservation

Trying a new feature radio and communications on TV movies and other venues try to figure out what the picture was from and who is in the picture contact me at kb1tee@gmail.com if you figure it out the next month I will publish who it was and which venue it was from



Did the Frenchman say
what he was using the money for?

QSL card of the month



Call Sign

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Street Address
City, State
Zip, Country

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