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We hope to see you on March 18th 2025 Social hour is from 1800 meeting starts at 1830. Talk-in is on 147.180+

ON THE AIR Tuesdays 1st April 1st, 2nd April 8th, and 4th April 22nd, 5th April 29th Tuesdays at 2000 (8pm) conversation April in person meeting 15th

Presidents Message

We had another good turn out for the February meeting. We discussed the annual open house, two dates were proposed: April 19 or April 26. We are waiting to get approval from the library for one of those dates. We are coming up on elections for officers, the positions that are open are president, vice-president and secretary. Phil has agreed to stay on as treasurer. The nomination and elections will take place at the May meeting. Since the club attendance typically does not include enough members I have decided to skip putting together a nomination committee.

John Laiosa

Secretary report By Phil McNamara N1XTB

MARA minutes 18 February 2025

Meeting called to order by John N1BSO at 1831 at the Bridgewater Library meeting room.

Attendees

N1BSO John	WA1TOM Tom	KB1WCK Joe	KA1YL Connie	N1UMJ John (via zoom)
KC1TLT Wendy	N1IQI Loren	N1XTB Phil	AC1SO Phil	

Secretary report as presented in newsletter - accepted

Treasurer and Repeater report for January and February presented and accepted.

Old Business

Discussion about ham radio open house at Library in April. Tentative dates provided to Connie for April 19 or April 26. Connie will check with Library director.

Dan Sullivan SWL who attended the last meeting has been working on his license prep.

Dan did get with WA1TOM at the firehouse to program his Baofeng.

Discussion of Whitman club next tech class dates - April timeframe

New business

Possible Skywarn training (KD1CY Rob) at the Library in the Spring

Discussion about setting up at outdoor POTA station to show during open house.

Club officer elections are coming up

Yeasu 7100 dual band from club equipment stock sold to Phil AC1SO.

Microphone is missing. N1XTB to look for it.

Meeting adjourned at 1842

73,

Phil McNamara

Newsletter editor Rick Emord KB1TEE

I am still hoping for members to send me information for the newsletter such as meetings, events, and information on any activity. Pictures of events with or without members of our club are appreciated. This is our club lets help support it please. Email me at kb1tee@verizon.net

USTNR Group next event

April 19th on the USS Massachusetts we plan to get on the ship around 0800 and we will be celebrating Scouting. We will pack up at 1530. Come on down if you can only spend a few minutes or any times just come to the ships gift shop and sign the page with my name on it Rick Emord KB1TEE

NEAR-Fest XXXVII - May 2 & 3, 2025

Gates open at 8am on Friday and Saturday at 7am. Hillsborough county fairgrounds New Boston, NH



QRP POTA with Vlado: Elecraft KX1 in Pisgah National Forest (Part 1)

March 14, 2025 By: Thomas Witherspoon

On February 9, 2025, my good friend Vlado (N3CZ) and I headed out to Pisgah National Forest (US-4510) near Looking Glass Falls for a joint POTA activation. This is Part 1 of our activation — and while I typically write much longer field reports, I'm still in the final stages [of Hurricane Helene debris removal](#) around our property.

To keep things moving, I'll keep this one short and sweet—a postcard field report length. I truly appreciate everyone's understanding!

The weather couldn't have been better for our outing — crisp, cool air with bright sunshine filtering through the trees. It was one of those perfect days where you feel lucky just to be outside, let alone playing radio with a great friend. Vlado kicked things off with his trusty Elecraft KX1 hooked up to an end-fed half-wave he built himself. After he wrapped up his activation, he handed the controls over to me. I logged 41 contacts in 39 minutes — the bands were lively, and the little KX1 was working like a charm. (Golly I love this radio!) We stopped the video there to wrap up Part 1, but we weren't quite finished yet. We switched to a different radio and kept the POTA fun going for a while longer — stay tuned for Part 2 next week, where we dive into a new setup and share more of the adventure! See the next part at QRPer



ARRL Ham Radio Open House — Site Locator Live, PR Workshop Registration

ARRL Ham Radio Open House is a national event being hosted by local amateur radio clubs in April to coincide with World Amateur Radio Day on April 18. The event is designed to highlight technical innovations in ham radio, and show off the current state of the art. It will serve as a tool to tell the story of amateur radio being a pathway to tomorrow's technical careers.

A site locator is now live on the ARRL Ham Radio Open House page at www.arrl.org/open-house. Participating clubs may enter their information so that local hams and members of the public may find the event.

Montana's Great Falls Area Amateur Radio Club (GFAARC) and **Great Falls Masonic Amateur Radio Club** (GFMARC) are joining together to sponsor the annual **Spring Thaw event for 2025**. The event will take place Saturday, May 3, from 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM at the Cascade County DES Office in Great Falls. This year's theme is centered around the "makers" in the amateur radio hobby who like to build equipment to use in their radio shacks. Demonstrations include building high power batteries for portable operations, basic soldering skills, and building antennas for QRP operations. There will also be an opportunity for hams to acquire many types of new old stock (NOS) electronic components at low prices. Thousands of components available include capacitors, resistors, ICs, transistors, diodes, and connectors. In addition to a swap meet, special activities include an "All About Ham Radio" display provided by KA2ODP to introduce non-hams — and potentially new hams — to the hobby, and an equipment test station to allow checking basic equipment power and continuity functions. For more information, contact: Rod Jackson, AE7JJ, at hamae7jj@gmail.com or by cell at 406-899-8253.

The ARRL Solar Report

The Earth is currently experiencing high-speed solar wind stream effects from a long coronal hole in the Sun's southern hemisphere. These effects are expected to persist March 13 - 15. Solar flare activity remains categorically low due to only C-Class flares being observed, but the frequency of the flares has increased. There have been nearly 20 C-Class flares observed from an unclassified region of the sun, but no Earth-directed CMEs were observed.

The solar wind speed increased on March 12, ranging mostly between 350 km/s and 560 km/s and is currently at around 560 km/s. The 10.7-centimeter solar flux for March 13 - 14 is 160; 170 on March 15; 175 on March 16, and 180 on March 17. No radio blackouts were observed over the past 24 hours.

There will be a total eclipse of the Moon tonight (March 13). The full Worm Moon is about to pass through Earth's shadow, producing a total lunar eclipse [visible from North and South America](#).

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.

A propagation bulletin [archive](#) is available. For customizable propagation charts, visit the [VOACAP Online for Ham Radio website](#).

Hurricane Watch Net Founder Gerald Murphy, K8YUW, a Silent Key

Gerald E. "Gerry" Murphy, K8YUW, passed away on February 25, 2025. He was 88 years old, and the founder of the Hurricane Watch Net (HWN). According to a statement released by current HWN manager Bobby Graves, KB5HAV, Murphy, then 28 years old, was stationed at the U.S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion Center in Davisville, Rhode Island, in 1965. During his time off, he handled countless phone patches and messages to and from military-deployed personnel as a member of the Intercontinental Amateur Radio Net (IARN) on 14.320 MHz.

On Labor Day Weekend that year, Hurricane Betsy was moving through the Bahamas, and many people were asking about this storm. Back then, hurricane forecasting was still in its infancy and the public didn't have access to 24-hour news and weather. "There was so much interest in what the storm was

doing that it created a major disruption in IARN activities,” said Graves. “Murphy suggested to the Net Manager to move those interested in the storm up 5 kHz to get them off the net, and the Net Manager agreed. Marcy Rice, KZ5MM, located in the Canal Zone (Panama), followed Murphy, and together they established the first Hurricane Watch Net on 14.325 MHz.” Graves issued a personal message on Murphy’s passing: “Gerry, thank you for creating this great organization. Your vision, care, and compassion, without a doubt, have helped many before, during, and after these dangerous tropical cyclone events. I am thrilled your legacy of the HWN lives on! Rest in peace, my friend.”

ARRL Great Lakes Division Director Scott Yonally, N8SY, has known Murphy for decades.

“Murphy was a long-time resident of Lakewood, Ohio, and I’ve known him for almost as long as I’ve been a ham. He was always a talented guy with a strong military background that made you feel just like you had enlisted into the Marines,” said Yonally. “But, in most cases he was just looking out for you and amateur radio. The Northeast Ohio SKYWARN® program was born directly to the work that he did, and as a testament to the devotion that he gave to it, still shows strongly in that the Northeastern Ohio SKYWARN program is still going on today.”

Murphy managed the Hurricane Watch Net until February 1988, and continued to serve as Assistant Net Manager until he retired in March 1991. You can read his full obituary at [www.tributearchive.com/obituaries/37994045/gerald-e.-"gerry"-murphy](http://www.tributearchive.com/obituaries/37994045/gerald-e.-).

Announcements

Registration is open for the next interactive session of ARRL’s “On the Air Live,” which is scheduled for Tuesday, March 25, 2025, at 8 PM Eastern / 5 PM Pacific in the ARRL Learning Center. It will focus on advanced functions of handheld radios, including getting them on digital modes. “On the Air Live” is accessed through the ARRL Learning Center at learn.arrl.org. It is a benefit of ARRL membership, and members must be logged into the website to access it for live or archived sessions.

ARRL Contest Program Manager Paul Bourque, N1SFE, reports that activity was high for the ARRL International DX Phone Contest that was held March 1—2. Go to contests.arrl.org and select Log Submission to submit your log by the deadline: Sunday, March 9, 2025 at 23:59 UTC.

2025 Northeast HamXposition is Coming!

Mark your calendars! The 2025 Northeast HamXposition is not that far away: August 21-24, 2025, in Marlborough, MA. This is New England's premier ham gathering. I hope to have an eyeball QSO with all of you at HamX! More info at

<https://ema.arrl.org/2025/03/02/2025-northeast-hamxposition-ticketing-hotel-reservations-now-open/>

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 maranews@w1mv.org

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 session at the meeting will start at 6:30pm.

Our Meetings-On-The-Air are held all other Tuesday evenings at 8PM on 147.180+ and has 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, contact Steve Cohen, W1OD via email w1od@arrl.net. Walk-ins are no longer permitted. We will be hosting VE exams. If you know of anyone planning to take an exam, please have them drop a note to Steve to confirm a reservation