

# MARA W1⚡GaZette



June 2010

MONTACHUSETT AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

Vol 52 No. 9

## Next Meeting

**Wednesday, 9 June**  
**7:30PM**  
**Public Safety Building**  
**Lunenburg**

## Election of Officers

MARA members in good standing will elect officers for the upcoming year at the June Annual Meeting. The report of the Nominating Committee is on page 2.

## President's Corner

Hi everyone. I don't know about you, but spring flew by! I guess by now we all have one thing on our mind, right? (I know better!) That would be field day.

As I lay here waiting for surgery to heal, I wonder why I am just so hooked on this event. (typing horizontal is not fun!) I could not come up with one reason, because there are so many of them. The camaraderie, variety, challenges, endurance, etc. I wonder if there is a favorite reason you have to going to field day. Find that reason and join us! I would love to see someone try something different this year. Satellites, SSTV, different power generation? There is quite a bit to choose from. I try to do something to improve

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## Contributors To This Issue:

KB1LRL, KB1JXJ, KB1JZU, AA2T

operating and performance. Some things were a success, some blew up. That's one of the fun things about field day. You can tweak it!

This month's meeting to be honest I have not really put a lot of thought as to who or what we will be discussing. (I had other things on my "back" burner.) I am hoping to get about two or three people to have informal mini-talks, as well as conduct our annual elections. The list so far (if you did not see my postings) is as follows : All current officers to remain for another term with the exception of the Secretary's position. KB1JXJ has many obligations in her work and will find it difficult to handle both. Pauline, I am sure I speak for all when I say THANK YOU for all you did for us. Barry Fox W1HFN is so far the only one to step in and express his desire to take over the position.

So enough for now, I hope to see you at the meeting as well as Field Day. Hopefully the medicine man gives me good blessings.

73's Ray KB1LRL

## 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/>

**Sunday, 20 June, Cambridge MA**  
Flea at MIT; 3rd Sunday April - October

**August 27 - 29, Boxboro MA**  
ARRL New England Division Convention

**October 15, 16, Deerfield NH**  
NEAR-Fest

Additional events are listed on  
<http://web.mit.edu/w1gsl/Public/ne-fleas>

## 2010 Nominations

The Nominating Committee for the 2010  
elections proposes the following slate:

President	Ray Lajoie KB1LRL
Vice President	Bill Leger N1UZ
Secretary	Barry Fox W1HFN
Treasurer	Gordon Lapoint N1MGO

All nominees with the exception of Barry  
are the incumbents.

Additional nominations may be made from  
the floor at the June Annual Meeting.

## VE Team Report

There were no pre-registered candidates for  
license exams in advance of the May exam  
session so that session was canceled.

The MARA Volunteer Examiner team  
schedules monthly Amateur Radio license  
examination sessions on the 4th Wednesday  
of the month. The examinations are given  
in the Lunenburg Senior Center "Eagle  
House". The Eagle House is located behind  
the Lunenburg Public Library.

All classes of licenses are tested. Candi-  
dates must bring the \$15 examination fee  
and photo identification. If the examination  
is for an upgrade to an existing license, the  
original and a photocopy of the current  
license must also be brought.

The next session is scheduled for June 23; the  
Wednesday before Field Day. Contact Paul  
Upham KD1YH to pre-register. If no  
candidates pre-register the session is canceled.

## The MARA W1/GaZette

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### NEWSLETTER STAFF:

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### MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:

Club Secretary: Pauline Carulli KB1JXJ  
Annual Dues: Regular \$25  
Family \$30  
Fixed income \$15  
Meetings: 2nd Wednesday, 7:30pm  
September to June

Mailing address: MARA  
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Leominster, MA 01453

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### OFFICERS:

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

## May Meeting Report

de Pauline KB1JXJ

12 May 2010

Lunenburg Public Safety Building, Lunenburg MA.

7:30pm Call to order and Card sort begins

8:40pm Report of nominating committee

All except secretary have agreed to keep their positions

Need a candidate for secretary

Elections will be at the June meeting

Field day: insurance papers needed. KB1JXJ will tell N1MGO to get the papers required and send to the person in charge in Westminster

Bill, N1UZ will take of the \$100 deposit as it is refunded at the end of the weekend.

Pizza and refreshments were served at the end of the card sort

The club thanks Mickey, WB1GFZ, for the donation of the refreshments.

8:45pm Adjourn

Respectfully Submitted  
Pauline R. Carulli, KB1JXJ  
Secretary



above: MARA members and guests sort 12,000 QSL cards in under 2 hours. Thanks to Stan KD1LE for providing the sorting boxes.

below: A variety of sorting techniques are seen in use.

[KD1SM photos]





## Boy Scouts Celebrate 100th Anniversary in September

de Ray KB1LRL

The Boy Scouts are celebrating their 100th anniversary on Saturday, September 18th at Carter Park in Leominster. This event will be a weekend long program involving the scouts in camping there. They are also having a public event Saturday featuring demonstrations of their merit badge activities, as well as demonstrations from various private and public associations including Leominster Police, Fire, and Emergency Management.

Jerry AA2T was asked if a radio demonstration could be set up. He forwarded the message to us. Needless to say this is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate our capabilities there, but also educate the public as well as the scouts.

My thought is to have a few volunteers set up a single band station, running SSB or RTTY, using a simple hamstick dipole or vertical. A nice twist is to use my solar set-up as well to show that aspect of it. Promotional information will be provided as well. I want to be operating as well as encouraging others to do so.

Plans are still in the works. Anyone interested in volunteering for this just let me know.

Ray

The W1/GaZette is not published in July and August. Enjoy Field Day and have a good summer.

## W1SLF Fox Box

In support of CQ Magazine's Foxhunting Weekend May 22 & 23 Bob KB1JZU placed the W1SLF Club Fox in the Lunenburg MA Cowdrey Conservation Land.

This Fox transmits on 146.520 (different from W1HFN's Fox) for 20sec every two minutes.

Bob reported that no finds were logged in the sheet next to the Fox that weekend. Perhaps he'll put it out again.

## Hams Provide Communications Support for Parker Classic

On Sunday May 23rd the Parker Charter School in Devens held its annual 2 mile and 5 mile foot races. MARA members joined the NVARC crew to provide communications support for this event.

The volunteers were Tom K1JHC, Charlie KT1I, Gary K1YTS, Nancy KB1KEF, Ralph KD1SM, Stan KD1LE, John KK1X, George KB1HFT, Larry KB1ESR, Bob AB1CV, and Ken K1JKR.

Jerry AA2T ran the 2 mile and finished at the head of his age group. Congratulations, Jerry.



left:  
Parker participant medallion, courtesy AA2T



Above: The Parker Classic communications crew; Nancy KB1KEF, Gary K1YTS, Bob AB1CV, Larry KB1ESR, George KB1HFT, Stan KD1LE, Tom K1JHC, John K1YTS, Ken K1JKR, Charlie KT1I. Ralph KD1SM is behind the camera.

## NVARC Slow Speed Net

On most Tuesday and Thursday evenings Bruce K1BG runs a slow speed CW net on 28.123. The net is called at 7:30 PM local time.

Following the net there is an informal roundtable chat on 28.423+ or - depending on local QRM. There are people both above (28.425) and below (28.420) on some nights, so make sure you tune around if you don't find the voice net right away.

## Ham Radio Cruise Nights

Every Saturday Night all summer long Ham Radio Cruise Night 5pm to 8pm at Gary's Ice Cream, 131 Gorham St, Rt 3A, East Chelmsford. Meet other Hams, show off your latest project, enjoy some frozen treat.

- Gary W1GFF

**Upcoming Public Service Events**

**Fitchburg Longsjo Classic**

The 51st running of the Fitchburg Longsjo Classic bicycle race will be July 2 - 5. MARA supports two of the four days of racing.

**Saturday, July 3**

The Wachusett Mountain Road Race will be held on Saturday, July 3. This course is the longest of the four events.

**Monday, July 5**

The Downtown Criterium will be held on Monday, July 5. This event allows the spectators to see the racers pass on dozens of laps.

**Memory Ride for Alzheimer's**

On **Saturday, July 24** the Alzheimer's Association is holding its annual fund raising bicycle ride to raise donations for researching Alzheimer's disease.

This year for the third year the event will start and finish at Devens. There are 3 courses; 25 miles, 62 miles, and 100 miles.

If you can volunteer for any of these events, please call Ralph KD1SM. Your participation will be greatly appreciated by all the riders and the organizations that hold these events.

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**Atlantic Hurricane Season Began June 1**

The Atlantic hurricane season could be the busiest since 2005, government scientists with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) said last week. According to NOAA's predictions, the 2010 season may spawn as many as 23 named tropical storms, including up to seven major hurricanes. The Atlantic hurricane season begins June 1 and runs through November 30.

NOAA is calling for eight to 14 storms to strengthen into hurricanes with top winds of 74 mph or higher; three to seven of those could become major storms that reach Category 3 or higher -- meaning they bring sustained winds of at least 111 miles per hour. "This season could be one of the more active on record," said NOAA Administrator Jane Lubchenco. "The greater likelihood of storms brings an increased risk of a landfall. In short, we urge everyone to be prepared."

"This year's hurricane season is forecasted to be a busy one, with a strong chance of a major hurricane making landfall in the US," said ARRL Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager Mike Corey, W5MPC. "I would encourage all amateurs in hurricane-prone areas to take part in any planning, drills or exercises, have your go-kits in order, review your local plans, make sure your home and family are safe and be ready if called upon. We here at ARRL Headquarters are already making plans to assist amateurs in the field if and when needed this season."

***From the ARRL Letter***

<<http://www.arrl.org/news/2010-atlantic-hurricane-season-begins-today>>

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