

MARA W1 GaZette



October 2024

MONTACHUSETT AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

Vol 64 No. 2

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 11 7:00PM Lunenburg Public Library

**An in-depth presentation on POTA
(Parks On The Air) with equipment
exhibits**

Its time to step up and help your club
out!

Thanks,
Gordon - N1MGO

The President's Corner

No president at this time,

Gordon – N1MGO Acting president,
until we get a full time president.

I will fill the position of President for
the club until we get a new full time
President.

I could use some help with the news
letter and the Presentations each month.

Watt's Happening

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 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 Get-together Net

Nightly, 2100 local 146.97- Central Mass Traffic Net

First Wednesday, 11:30 Old timers luncheon, Westminster Cafe

First Monday, 1900 local 3944, 7245 RACES Net

George's Old Timers Net 1930 hours 146.970 Paxton Repeater

No Name Net 3982 07:30 to 8:30 7 days

4PMers net 3922 16:00 Monday-Saturday

Sunrise Bible Study net 3912 06:30 7 days

All day, every day: 144.39 simplex

Digipeater for APRS, AA2T-1 set to Wide 1
By Jerry, AA2T

Upcoming Flea markets and Ham fests.

NEAR-Fest XXXIV Oct 13 & 14
Deerfield NH.

Treasurer's Report

Corrected Report for Summer

Treasurer's report Summer (June July, August) 2023

Starting balance	\$1642.91
Income	\$20.00 ARRL member
Renewal credits	\$50.00 Dues

Expenses	\$
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Ending Balance	\$1712.91
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Signed: Gordon LaPoint, N1MGO Treasurer

Treasurer's report September 2023

Starting balance	\$1712.91
Income	\$216.00 Dues
Expenses	\$

Ending Balance	\$1972.91
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Signed: Gordon LaPoint, N1MGO Treasurer

Secretary's Report

Minutes of the Montachusett Amateur
Radio Association

13 September 2023

The meeting was started at
1930. Those in attendance were;
AA1SE, N1MGO, KD1YH, W1HFN,

W1QED, WA1MWF and K1YTS.

Treasurer's report: a total of
\$1662.91 in our account.

Field Day went well, with the
Waltham club attending, a good time was
had by all.

AA1SE mentioned the need for
support at the Big E.

The need for officers for the
upcoming year was mentioned. W1QED,
N1MGO and W1HFN all volunteered to
continue in their respective posts, so far
no interest in the presidents position.

N1MGO gave a real-time
presentation on the KT1I Memorial
Remote Station. For more information,
see N1MGO.org.

Meeting adjourned at 20:05

Respectfully submitted, Barry -
W1HFN Secretary

VE Team Report Sept. 30

The WMA Train and Test Team had a VE session
at the St. Francis Episcopal Church in Holden
which is also the meeting site of the CMARA
Club. 4 candidates arrived for the test.
Unfortunately 2 did not pass and 1 earned her
tech license. One gentleman became our first to
get all three levels passed!

Thanks to the team for coming to assist in
administering the exam. Our next one will be in

Lunenburg at the Library on Dec 2 at 10 AM

Upcoming Contests

Contests coming up for the next month:

Makrothen RTTY Contest: 0000Z Oct 14 to 0800Z and 1600Z-2400Z Oct 14 and 0800Z-1600Z Oct 15

JARTS WW RTTY Contest: 0000Z Oct 21 to 2400Z October 22

Stew Perry Topband Challenge, CW: 1500Z Oct 21 to 1500Z Oct 22

CQ WW DX Contest, SSB: 0000Z Oct 28 to 2359Z Oct 29

ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, CW: 210Z Nov 4 to 0300Z Nov 6

There are many other contests going on it this time frame.

For more info see:

<https://www.contestcalendar.com/index.html>

To see the scores reported by your local hams visit:

<https://www.3830scores.com/>

If you do a contest please put your results up on the 3830 score board for the rest of us to see.

The MARA W1/GaZette

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Club Secretary: Barry Fox W1HFN Annual

Dues: Regular \$25
Family \$30
Fixed income \$15

Meetings: 2nd Wednesday, 7:00pm
September to June

Mailing address: MARA
PO Box 95
Leominster, MA 01453

Web site: <http://www.w1gz.org/>

OFFICERS:

President (acting) – Gordon LaPoint - N1MGO

Barry Fox, W1HFN Secretary
foxbw@comcast.net

Gordon LaPoint, N1MGO Treasurer
n1mgo@arrl.net

Erik Tkai W1QED Trustee
etkai@me.com

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

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

NEWSLETTER STAFF:

Editor: Gordon LaPoint N1MGO n1mgo@arrl.net
Webmaster: Paul Upham KD1YH

RF Exposure Evaluation

ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio® provides free, comprehensive resources to help radio amateurs ensure they are compliant with the new RF exposure rules.

On May 3, 2021, [new FCC rules governing RF exposure](#) evaluations went into effect. While the exposure limits were not changed, the requirement to conduct an evaluation was made more broadly applicable to amateur licensees. A 2-year transition period was implemented to allow existing amateur licensees to conduct evaluations and make any changes necessary to ensure that their station complies with the exposure rules. On May 3, 2023, the transition period ended. All licensees must now conduct evaluations of their current station and reassess compliance when making changes to their stations that would affect exposure going forward.



As detailed in a [May 2023 QST article by Greg Lapin, N9GL](#), the rules now require amateur radio operators to perform station evaluations. The Amateur Radio Service is no longer categorically excluded from certain aspects of the RF exposure rules, and licensees can no longer avoid performing an exposure assessment simply because they are transmitting below a given power level.

The ARRL website features an [RF Exposure landing page](#) with resources, such as an RF exposure calculator, the entire RF Safety section from the 100th Edition of the *ARRL The Handbook*, a video explaining the topic, FAQs about the subject, and more. These tools and resources are available to the public without an ARRL membership or website

account.

[For further assistance with technical matters, ARRL members enjoy the additional resources of the ARRL Technical Information Service, and access to the experts within the ARRL Lab.](#)

Fair Season Puts Ham Radio on Exhibition

It is autumn across the United States, and with the season draws changing colors, pumpkin spice everything, and agricultural fairs. Many amateur radio clubs and groups use the fairs as an opportunity to get ham radio in front of new and curious audiences. In New England, The Big E is a multi-state fair in West Springfield, Massachusetts, from September 15 to October 1, 2023.

Located inside the Better Living Center is "Project Big E". It was conceived in 2021 by Larry Krainson, W1AST, and other members of the [Hampden County Radio Association \(HCRA\)](#), who envisioned



Greg Bonaguide, WA1VUG (left), Christy Bonaguide, KF4UXP (middle), with Ray Lajoie, AA1SE (right), Section Manager of the ARRL Western Massachusetts Section. [Section Manager of the ARRL Rhode Island Section, Nancy Austin, KC1NEK, photo.]

Order this [radio communications banner](#) for your club from the ARRL Store.

a booth that would demonstrate the many aspects of modern ham radio and provide an avenue to sign up for information and courses in their local area.

This year's event includes an EmComm display; D-STAR and other digital mobile mode demonstrations; digital HF modes on a big screen; SSB, CW, and other digital modes, and demonstrations of portable stations for field operations like Parks on the Air and Summits on the Air. The exhibit will also highlight youth in ham radio.

The Project Big E booth (#103) is staffed 12 hours each day by 10 clubs and over 80 individuals from across New England. At the booth table there are two hand-made telegraph keys. Visitors are shown how to print and send their name in Morse code.

For Sale!!

LDG AT-11MP auto tuner 1.8 - 30MHz, 5 - 150 Watts with documentation and power cord with Anderson PPs, works as it should, \$100.00

Heathkit HM-2140A SWR bridge / wattmeter, 1.8MHz, 200 / 2000 Watt scales with documentation and fresh 9V battery. \$40.00

Alinco Communication Receiver DX-R8, like new condition with documentation and DC cord with Anderson PPs, \$120.00

Pics available on request.

Barry - W1HFN
w1hfn@arrl.net

Ham Radio Trivia

What do the Amateur Radio Stations NA1SS and RS0ISS have in common?

Besides talking on his ham radio, this famous newscaster spent most of his life talking into a microphone for a living. Who is it?

Which of the following musicians is NOT or was NOT an Amateur Radio (HAM) Operator?
Your options: [Alice Cooper] [Joe Walsh] [Jim Croce] [Ronnie Milsap]

This famous ham invented a legendary music device that was featured on the album "Switched On Bach". Who is it?

Gerson Strassberg, WA2JXX invented this item which no self-respecting geek would have been without. Now, you could probably only find one on e-bay. What is it?

!!Answers in Next months newsletter!!