



Next Meeting

**Wednesday, September 11
7:30PM
Wallace Room
Lunenburg Public Library**

**Dave Pasco KM3T
“WRTC 2014”**

The World Radiosport Team Championship brings more than 50 two-person teams of radio operators from all over the world to compete in a 24 hour operating event with identical antennas setup in the same geographic area to test their operating skill. The competition is held every four years with the host country selected four years in advance.

Dave Pasco KM3T is a member of the host committee for WRTC 2014 which will be held in eastern Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire in July of next year. Dave will describe the event, the planning, the competitors, and the volunteers (that's us!) that make it all work at our September meeting.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Radiosport_Team_Championship has information about the Championship. <http://www.wrtc2014.org/> has information about the 2014 event.

In This Issue...

Next Meeting	1
President's Corner	1
Watt's Happening	2
VE Team Report	2
June Meeting Report	3
Membership List Purge	4
Board Meeting Minutes	4
Fox Hunts Resume	5
Field Day 2013	6
Ride to End Alzheimer's	7
Hollis Half Marathon Oct 5	8
Technician Class in Gardner	8
August Cookout	8

Contributors To This Issue:

KB1LRL, W1HFN, W1SEX, K1SMD

Advance notice: the October MARA meeting will be held in the training room of the Lunenburg Public Safety Complex.

President's Corner

de Ray KB1LRL

Hi there, I have one question to ask, "WHERE DID SUMMER GO?" Goodness this season flew! This was a season that we found ourselves not bored with anything, rather looking for some time to catch our breath. So much Ham Radio activity. If you think this year was hectic, wait until next year. The upcoming year will be the ARRL's Centennial there is a lot of activity in the works there. As you know the Boxboro convention will not take place next year, it will be in Hartford CT in July. The week

continued on next page

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, 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, September 15; Cambridge MA
Flea at MIT; 3rd Sunday April - October

Saturday, September 28; Brookline NH
NE Antique Radio Club

11-12 October, Deerfield NH
NEARfest XIV

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

continued from page one

before that is the big event, meaning WRTC 2014. This year's test went off pretty smoothly and the leadership committee was very pleased with the result. Next year we showcase our talents and hospitality to ham representatives from around the world. This will be the time to shine as ambassadors to the hobby.

Other activities we had were Field Day, a cookout, a Memory Ride, VE sessions, some station setups. Everything proved to be successful in achieving its goals. It is kind of nice the meetings are starting up again and hopefully we will have another fine assortment of speaker to keep us informed and learning more about our fine hobby. Please come to them and bring along a newbie, or a wanna-be. Hope to see a packed house on September 11.

73 and Thanks, Ray

VE Team

The MARA Volunteer Examiner Team conducted exam sessions in June, July, and August. A total of thirteen candidates were served with 9 new Technician licenses, 3 General, and 1 Extra class license earned.

Thanks to the following examiners for serving in one or more of these sessions: Tom K1JHC, Gary K1YTS, Ralph KD1SM, Paul KD1YH, Justin KJ1H, John KK1X, Charlie KT1I, Don N1HVA, and Chatmon WA1FIA.

The next session is scheduled for Wednesday, September 25 at the Lunenburg Public

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

Safety Complex. The VE Team is happy to hold a session on the fourth Wednesday of the month as long as at least one candidate has pre-registered.

Anyone interested in taking an Amateur Radio License exam is welcome but pre-registration should be done by calling or emailing Paul KD1YH.

Full information about the exam sessions, including instructions for preregistering is found on the ARRL Exam Session locator at <http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session>

June Meeting Report

Minutes of the Montachusett Amateur Radio Association Meeting

12 June 2013

The meeting was called to order at 7:30PM. Those in attendance were: Tom AB1GF, Gordon N1MGO, Ray KB1LRL, Paul KD1YH, Al KB1TNN, Tom K1JHC, Gary K1YTS, Steve KB1YUP, Bruce KB1YRS, Tim W0TJP, Barry W1HFN, Chris KB1ZKL, Giulio KB1TKD, Norm W1BYH, Jim AD1L, and Bob KB1JZU.

Introductions were made with name and call sign. The secretary made a motion to have the previous month's meeting minutes be accepted as printed in the newsletter. Seconded and passed. Treasurer's report, ending balance of \$1760.10 plus \$477.50 in the repeater fund. Motion to accept, seconded and passed.

Field Day discussion: Ray and Gary plan to get to the mountain top early to set up. Ray

asked for a show of hands for operators, approximately 8 responded. Paul KD1YH volunteered to be chef de-cuisine, as usual. There was a bit of discussion as to where our operating site would be as the whole top of the mountain has been restructured. A trip to the top before FD was suggested to get the lay of the land. The question was raised could non-hams be invited to visit, yes of course.

Tom AB1GF offered several 6 and 2 Meter antennas to the club, no interest was expressed.

Election for club officers was held. The secretary moved that one vote be cast to re-elect the current slate, was seconded and carried.

There was a ten minute break for goodies and socializing. Thanks to Bruce KB1YRS and Steve KB1YUP for providing the snacks.

As there was no guest speaker, Ray drew names from a hat and asked the winners to give a short talk on any radio related subject. First up was Bruce KB1YRS who gave a talk on trying to learn the code and asked for suggestions from the group. Second was Gary K1YTS who opted to try some Q&As from the Extra Class manual. Third up, Al KB1TNN, who followed Gary's lead. Fourth was Norm W1BYH who did his own informal Q&A from the group.

There will be no more meetings until September.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded at 8:50PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Barry W1HFN, Secretary

Membership List Purge

This is to once again remind members past and present that on Sept 10 we will be removing members who have not paid their dues from the list.

You will not have access to the reflector and newsletters will not be sent. We will always welcome you to the meetings and you may participate in activities.

We need to trim the non active members in order to save on postage and help us manage the active members better.

If you wish to stay on with us please stop by the meeting or mail your dues to MARA, PO. Box 95 Leominster, MA 01453. Remember, people who receive their new Tech license at our VE sessions get the first year membership free and all dues are due in June of each year.

Thank you.
Ray KB1LRL

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

Montachusett Amateur Radio Association

6th August 2013

The meeting was called to order by Ray KB1LRL, at 7:08PM

The necessity to move the W1GZ repeater was discussed. Gary K1YTS has been in contact with the responsible party at the hospital about the move. We can hopefully

move everything across the rooftops to the new location. The new location also has emergency power. Tom AB1GF will contact Gary in order to get the ball rolling. It would be convenient to have an internet connection there as well for IRLP.

The 220 repeater was also discussed. Paul KD1YH, who has been working on it, states the RX works fine but the TX does not seem to be able to stay on frequency. Possible causes include defective crystal or corroded pins on same.

Dues will be due in September, notices will be sent to those in arrears. We have a new member Steve KC1AHU who will get a year's free membership to MARA.

An FYI will be sent to all MARA members and other users, reminding them of the necessity of allowing time for the various links to connect during nets and any other time the links are in use.

A contribution to the Lunenburg Library was discussed. It was put forth that the ARRL ham library collection might be appropriate. To be discussed with the library staff.

The 2013 MARA Christmas party will be held at Gordon and Pauline's QTH, as last year. The date is 8th December at 1:00PM, with a Yankee Swap; a \$10.00 to \$15.00 price range is suggested for the gifts.

The yearly picnic will be held at the QTH of Paul N1QDX on 11th August. All are welcome; participants are invited to bring a side dish / desert.

We have created a list of potential speakers for the upcoming year. They include, but are not limited to:

- N1MGO - use of band scopes
- WB1EWS – broadcast engineering
- K1DG – WRTC progress
- N1AEW – amateur satellite operation
- KD1LE – lightning protection
- and the ever-popular Q&A session.

Due to conflicts with the library meeting room, the October and January meetings will be held (provisionally) at the Lunenburg Safety Building. Ralph KD1SM to finalize details.

The next Board of Directors meeting will be held 5th November at 7:00PM at N1MGO's QTH.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Barry W1HFN, Secretary

Fox Hunts Resume

Due to numerous (actually around 3) requests, I deployed the fox on Sat 24 Aug in the Cowdry Recreation area off Rte 2A in Lunenburg. It transmits on 146.565 for 20 seconds every 3 minutes. There is a sign-in log in a plastic baggie to record your skill and tenacity.

The batteries should last over a weekend and maybe into the next, who knows

73,
Barry W1HFN

Field Day 2013

photos courtesy Barry W1HFN



The signals, however, were not at all crappy. (And no, it's not the TARDIS)



above:
Tom AB1GF

left:
Walt K1CMF

right:
Bill NZ1D



above: Paul KD1YH and Jim AD1L

below: Paul N1QDX, Ray KB1LRL, Tom K1JHC,
and Charlie KT1I



Ride to End Alzheimer's

de Ralph KD1SM

Nineteen Amateur Radio Operators including eight NVARC members provided radio support for the 2013 Ride to End Alzheimers on Saturday July 13. The operators did communication for event logistics, and the health and safety of the bicycle riders who participated in the event.

This is the fifth year that the local Amateur Radio community has provided an Amateur Radio support team. Many of the operators have participated in the event every year. The 2013 volunteers were MARA members Tom AB1GF, Rick AB1PM, Gary K1YTS, Ray KB1LRL, Ken KB1UVP, Ralph KD1SM, and Charlie KT1I, NVARC members Bob AB1CV, Stan KD1LE, Dan KW2T and his sons, Jim N8VIM, Larry W1ESR, and Brett AB1RL, Carsten KB1KTP, Chris KB1WKI, Jeff KB3EQH, and Tim W0TJP. Two Amateur Radio operators were also part of the motorcycle support team: Justin KJ1H and Joseph N1QDZ.

The Ride to End Alzheimer's consists of four groups of bicyclists riding distances of 30, 62, or 100 miles plus a 2-mile "family ride". All riders start and finish at Museum Field in Devens. The 100 mile course goes south through Harvard, Littleton, Bolton, Lancaster, Clinton, West Boylston, around the south end of Wachusett Reservoir, then north through Sterling, Lancaster, Shirley, Groton, Townsend, Pepperell, Hollis NH, then back to Devens through Groton, Pepperell, and Ayer. The 62 and 30 mile courses follow portions of the 100 mile course.

The Amateur Radio support team provides fixed communication at the 6 aid stations (pit stops) along the courses and ride-along operators for the Support and Gear drivers who report rider status and provide assistance to riders who encounter problems along the course.

Event Coordinator Angela Floro from the Massachusetts/New Hampshire chapter of the Alzheimer's Association extends her deep appreciation to all of the volunteers for making this year's event a success.

Thanks to Central Massachusetts Amateur Radio Association, Paul Andrews WB1EWS, Dave Peabody N1MNX, and Bernie Peabody N1IMO for the use of their repeaters for this event.

The Ride to End Alzheimer's was previously known as the Memory Ride. The participating bicyclists raise sponsorships for their participation. The Noonan family, whose story was featured in a PBS series "The Forgetting", founded the Memory Ride. Over the 15 years the Ride has raised over \$3 million to fund Alzheimer's disease research.

Further information about the ride itself can be found on <http://www.alzmass.org/ride/>

Details of the Amateur Radio operation are posted on <http://n1nc.org/Events/2013/Alz/>

The organizer of the Moto Support crew posted her experiences at <http://www.thegrotonline.com/2013/07/16/kate-motor-murphy-organizes-rider-support-for-ride-to-end-alzheimers/>

A photo of Pit Stop 5 appears on page 8.



above: Pit Stop 5 on the Ride to End Alzheimer's at Alpine Grove, Hollis NH.

photo courtesy Jim N8VIM

Hollis Half Marathon - Oct 5

Amateur Radio is providing communication support for the final Hollis Half Marathon on Saturday, October 5.

Steve K1SMD is looking for additional volunteers. Please contact Steve by email at k1smd@arrl.net.

Technician Class Offered in Gardner Starts September 7

Starting September 7th we are having a new ham radio Technician Class license course. Classes will be held weekly through November 16 at the Gardner EOC in the South Gardner Fire Station #1 at 61 East Broadway, Gardner.

Contact Paul W1SEX via email at w1sex@arrl.net to register.

August Cookout

The annual MARA cookout was hosted by Paul N1QDX and MaryAnn Doherty at their home on Hickory Hills Lake in Lunenburg.



above: Ray KB1LRL, Ray's daughter and her friend, Charlie KT1I, Al KB1TNN, Gary K1YTS, Nancy KB1KEF, Peg, Doris

below: Pauline KB1JXJ presents a birthday cake to Charlie KT1I

photos courtesy Barry W1HFN





above: Gary K1YTS and Ray KB1LRL enjoy some time on the lake.

below: Tour Guide Captain Paul N1QDX explains some of the finer landmarks on Hickory Hills Lake.

photos courtesy Barry W1HFN



above: Chef and Grillmaster Paul N1QDX

below: Nancy KB1KEF and Ken KB1UVP with four-legged operator.

KD1SM photos





Montachusett Amateur Radio Association
PO Box 95 Leominster MA 01453

