

MARA W1⚡GaZette



January 2005

MONTACHUSETT AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

Vol 47 No. 5

Next Meeting

Wednesday, January 12
7:30PM
Fitchburg Central Fire Station
2nd Floor Conference Room

Happy New Year to all MARA members, family, and friends of Amateur Radio. We hope everyone who attended the December holiday party had a great time. We resume our normal second-Wednesday monthly meeting schedule this month. Bill N1UZ reports that the Fitchburg Central Fire Station has agreed to host us throughout 2005. Thanks, Chief Roy. Bill says we will probably be using the Chief's conference room on the second floor most months.

Preserving Ham Radio History

Tom K1JHC brought to this editor's attention an article in the Hartford (CT) Courant (<http://www.ctnow.com/>) published on August 10, 2004, entitled "Preserving Ham Radio History".

In this article, writer Korky Vann describes the work of the ARRL Historical Committee to preserve their 90 years of historic paper archives and artifacts documenting the history of radio. ARRL founder Hiram

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Contributors To This Issue:

Tom K1JHC, Pauline KB1JXJ,
Gordon N1MGO

Percy Maxim worked in Hartford for a time, where his invention of a gasoline-powered tricycle was manufactured. The "Old Man's" work on improving gasoline-powered vehicles led to research on exhaust systems and then to the discovery of the principles behind his most famous invention- the gun "silencer".

Vann's article in the Hartford Courant notes the contributions made by Amateur Radio Operators in the aftermath of the 9/11 attack and our other public service.

The ARRL archives are currently available only to scholars and researchers. The Historical Committee hopes to expand the ARRL Museum and make put more of the collection on display.

Watt's Happening

Sundays, 0830 local 3937

Western Mass Emergency Net. Alternate frequency is 3942 in case of QRN, QRM, or frequency in-use. Also a good idea to scan up and down 10kHz if you cannot find the net.

Sundays, 0900 local 145.45-

Montachusett Emergency Net

Tuesdays, 2030 local 145.37-

Templeton Emergency Net

Wednesdays, 2100 local 28.341

Harvard Repeater Club

10 meter sideband net "Activity Night"

Nightly, 2100 local 146.97-

Central Mass Traffic Net

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays

1800 local 3942 MHz

Western Mass Traffic Net (phone)

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays

1900 local 3562 MHz

Western Mass Traffic Net (cw, slow)

First Monday, 1900 local 3943, 7245

RACES Net

First Wednesday, 2000 local 3915

K1ARC Red Cross Net

<http://www.qsl.net/k1arc/>

Saturday, January 22, Nashua NH

New England Antique Radio Club flea market; St. Stan's. 7am sellers, 9am buyers

Saturday, February 19, Marlboro MA

Algonquin ARC Hamfest, Marlboro Middle School; 7am sellers, 9am buyers.

VE Team Report

The December exam session was canceled due to no pre-registered candidates. The next scheduled ham radio license exam session is Wednesday, January 26.

Everyone wishing to take an exam should pre-register with Paul Upham KD1YH. The sessions are canceled by the Monday prior to the 4th Wednesday if no one has pre-registered.

November 2004 MARA Club Meeting Notes

de Pauline KB1JXJ

19:00 -N1MGO, Gordon; KB1KEF, Nancy; K1YTS, Gary; W1SEX, Paul; KA1QYQ, Ernie, N1UZ, Bill; KD1YH, Paul; KB1JXJ, Pauline were present for a brief planning session.

Recommendation by Pauline, KB1JXJ, for the Christmas luncheon cost to be \$15 per person. Action: Recommendation accepted, cost set at \$15 per person.

19:30 Present, all of above plus: Norm W1LXE, Charlie KT1I, Tom K1JHC, Ray KB1LRL, Jerry WB1HIB, Norm W1BYH, Ed KB1LJJ, Chatmon WA1FIA, Walter K1CMF. Bob KB1JZU and Ralph KD1SM arrived later at 20:25.

19:35 - Bill, N1UZ Has submitted a letter to Chief Roy for the 2005 meeting dates, skipping December & July. (Note by KB1JXJ, Pauline, Club does not meet in August.)

The MARA W1/GaZette

is published by the Montachusett Amateur Radio Association just prior to the monthly meeting. The newsletter is distributed free to members and friends of Amateur Radio.

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MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:

Club Secretary: (open)
Annual Dues: Regular \$25
Family \$30
Fixed income \$15
Meetings: 2nd Wednesday, 7:30pm
September to June

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OFFICERS:

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Pauline Carulli, KB1JXJ	Secretary
Gordon LaPoint, N1MGO	Treasurer
Charlie Cayen, KT1I	Trustee

MARA owns and operates the W1GZ repeater providing emergency autopatch service on 145.45 (CTCSS 74.4) in Fitchburg.

19:40 - Nancy, KB1KEF presents models for club name badges.

19:45- Bill, N1UZ presents a request from North Central Charter School for guest presenters on Wednesdays, from 10:00 to 11:30, to speak on different aspects of Ham Radio. NCCS also is requesting equipment donations to setup a "ham shack".

Paul, W1SEX, Update from the Mohawk Club:

1). The Mohawk club would like to sponsor or co-sponsor a Technician and general amateur radio course at Monty Tech high school.

2). Suggestion - 1 ham or a small group of hams to teach the technician course. Guest speakers to enrich the class with demos and/or guest speakers.

3). Asking MARA to consider for January

4). HEADS UP - Question to the Mohawk members - "Should we open negotiations to merge with the Fitchburg club?"

19:55 - New Business

1) Ed - KB1LJJ, suggests we hold a technical session 15 minutes prior to the meeting starting. Hams to ask questions on anything related to ham radio.

2) Board to set their own meeting prior to clubs meeting to develop an agenda.

3) Paul, W1SEX - New simplex net on Saturday afternoons, ARES type net.

Question? Who is the ARES coordinator for our club/area?

20:05 - Walter, K1CMF mentioned January and February are big VHF/UHF contest times,

20:06 - Show and Tell time!

1) N1MGO - Portable HF station in a briefcase, includes an IC-706, LDG Z100 tuner, paddles, interface cables to laptop computer, etc.

2) W1LXE - Japanese WWII 3 tube crystal transmitter

3) K1JHC - QRP CW Transmitter, pixie 2 , in an altoids tin box

4) K1YTS - 1920's era battery, 1918 RADA Westinghouse Regenerator receiver for 600 meters, 1949 Police transceiver, was still in use in 1965 in Brookline NH, 1960 PRC-59 Coast guard honeycomb coil, very rare! Plus an operational SX71 radio

20:45 Adjourned

Respectfully submitted
Pauline Carulli KB1JXJ
Secretary

December 2004 MARA Club Meeting Notes

de Pauline KB1JXJ

5 December 2004,

The MARA Club meeting for December 2004 was the Christmas Luncheon at Monty's Garden in Leominster.

Twenty-one (21) club members and guests attended. There was no new business presented so the social began. There was a drawing for a \$10.00 gift certificate to Monty's. The winner was Paul Upham's significant other Patti. The meeting/social adjourned at approximately 16:00

Respectfully submitted
Pauline Carulli KB1JXJ
Secretary



Left: Pauline KB1JXJ at work getting ready for the holiday party at Monty's Garden.

All photos of the holiday party courtesy of N1MGO and KB1JXJ



Top: Ray KB1LRL, Ed KB1LJJ, Gerry WB1HIB & XYL

Center: N1QDX & Maryann, Claire KA1GMC & Phil WA1DWS

Bottom: Charlie KT1I, Nancy KB1KEF, Verna N1ZRE





Top: Isabelle & Tom K1JHC,
Tom WA1RHP

Center: Paul KD1YH & Patti,
Walter K1CMF & KB1KEF's mother

Left: Patti was the happy winner of
the Monty's gift certificate

all photos courtesy N1MGO

Contest Chatter

de Gordon
N1MGO



January 2005

Contests coming up in January:

8-9, ARRL RTTY Roundup, RTTY
8-9, North American QSO Party - CW
15 070 Club PSKFest - PSK31
15-16 North American QSO Party - SSB
15-16 Hunting LIONS in the Air - SSB
22-23 BARTG RTTY Sprint - RTTY
29-30 CQ 160 Meter Contest - CW

Contests coming up in February:

05-06, Vermont QSO Party - All
05-06, 10-10 International Winter QSO
Party - Phone
05-06, Mexico International RTTY Contest -
RTTY
12-13 CQ World-Wide RTTY WPX Contest -
RTTY
14-19 School Club Roundup - ALL
19-20 ARRL International DX Contest - CW
25-26 Russian PSK WW Contest - PSK31
26-27 CQ WW 160-meter Contest - SSB
26-27 North American QSO Party - RTTY

The above contests are some of the big ones to continue the winter contest season. There are many other contests also going on during January and February. For more contests and information, with links to the

rules see:

<http://home.online.no/~janalme/main.html>
or

<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.html>

With the winter contest season upon us there are many contests on any given weekend. You should be able to find one that suits your operating mode, or give you the opportunity to try a new one! I would suggest you try PSK31 for a new one, the new software out now makes it more of a challenge than it has been. Digipan now has a mode that displays many decoded text streams at one time, called Multiple Channel Reception. This mode decodes any psk31 signal it finds every 100hz from 100hz to 3000hz, giving you 26 channels at one time. This should make for interesting contest operation because you can click on one of the streams being decoded, which allows you to tx on that streams frequency. There are other software programs that also offer this multi-channel decoding modes.

If you do any contest , please submit your log. This helps the contest committee score all the contestants better. Most contests are now scored using special software that enters everybody's log, that is sent in, in a data base file. This database and some custom software allows cross checking of the logs, producing more accurate scores. All the cross checking depends on every one that participated sending in their log. If you need help with log submission, or setup for a contest, I will try to help. Call me on the club repeater, or e-mail me, or stop by.

Gordon N1MGO



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