



## Next Meeting

**Wednesday, 8 May  
7:30PM  
Lunenburg Public Library**

**Steve W3EVE**

Steve Schwarm W3EVE organizes the Amateur Radio support for the Boston Marathon. He was scheduled as our May speaker well before the tragic incident at this year's Marathon. We'll see what Steve's perspective is now on the role of Amateur Radio in such events.

There will be a unique raffle at the May meeting. Chris KB1ZKL has generously donated a new Baofeng UV-5R dual band handheld with the entire raffle proceeds going to the Club.

## President's Corner

Hello there. My apologies for missing last month's column. I was kind of in the middle of a mountain of boxes that found its way to my new QTH. The odyssey continues, but at least I'm making headway. I knew it was going to be a busy month, but I did not anticipate those curve balls that got thrown at me. Oh well, like they said in the 70's, "Keep on Truckin'!"

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### Contributors To This Issue:

KB1ZKL, KB1LRL, W1HFN,  
K1JHC

Some of the items coming up are the election of officers. Anyone interested in seeking an office for the club may do so at this coming meeting. The requirements are you need to be a member in good standing with dues paid. The actual election is in June.

Speaking of June, this is also our annual ARRL Field day event held on the fourth full weekend of the month. We will be at our usual spot on Mt. Wachusett. Let us know if you plan to attend. More details will be coming in the next 2 meetings. The one thing we can use is night operators. We seem to fall pretty short in that department and also CW could use a good boost as well.

I am not going to go into much about the Marathon as it's going to be played out immensely and many stories be told. I will just say thanks to those who called to check on us and made posts on the web or email as to updates on us. It was a long day. But one that made me glad I played hooky and went

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## 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

**Wednesdays, 1900 local 145.37-**  
Gardner/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

**Sunday, May 19; Cambridge MA**  
Flea at MIT; 3rd Sunday April - October

**15 June; Newington CT**  
NARL hamfest, St. Mary School, 8am

Additional ham fest and flea market information  
can be found on the W1GSL New England Area  
Ham - Electronic Flea Market list at  
<http://web.mit.edu/w1gsl/Public/ne-fleas>

## President's Corner

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to do my little part in this. I am incredibly fortunate that I witnessed first hand the contribution and extreme professionalism the group of Amateur Radio volunteers have demonstrated on that historic and sad day. One that will inspire me to train more to handle this and whatever comes our way again. Something I hope I don't have to use, but be ready if it does.

73, Ray, KB1LRL

## VE Team Report

Due to Ralph's schedule there was no April exam session.

The next session is scheduled for May 22.

The MARA Volunteer Exam Team schedules sessions for the fourth Wednesday of most months at the Lunenburg Senior Center, 25 Memorial Drive, Lunenburg MA.

All levels of examination are available. Candidates should pre-register with Paul KD1YH at 978.597.6535 or by email to [phupham@verizon.net](mailto:phupham@verizon.net). If no candidates have pre-registered by the Saturday prior to the scheduled session the session will be canceled.

## The MARA W1/GaZette

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Family \$30  
Fixed income \$15  
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MARA owns and operates the W1GZ repeater on 145.45 (CTCSS 74.4) in Fitchburg.

## April Meeting Report

Minutes of the Montachusett Amateur Radio Association

10 April 2013

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 by Ray KB1LRL. Introductions were made, those in attendance were: Ray KB1LRL, Gary K1YTS, Norm W1BYH, Gordon N1MGO, Tom AB1GF, Charlie KT1I, Ken KB1UVP, Tom W0TJP, Paul KD1YH, John KK1X, Tom K1JHC, Bruce KB1YRS, Ralph KD1SM, Giulio KB1TKD, Jim K1BEZ, Aaron KB1ZKO and Barry W1HFN. Our guest speaker was Steve N1BDA.

It was moved and seconded to accept the minutes of our last meeting as it appeared in the newsletter. Treasurer's report; the balance is \$1,666.10 and 298.50 in the repeater fund. The raffle brought in \$36.00, and the winner of the \$40 ARRL gift certificate was Tom K1JHC.

The Technical Committee reports the IRLP PC is to be moved to Ray KB1LRL new QTH and the echo link to Tom AB1GF new QTH. Both hope to be back on line ASAP.

Tom K1JHC gave a report on the condition of Al KB1TNN who has been diagnosed with congestive heart failure. He would appreciate any visitors who could stop by.

The annual Townsend canoe race will be held the 13th, so far there are 7 hams and 4 civilians who are interested in getting licensed signed up to assist. Participants are asked to meet at the Townsend VFW at 9AM that day. The Boston Marathon will be held the 15th, many volunteers needed for that event. The Groton Road Race will be held on the 28th, volunteers are needed

and appreciated. The organizers have mentioned that the event could not go on without the help of the hams. The Longsjo race committee has not as yet contacted us regarding the bicycle race this year, we will adopt a wait and see attitude. In any event, it will be held the weekend after Field Day.

Ray KB1LRL has been checking with the state regarding our use of Mt Wachusett for Field Day. It is expected we will have the use of the hill again this year.

A short break was taken for refreshments and socializing.

Our guest speaker, Steve N1BDA gave an informative talk on planning and constructing "Go-Kits" for communication events / emergencies.

A motion was made to adjourn at 9:50, seconded and carried.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Barry W1HFN, Secretary

## Old Timers Lunch

de Tom K1JHC

A meeting of the Old Timers was held on Wednesday May 1st. Members present were Charlie KT1I, Gary K1YTS, Tom K1JHC, Tom WA1RHP, Norm W1BYH, Ray KB1LRL, Paul N1QDX, and Ken KB1UVP. Ray and Gary were helping with the Marathon and worked after the bombing. With streets blocked, they did not get home until two AM.

Why not join us at Bickford's Restaurant on the first Wednesday of each month at 12:30 PM.

## Squannacook Canoe and Kayak Race

On Saturday April 13 MARA members Gary K1YTS, Tom K1JHC, Nancy KB1KEF, Ken KB1UVP, Charlie KT1I, Barry W1HFN, John KK1X, and Ralph KD1SM were joined by NVARC members Bob AB1CV, Stan KD1LE, and Ed N1YFK at the Townsend Lion's Club Squannacook River Canoe and Kayak Race.

Thirty four canoes and kayaks entered the event and all but one finished. The river was very high this year, causing one canoe team to capsize shortly after starting. With the cold temperatures they decided to withdraw rather than continue.



Above: the lead canoe team passes the Meetinghouse Road checkpoint.

Below: Bob AB1CV awaits the final team at the finish.







Above: Nancy KB1KEF and daughter, Ken KB1UVP, Tom K1JHC, John KK1X, daughter #2 of KB1KEF, Gary K1YTS, Ray KB1LRL, Ed N1YFK, Barry W1HFN, Stan KD1LE (kneeling), Charlie KT1I, Shirly Coit (Townsend EMA Director), and Bob AB1CV. KD1SM behind the camera.

## Groton Road Race

On Sunday April 28 MARA members Gary K1YTS, Nancy KB1KEF, Ray KB1LRL, Ken KB1UVP, Ralph KD1SM John KK1X, Tim KQ1Y, and Gordon N1MGO joined twenty nine other Amateur Radio operators organized by the Nashoba Valley Amateur Radio Club to support the Groton Road Race.

1700 runners participated in the two main events; the 5k and 10k races.



Above: runners in the 10K race pass the Net Control Station location.

KD1SM photo



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