

MARA W1GaZette



March 2019

MONTACHUSETT AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

Vol 60, No 7

Next Meeting

March 13, 2019 7pm at the [lunenburg public library](#).. Barry W1HFN will be discussing the AIM 4170



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Contributors To This Issue:

AB1GF, AB1FF, W1HFN, N1MGO, KD1YH, KC1BNE

The President's Corner

de Tom, Antil AB1GF

I would like to start discussing field day soon. It is only 15 weeks away. Last year was good and we did not have any problems. I have been thinking about antennas and making the set up /tear down better. This year I would like to use all wire antennas. I would like to get more people an opportunity to operate.

As many of you know, we set up on top of Wachusett Mountain just above the chair lift and a nice shot to the west/south west which is ideal for field day.



Wow, we had some impressive winds. I measured 39 MPH. I think that was wrong, oh well.. My antennas all survived. I can not say as much for [Sugarloaf Mountain](#) though. Dave KC1BNE reported in with this photo of one of his antennas

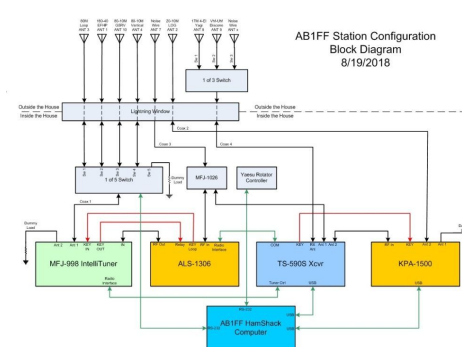


Show Your Shack

de AB1GF

[WAIRHP](#) Remote





Tom Sefranek AB1FF has his station set up for Remote Access through [Remote Hams](#)

February Meeting, Treasurer's Report

de Barry W1HFN, MARA Secretary

Meeting called to order: 7:30 PM

Attendees: Tom-AB1GF, Gordon-N1MGO, Eric-W1QED, Paul-KD1YH, Gary-K1YTS, Howard-KC1JRN, Ray-KB1LRL, Ken-KC1ICN, Bill-KC1JDZ, Bruce-KB1YRS (welcome back Bruce), John-KC1JEX and Barry-W1HFN.

Treasurer Report (Gordon, N1MGO):

Treasurer's report, ending balance of \$1658.32

Current Business: Tom reported that the 220 machine was put back on the air, but needs more work. It cannot be keyed beyond the parking lot. The 900MHz repeater is still down, awaiting assistance from a local MSF5000 expert.

Members: .

General Discussion: Ray is looking for some Emergency Coordinators for: Worcester, Hampshire and Hampden counties. Also to fill a PIO position. Anyone interested please contact KB1LRL.

The Townsend Canoe Race is being held in May, unfortunately the same weekend as Deerfield.

Ralph-KD1SM has volunteered to manage the event.

Field Day is coming up, Tom has started planning to get the Mount paperwork done. The availability and cost of port-a-potties was discussed

Meeting Presentation: Our speaker was Tom AB1GF.

Tom give a very informative demo of the capabilities of the MFJ 269C antenna analyzer, especially the distance-to-fault measurements.

Meeting end called: 8:52 PM

State of the Repeaters

de Tom AB1GF

Barry W1HFN Steve and I went up to check on the 900 mhz repeater and Miraculously it was working.

Paul and I have been up there twice since for the 220 repeater. There seems to be an issue with the output jumpers on the cans. I have replaced the problem jumper with a temporary and all seems to be working

now. I also ordered Silver plated BNC connectors for LMR 240 and plan on making new jumpers.
The High winds damaged the feedline on the W1HFN repeater,so that repeater has been disabled.



The Old Timers' Lunch

de Tom K1JHC

We meet every "First Wednesday" of the month,11:45 am, year round. Why not join the group and enjoy good grub and gab.

Tom K1JHC solderironman@aol.com

Public Service

Nothing to Report

Upcoming Contests

de AB1GF

March 2019

2-3 [International DX– Phone](#)

30-31 [CQ WPX SSB](#)

April 2019

14 [Rookie Roundup – Phone](#)

May 2019

Upcoming Events

de AB1GF

April

7 [Framingham Flea Market](#)

May

3-4 [NEAR-Fest XXV](#) That is correct # 25

June

22-23 Field Day

VE Sessions

de KDISM, KDIYH

The February session was canceled due to no candidates

The VE sessions are held on the 4th Wednesday of the month at the [Lunenburg Public Library 1023 Massachusetts Ave, Lunenburg, MA 01462](#) in the back of the building at 7pm

check on the status of your new licence @ [F.C.C ULS](#)

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. Contents copyright © 2017, MARA. Permission to use in other Amateur Radio publications with credit to MARA is hereby granted.

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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MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:

Club Secretary: Barry Fox, W1HFN, foxbw@comcast.net

Annual Dues: Regular \$25

Family \$30

Fixed income \$15

Meetings: 2nd Wednesday, 7:30 pm September to June

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MARA owns and operates three FM repeaters co-located on Burbank Hospital in Fitchburg. W1GZ on 145.45 (CTCSS 74.4), AB1GF on 224.34 MHz (CTCSS 103.5) and W1HFN on 927.5625 (-25 MHz) (CTCSS 74.4). The 2m repeater is also reachable via IRLP node 8433 and Echolink node 688832.

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 3944
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 10 kHz if you cannot find the net.

Sundays, 0900 local 145.45-
Montachusett Emergency Net

Tuesdays, 1930 local 145.37-
WMEN Templeton Emergency Net

Wednesdays, 1900 local 145.37-
Gardner/Templeton Emergency Net

Nightly, 2100 local 146.97-
Central Mass Traffic Net

First Monday, 1900 local 3943, 7245
RACES Net

Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, 1800 local 3978
Western Mass/RI Phone Net

For Sale

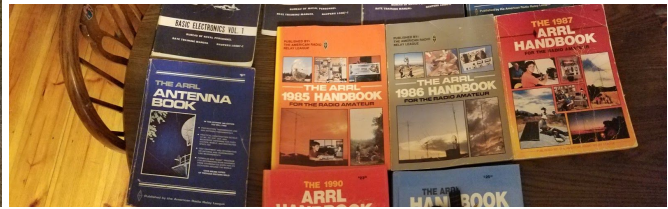
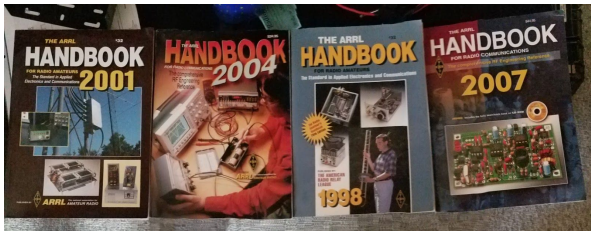
de ABIGF

Yaesu FT-991 Non A \$850.00

HF/ VHF/UHF all mode very light use



Does anyone need a Handbook? I have many available. Only the technology changes from year to year.



Resources

[AB1FF Inventory](#)

[W1SEX Tech Night](#) in Gardner [Bandpass Filter Study](#)

[Dan's Tech Night](#) in Shirley

[Heathkit](#) they are back making kits

[AB1GF](#) 600 lbs of Aluminum, antenna parts & tower stuff

[N1MGO](#) assistance with digital

[WBIEWS](#) has 1.000.000 Resistors, check 1/4, 1/2, 1&2 watt available check with him before you buy any.

[KB1LRL](#) Wire Man products

[The Successful Ham Radio Operator's Handbook](#) Another operators handbook that might be useful

[WMA ARRL](#) See what is going on in Western Massachusetts

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