



# MARANews



May 2013  
Volume 52 Issue 05

## Secretary's Report

### SECRETARYS NOTES – MEETING 4/16/2013 – ROY KB1CYV

**OPEN:** President Barry N1EZH opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE:** 11 members/guests were present, including 2 elected officers.

N1EZH Barry Kennedy	KB1CYV Roy Logan	NR1FD Bill Burke
N1FY Carl Aveni	N1NVV Pete Curley	KB1TDW Jennifer Burke
N1EDM Bob Mandeville	N1IQI Loren Pimental	K1LJK Larry Kenney
WA1UMT Dave Darois	W1WCF Walt Fitzgerald	

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** The Treasurer's Report for April was unavailable.

**MARA NEWS MINUTES:** A motion was made by Bob N1EDM seconded by Walt W1WCF that the minutes published in the March newsletter be accepted. The motion was approved.

**NEW MEMBERS:** A motion was made by Carl N1FY seconded by Walt W1WCF that Jennifer Burke KB1TDW and her fiancé, Martin Turco KB1TDU be accepted as new members. The motion was unanimously approved. Congratulations Jennifer and Martin and welcome to MARA!

**REPEATER REPORT:** Barry N1EZH reported that the repeater has been working fine.

**EOC:** Carl N1FY reported that the work at the EOC is not yet completed, with alternative sites identified.

**OLD BUSINESS:** There was no unresolved old business.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Barry N1EZH reported on the many upcoming public service events and Club activities.

**CLOSE:** On a motion by Larry K1LJK seconded by Bill NR1FD, President Barry N1EZH closed the business meeting at 7:02 p.m., followed by an excellent presentation by Jennifer KB1TDW on soldering & desoldering

## Next Meeting

MARA's next meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on May 21, 2013  
at the Bridgewater Public Library

## Upcoming Events

Middleboro YMCA Camp Yomechas 5K/10K Woody's Walk /Race

June 1, 2013 Radio support as in the past

This year the race is starting at 8:00 a.m. We will meet at 7:00 AM at Dunkin Donuts --  
Rtes 28 & 105 Middleborough. Contact Carl N1FY if you can attend.

Middleboro YMCA Camp Yomechas Triathlon

July 7 2013 Radio support as in the past

We will meet at 7:00 AM at Dunkin Donuts --Rtes 28 & 105 Middleborough.  
Contact Carl N1FY if you can attend.

Brockton Road Race D.W. Field Park

September 2013 Details to be announced



Support Group for the Brockton YMCA Road Race – April 20, 2013



**Support Group for the Brockton YMCA Road Race – April 20, 2013**



**Jennifer , KB1TDW giving the “Hands on” portion of her presentation. In the photo looking on and asking questions are Bob, N1EDM; Bill, NR1FD & Walt ,W1WCF**

## **Repeater Will be Off the Air for Two Months**

The 147.180 repeater will be off the air for about two months because of maintenance work being performed on the Bridgewater water tower where the antenna is located.

## **Whitman Amateur Radio Club Flea Market**

The Whitman Amateur Radio Club will again hold its twice yearly Flea Market on May 26 & 27, 2013 at the Knights of Columbus parking lot located on Route 18 In Whitman just South of the Whitman-Abington town line.

## **FCC Announces Enforcement Actions for January-March 2013**

In the first quarter of 2013 (January-March), the FCC issued 23 enforcement actions. These enforcement actions are in addition to the \$10,000 fine issued to Jared A. Bruegman, ex-KC0IQN, of Bolivar, Missouri, and the \$25,000 fine issued to Terry L. VanVolkenburg, KC5RF, of Cocoa, Florida, as previously reported.

This past quarter, the FCC sent *Warning Letters* to 10 individuals regarding unlicensed transmissions, interference and repeater-related infractions. In addition, the FCC sent *Warning Letters* to four commercial entities or individuals that had conducted commercial operation on the amateur bands. The FCC also sent one letter to a power company, as well as eight letters addressing RFI complaints regarding interference from various electronic devices, including plasma television sets, electric fence chargers and grow light ballasts..

### **Radiating Well Pump Leads to FCC *Citation* for Interference to Amateur Radio**

The FCC has issued a *Citation and Order* to Ruben D. Lopez Jr of Pomona Park, Florida. The *Citation*, issued April 23, was in response to several complaints concerning a well pump at Lopez's residence that was acting as an incidental radiator and causing harmful interference to local radio amateurs. In July 2010 and February 2011, the FCC received complaints from radio amateurs regarding interference on the MF and HF Amateur Radio bands. Upon investigation, the FCC found that a well pump at Lopez's residence was causing the interference, and advised Lopez of the complaints and of the rules regarding interference to licensed radio services. The FCC instructed Lopez to resolve any interference. In October 2012 -- in response to another interference complaint coming from Lopez's residence -- FCC agents used direction finding equipment to identify Mr Lopez's well pump as the source of transmissions on the frequency 1800 kHz.

## **Seattle Will Host the 32nd Digital Communications Conference**

Digital communications enthusiasts will be heading to the Pacific Northwest this autumn for the 32nd annual ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference (DCC), September 20-22, at Cedarbrook Lodge near Seattle, Washington. The ARRL/TAPR DCC is an international forum for radio amateurs to meet, publish their work and present new ideas and techniques. Presenters and attendees will have the opportunity to exchange ideas and learn about recent hardware and software advances, theories, experimental results and practical applications. The DCC is for all levels of technical experience -- not just the expert. Introductory sessions are scheduled throughout the conference to introduce new technical topics for both beginners and experts.



## WX4NHC Hurricane Season 2013 On-The-Air Station Test

The WX4NHC Hurricane Season 2013 On-The-Air Station Test will be held Saturday, June 1st, 2013 from 9 AM - 5 PM EDT (1300z-2100z). The purpose of this event is to test the National Hurricane Center's Amateur Radio station equipment, antennas and computers. We will also perform operator training in preparation for this year's hurricane season. We will be making informal contacts on many frequencies and modes and would appreciate signal reports and basic weather data exchange ("Sunny," or "Rainy," etc.) from stations in any location.

WX4NHC will be on-the-air on HF, VHF, UHF and 2 and 30 meter APRS. We plan on testing on the following voice frequencies: 3.950 MHz, 7.268 MHz, 14.325 MHz, 21.325 MHz, and 28.425 MHz. We will try to stay on 14.325 MHz most of the time and announce when we QSY.

You may be able to find us on HF by using one of the DX Spotting Networks, such as the [DX Summit Web Site](#). We will also be on the [VoIP Hurricane Net](#) from 1 PM to 3 PM EDT (1700z-1900z) (IRLP node 9219 / EchoLink WX-TALK Conference node 7203). Local South Florida area VHF and UHF repeaters will also be contacted.

QSL cards are available via WD4R. Please send your card with a SASE. Please do NOT send QSLs directly to the Hurricane Center address, as it will get delayed. Due to security measures, NO VISITORS will be allowed entry to NHC without prior clearance from NHC Security. Only WX4NHC operators on the NHC pre-approved operating schedule will be allowed entry. For more information about [WX4NHC](#), please visit our website. Thank you for your participation in the WX4NHC Hurricane Annual Season Station Test. -- *Julio Ripoll, WD4R, WX4NHC Amateur Radio Assistant Coordinator, [www.wx4nhc.org](http://www.wx4nhc.org), celebrating 32 years at the National Hurricane Center [www.nhc.noaa.gov](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov)*

## Hurricane Watch Net Seeks New Members for Net Control Stations

With the 2013 hurricane season approaching, the National Hurricane Center (NHC) in Miami and the Hurricane Watch Net (HWN) are gearing up for what could be a very active storm season. In preparation for the upcoming season, the HWN is currently seeking new members who can serve as net control stations. The HWN provides on-the-ground, real-time weather data from Amateur Radio operators who volunteer their time to monitor their calibrated home weather stations. The stations report that data to the HWN, who in turn reports it to WX4NHC, the Amateur Radio station at the NHC. "The Hurricane Watch Net relies on volunteer operators -- our members -- who serve as our net control stations," HWN Net Manager Bobby Graves, KB5HAV, stated. "HWN members are hams who have above-average stations, are capable of effectively conducting HF net operations and are willing to commit their time to operating in support of the HWN's mission during net activations."

## **FCC Fines Pennsylvania Man \$18,000 for Failing to Allow Inspection of CB Station**

The FCC issued a *Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture and Order* on May 14 in the amount of \$18,000 to Nathaniel Johnson of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania for failing to make his Citizens Band (CB) station available for inspection by the FCC and for failing to comply with the restricted hours of CB station operation.

The base forfeiture amount for failure to allow inspection of radio equipment -- including a CB station -- is \$7000. The FCC raised the forfeiture amount by \$4000, as the nature of the violation is similar to failing to respond to a Commission communication. The FCC also found that Johnson's failure to permit a lawful inspection of his CB station -- after multiple notices directing him to do so -- justified a \$7000 upward adjustment of the base amount for this violation, bringing the total amount to \$18,000.

The FCC noted that misconduct such as Johnson's "is serious, exhibits contempt for the Commission's authority, and threatens to compromise the Commission's ability to fully investigate violations of its rules. As such, we caution Mr Johnson that a failure to schedule an inspection as directed in this *NAL* may result in the imposition of additional (and potentially higher) forfeitures, as well as other enforcement actions, as appropriate, including the seizure of his equipment.

## **ARRL Announces New Version of LoTW Software**

After much testing, the ARRL will release a new version of Trusted QSL, the open-source development project responsible for developing and maintaining the three Logbook of the World ([LoTW](#)) client-side applications: TQSL, TQSLCert and the TrustedQSL library. After six weeks of public beta testing, version 1.14 is ready for official release and will be available for download from the ARRL website beginning Monday, May 20.

In December 2012, Dave Bernstein, AA6YQ, and Rick Murphy, K1MU, [recruited a group of volunteer software developers](#) to contribute to this project. After considering input from ARRL management and the ARRL's LoTW user support group in the League's Membership and Volunteer Services Department, as well as the ARRL-LoTW e-mail discussion group on Yahoo! Groups, the volunteer development group put forward a set of priorities that would be addressed by a sequence of incremental software releases. A small group of testers began exercising version 1.14 in March 2013; this testing exposed several defects, all of which have been corrected. Testing then progressed to an open beta test period that allowed interested parties to download, install and try out this newest version of Trusted QSL.

The initial release in this sequence -- version 1.14 -- includes these new features:

- Log files can be signed and uploaded over the internet to LoTW in one operation.
- Errors in Station Locations are reported (for example, incorrect CQ and ITU zones).
- QSOs that need not be re-submitted ("duplicates") are brought to the user's attention.
- Error reporting has been improved.
- Installation on *Windows* has been improved.
- Users are notified when a new version becomes available.
- Documentation has been improved.

Upgrading to version 1.14 is not mandatory, but is encouraged. Users who choose not to upgrade will not be able to access the new features in version 1.14, but they will still be able to upload logs into the LoTW system.

## New England Area Flea Schedule– Courtesy of W1GSL

New England Area Ham - Electronic Flea Market \*\*\* DATES \*\*\* 2013 All events are Ham Radio/ Electronic related except ~\_\_\_\_~

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2013	Contact	Source
19 May Cambridge MA	FLEA at MIT	Nick 617 253 3776 F
1 June Hermon ME PSARA @HS \$5@8		Jerry K1GUP 207 848 3400
1 June Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Outdoor		John 860 673 0518
1 June Goshen CT So.BARC @FG \$5@8		Doc K1CTT 860 672 2659 W+
2 June Bethpage NY LIMARC		Richard K2KNB 516 694 4937
2 June Sorel-Tracy PQ STARC \$8@9 \$15/T@6		Luc VE2DWE 450 743 8676 R+
15 June Newington CT NARL @StMarySch \$5@8 \$15/T		Vinnie W1VJA 203 987 2108
16 June Cambridge MA Third Sunday April thru October	FLEA at MIT	Nick 617 253 3776 F
30 June Queens NY HOSARC \$5@9 +\$10S@7:30		Stephen WB2KDG 718 898 5599 W+
21 July Cambridge MA	FLEA at MIT	Nick 617 253 3776 F
3 Aug St Romuald PQ ARESdQ @9 @Arena X318 Rt20		France VE2AFC W+
18 Aug Cambridge MA	FLEA at MIT	Nick 617 253 3776 F
25 Aug N Adams MA NoBARC @BoweFld \$5@9 \$10TG@8		Tim KE3HT 413 822 7075 F+
7 Sept Ballston Spa NY SCRACES @FG @7		Darlene N2XQG 518 587 2385
7 Sept Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Outdoor		John 860 673 0518
8 Sept Newtown CT CARA @TownHall \$5@8:30 \$10/TG \$15/T		Joe AB1DO 203 938 4880
15 Sept Cambridge MA	FLEA at MIT	Nick 617 253 3776 F
21 Sept Forestdale RI RIAFMRS @VFW \$5/Sp@8		Pete AA1PL 401 639 4484 +
21 Sept Manchester CT PVRA @MarcusComm		George AB1GL 860 716 3367
28 Sept Brookline NH NEARC Antique \$10@7:30 \$4@8:30		Bruce 603 772 7516 F

6 Oct Queens NY HoSARC	Stephen WB2KDG 718 898 5599 A+
11,12 Oct Deerfield NH NEARFest XIV @FG	Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235 T+
13 Oct Meriden CT Nutmeg @Sheraton was Wallingford	John N1GNV 203 440 4973
19,20 Oct Wakefield MA Photographica @AmericalCtr ~photo~	John 781 592 2553
19 Oct Longueuil PQ CRAR-S \$7@9 \$10/T@6 Martin	VE2DNF 450 466 2810 R+
20 Oct Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT	Nick 617 253 3776 F
26 Oct Gales Ferry CT TCARC Auction @FireCo @10	Darryl WA1DD 860 443 7799
27 Oct Hicksville NY LIMARC @LevitHall	Richard K2KNB 516 694 4937
9 Nov Bourne MA FARA @UpperCC VoTech \$5@9 \$10/S@7	Ralph N1YHS 508 548 0422
30 Nov Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Indoor	John 860 673 0518

### **This Week on the Radio**

- May 18 -- Portuguese Navy Day Contest (Digital); Feld Hell Sprint
- May 18-19 -- His Majesty King of Spain Contest (CW); Baltic Contest; EU PSK DX Contest; Worldwide EME Contest
- May 20 -- Run for the Bacon QRP Contest
- May 22 -- SKCC Sprint
  
- May 22-23 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

### **Next Week on the Radio**

- May 18 -- Portuguese Navy Day Contest (Digital); Feld Hell Sprint
- May 18-19 -- His Majesty King of Spain Contest (CW); Baltic Contest; EU PSK DX Contest; Worldwide EME Contest
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### **DX News**

CHAGOS ISLAND, VQ9. Jim, ND9M is QRV as VQ9JC from Diego Garcia until sometime in July. He may also be active using the special callsign VQ975FOC during the month of May to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the First Class CW Operators Club. He is active Field Day style from 1230 to 1615z most days. QSL to home call.

PRINCE EDWARD AND MARION ISLANDS, ZS8. Look for Carson, ZR6CWI and David, ZS1BCE to soon be QRV as ZS8C and ZS8Z, respectively, from Marion Island. They may be joined by other operators as well. Activity will eventually be on 40 to 10 meters using mainly SSB with some digital modes. QSL via ZS1HF.



ISRAEL, 4X. A group of operators will be QRV as 4X75FOC during the month of May in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the First Class CW Operators' Club. QSL via 4Z4KX.

MAURITANIA, 5T. Jean, 5T0JL will be QRV as 5T1FOC from May 1 to 31 in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the First Class CW Operators' Club. QSL to home call.

NIGER, 5U. Pierre, HB9AMO is QRV as 5U9AMO until May 30. Activity is holiday style on 80 to 10 meters using CW. QSL via M0URX.

ENGLAND, G. Look for GB75FOC and M0RSE to be QRV during the month of May in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the First Class CW Operators' Club. QSL via operators' instructions.

LITHUANIA, LY. Special event station LY550W is QRV until May 20 in celebration of the 1463 expansion of the privileges of the city of Kaunas, led by Kazimieras Jogailaitis. QSL via LY5W.

TONGA, A3. Masato, JA0RQV is QRV as A35JP from Tongatapu Island, IOTA OC-049, until May 22. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL to home call.

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, DA. Special event station DR0PALAEON is QRV until March 31, 2014 in commemoration of the discovery of the oldest human-made weapons in an archaeological exploration near Schoeningen. The discovered spears date back approximately 300000 years. QSL via bureau.

MYANMAR, XZ. Simon, HS0ZIB is QRV as XZ1K from Tanintharyi State until June 30. Activity will be on the HF bands using only PSK31 and in his spare time. QSL via operator's instructions.

## ***Monthly Newsletter***

### Club Officers and Committeemen

President: Barry Kennedy N1EZH  
Vice President: Rick Emord KB1TEE  
Treasurer: Phil McNamara N1XTB  
Secretary: Roy Logan KB1CYV  
Call sign Trustee: Phil McNamara N1XTB

Repeater Trustees: Carl Aveni N1FY., Lou Harris N1UEC, Bob Mandeville N1EDM

**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/>

**Newsletter Editor** [maranews@w1mv.org](mailto:maranews@w1mv.org)

**WARC Web Page** <http://www.wa1npo.org>

**Qsl via** [www.eqsl.cc](http://www.eqsl.cc)

**Skywarn** [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 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 6:30PM at the Bridgewater Public Library in Bridgewater Center. Talk-in is on 147.180+

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.

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 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month, in Braintree. Contact Bill Needham, K1WN, at 781-843-4400 or via email at [k1wn@aol.com](mailto:k1wn@aol.com) Walk-ins are no longer permitted. We will be hosting VE exams at 8:45 at the Watson building. This is the new exam location for the Braintree Radio Club sponsors. If you know of anyone planning to take an exam, please have them drop a note to Bill - [k1wn@aol.com](mailto:k1wn@aol.com) to confirm a reservation.