

MARA W1⚡GaZette



August 2008

MONTACHUSETT AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

Vol 50 No. 11

Summer Cookout!

**Sunday, August 10
2:00PM
Bob KB1JZU's House**

Hello everyone,

The summer outing this year is on Sunday, 10 August. It is at the home of Bob KB1JZU; 362 Townsend Harbor Road, Lunenburg. Time: 2pm

Please let me [Pauline] know what and who is coming. The club will provide the Burgers and Dogs as usual. Your beverage is on your own as well as beach chairs (and towels if you swim).

Please bring a dish to share and pick your category on the sheet attached. If you are able to add the name of the dish as well as the category that will be helpful as well.

There is no rain date as of now. If one is needed it will have to be later in September. Hope to see many of you there

Pauline - KB1JXJ

Bill Gormley AA1BL SK

Gordon "Bill" Gormley AA1BL, 75, became a silent key on 12 June after a short illness.

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Contributors To This Issue:

KB1JXJ, KT1I

In addition to MARA, Bill was a member of the Mohawk ARC and the Amateur Trap Shooting Association. He was the Singles Class Trap Champion in the 2004 Eastern Zone championship.

Bill was also a member of the Mt. Wattatic and Mt. Wachusett Ski Patrols and a former member of the National Ski Patrol.

Bill graduated from Murdock High School in Westminster in 1950. A veteran of the Korean War, Bill served in the Navy as a Machinist Mate 3rd Class. He served aboard the USS Sarsfields DD-837 and the USS H.J. Ellison DD-864.

Condolences to Bill's wife Karen, sons Steven, David, Michael, and daughter Debra and their spouses.

Services were held June 17 at 10am at Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemetery, 111 Gelanallen St, Winchendon.

Watt's Happening

Sundays, 0800 local 5330.5 (ch 1) USB
Western Mass Emergency 60M Net
Alternate frequencies are 5346.5 (ch 2),
5366.5 (ch 3), 5371.5 (ch 4), and 5403.5 (ch 5).

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

Mondays, 2000 local 147.525 simplex
Worcester Emergency Simplex Net

Tuesdays, 1930 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

First Monday, 1900 local 3943, 7245
RACES Net

First Wednesday, 2000 local 3915
K1ARC Red Cross Net
<http://www.qsl.net/k1arc/>

August 10, Lunenburg MA
MARA Summer Cookout
Bob KB1JZU's house

August 22-24, Buxboro MA
ARRL New England Convention
<http://www.buxboro.org/>

*See the W1GSL New England Area Ham -
Electronic Flea Market list for more*
<http://web.mit.edu/w1gsl/Public/ne-fleas>

VE Team Report

Exam sessions were held on June 25 and
July 23. Three new Technician licenses and
two upgrades to Extra were earned.

Participating examiners were Tom
K1JHC, Gary K1YTS, Ralph KD1SM, Paul
KD1YH, John KK1X, Don N1HVA, and
Tom WA1RHP.

The next session is scheduled for August 27.

The MARA/HRC VE Team holds exam
sessions on the fourth Wednesday of the
month. Those wishing to take exams are
asked to pre-register with Paul KD1YH at
978-597-6535.

**If we have no pre-registered
candidates by the weekend prior to the
scheduled session we will cancel the
session**



DICK WILBORG W1ZC
JOHN ROSE WW1Z

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Tell them you saw it in the W1/GaZette

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The deadline for materials to appear in the W1/GaZette is noon on the Sunday before the first Wednesday of the month.

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

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Charlie Cayen, KT1I kt1i@arrl.net	Trustee

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

49th Longsjo Classic a Success

The first day of head-to-head bicycle racing in the 49th Fitchburg Longsjo Classic began with a light rain that steadily increased in the early morning. The volunteers took shelter under the canopy of the Wachusett Ski Lodge to get assignments and discuss the radio operations plan for the day.

By the time we deployed to our locations around the Mountain Road Race course on Friday morning the rain had stopped and we were treated to a fine day of Olympic-level racing.

Amateur Radio volunteers from MARA, NVARC, and the Mohawk Amateur Radio Club were stationed at 13 critical locations around the Road Race course. Our task was to relay lead racer positions to the next location so that the course marshal's and Princeton and Westminster police officers could control the vehicle traffic. Had there been any serious medical emergencies we would also have been ready to get aid quickly to the affected parties. In addition to these primary responsibilities, we assisted with logistics communication between the finish line at the summit of Mt. Wachusett and the Race Director.

Sunday featured the Criterium race in downtown Fitchburg. Five radio operators covered this short course, altering the marshals to racers rounding critical intersections so that spectators could be kept off the course and providing communication in case of medical emergency.

Thanks to the following operators for volunteering for this event: Bob AB1CV, Tom K1JHC, Tom K1KKY, Gary K1YTS, Jim

KA1GCN, Warren KA1JL, Martie
KA1QCB, Larry KB1ESR, Ray KB1LRL,
Stan KD1LE, Ralph KD1SM, John KK1X,
Charlie KT1I, Ben N1XYT, Paul W1SEX,
and Bob WA1VVT.



Left: Friday crew
(back row):
KA1GCN,
KA1QCB, KK1X,
AB1CV, N1KKY,
K1YTS,
WA1VVT, KT1I,
K1JHC
(front row):
KD1SM, KD1LE,
Race Director Bill
Chiarchiaro
(N1CPK),
KB1LRL, KA1JL,
N1XYT.

KD1SM photos



Left: Sunday crew;
KK1X, KD1SM, Chief
Referee Steve Crews,
AB1CV, KB1LRL,
KB1ESR

Field Day 2008



clockwise from top left: N1QDZ and NZ1D, N1QDX station, KB1PSP, WMA Section Manager Ed W1KT with KB1LRL and N1UZ, KB1LRL, KB1LRL station. Photos from KD1SM and KT1I.



Clockwise from top left: KD1YH's station, KT1I, NZ1D with KD1YH and N1QDX repair a generator, N1UZ at GOTA, AB1GF.

Photos from KD1SM

Alzheimer's Memory Ride

On Saturday July 26 twelve Hams provided communications support for the 2008 Memory Ride for Alzheimer's Research. This event brought together 300 bicycle riders each of whom had found sponsors to contribute to the Alzheimer's Association based on the number of miles each rider would travel during this event.

There were three courses; a 100mile "Century Ride", a 62 mile "Metric Century Ride", and a 25 mile ride. Each group started and finished on Museum Field in Devens.

This was the first year this group had used Amateur Radio communications support. So there was learning on both sides. At the end of the day the organizers expressed their extreme thanks to all of the Hams; they were very, very pleased with the extra degree of reporting and control they had with the Hams being able to carry messages.

The communication challenge for this event was to cover the 6 pit stops and the 6 support vehicles. Each pit stop had refreshments for the riders and some volunteer support. The 6 roving vehicles included 2 medical teams, 3 vehicles to transport riders and bicycles unable to finish, and the pit stop coordinator.

Two of the support vehicles did not have space for an additional radio operator so they were outfitted with a receive-only radio to monitor the communications. In one instance, a request to the Net to assist in locating 3 riders who had not checked-in to a required pit stop was responded-to over cell phone by one of these receive-only stations.

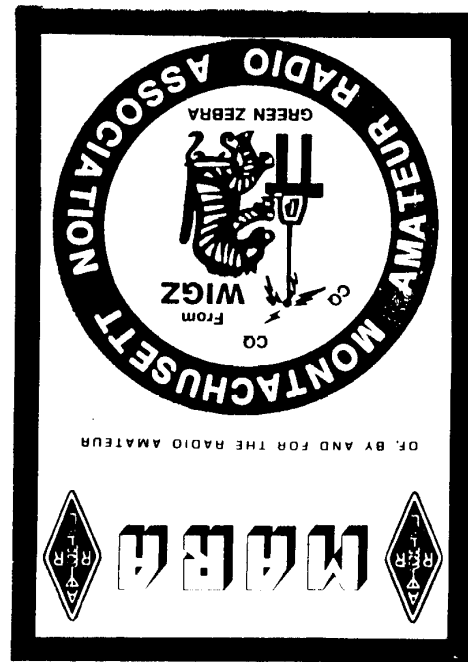
We are certain of an invitation back in 2009.



Top to bottom: 100-milers converge on the starting line, 62-milers ready to start, KD1LE at NCS, Net Control. [KD1SM photos]



August 2008



Montachusett Amateur Radio Association
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