

# MARA W1 GaZette

May 2025

MONTACHUSETT AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION



Vol 65 No. 9

**Next Meeting:**  
**Wednesday, May 14 at 7:00PM**  
**Lunenburg Public Library**

**Meeting subject:**  
**Field day setup and N1MM usage**  
**Monty Tech Ham club by W1SEX**  
**Zoom Link for the meeting:**  
[Zoom link for meeting](#)

## The President's Corner

## Watt's Happening

**Sundays, 0830 local 3944**  
Western Mass Emergency Net. Alternate frequency is 3942 in case of QRN, QRM, or frequency in-use.  
**Montachusett Emergency Net, 0900 Local**  
Fitchburg & Gardner repeaters with Echolink Node 688832

**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

**Nightly, 2145 local 145.45-**  
Heavy Hitters 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

**4PMers net 3922** 16:00 Monday-Saturday

**Granite State Traffic net 9:00 PM PAC**  
Monadnock repeater 449.375- PK 88.5

## Treasurer's Report

### Montachusett Amateur Radio Association

Treasurer's report April 2025

Starting balance	\$1603.31
Income	\$20.00 Dues
Expenses	\$200.00 Club Insurance
Ending Balance	\$1423.31

Signed: Gordon LaPoint, N1MGO Treasurer

## W1GZ 2Mtr Repeater

Repeater is working fine! The IRLP link for the Gardner repeater is up!

## Secretary's Report

Minutes of the Montachusett Amateur Radio Association

09 APRIL 2025

The meeting was called to order at 19:04 by vice president Eric W1QED

Attendance: Glenn KC1EIJ, Erik W1QED, Paul KD1YH, Joe KG1TPB, John KC1JEX, Jacob Burke, Gary K1YTS, Dave KC1OBX, Gordon N1MGO, Ray AA1SE, Matt KC1TUV,

Those in attendance took turns introducing themselves.

Gordon N1MGO gave the treasurer's report. PO Box rental is up to \$248 per year.

Paul KD1YH gave the repeater report.

Eric W1QED gave a report on plans for Field Day. The permit has been submitted for the use of Mount Wachusett. Porta-potty quotes are being sought, prices are higher than expected, permission to use state provided porta-pottys

on sight.

Gordon N1MGO presented on N1MM logging software that is expected to be used for Field Day.

Motion to adjourn made by KC1EIJ, 2<sup>nd</sup> KC1TUV Meeting adjourned at 20:13

Respectfully submitted by Glenn KC1EIJ, Secretary

## Upcoming Contests

**Contests coming up for the next month:**

**EU PSK DX Contest:** 1200Z May 17 to 1200Z May 18

**CQ WW WPX Contest, CW:** 0000Z May 24 to 2359Z May 25

**PODXS 070 Club 3 Day Contest:** 0000Z May 30 to 2359Z June 01

**10-10 Int. Open Season PSK Contest:** 0000Z Jun 7 to 2400Z Jun 8

**Portugal Day Contest CW & SSB:** 1200Z Jun 14 to 1200Z Jun 15

**EU PSK DX Contest:** 1200Z May 17 to 1200Z May 18

There are many other contests going on in 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

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.

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### 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 – Tyler Conlin-Stolberg KC1RVS  
[Tylercs45@gmail.com](mailto:Tylercs45@gmail.com)

Vice President - Erik Tkal W1QED  
[etkal@me.com](mailto:etkal@me.com)

Sectrary - Glenn Capone, KC1EIJ  
[glenncapone@yahoo.com](mailto:glenncapone@yahoo.com)

Treasurer - Gordon LaPoint, N1MGO  
[n1mgo@arrl.net](mailto:n1mgo@arrl.net)

Trustee - Erik Tkal W1QED  
[etkal@me.com](mailto:etkal@me.com)

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

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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](mailto:n1mgo@arrl.net)

Webmaster: Paul Upham KD1YH

## VE Team Report

The next VE session is Sunday, 08 June at 9AM in the Lunenburg Public library, to make up for the April's snow-out.

## Section and League Ssstuff By Ray AA1SE, WMA Section Manager

Hi there, so what's going on? The league has been pretty quiet although they are getting ready for Dayton. I wish I was going. Maybe next year. It is a fun time there. Sooo many people! LOT'S of toy's!

We just had our Near-Fest fiesta on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. This year I had a treat with Gordon, N1MGO being with me a good part of the time. He has some stuff he was parting with which will benefit his wallet and the club. The remaining goodies will be handled by the transportation engineer (me!) and will have it at the convention in Marlboro. If you did not go...SHAME ON YOU!

On Saturday the 3<sup>rd</sup> Paul KD1YH and Erik W1QED was at the Boy Scout Camporee at the Townsend Rod and Gun Club. This event was 300 Scouts doing various activities and got a little exposure to Ham Radio. Thank you for participating to this and a note to all reading this is, we need more of this! Our club needs this!

On Sunday, June 8 at 9 AM we will have a VE session at the Lunenburg Library. This is the makeup day from the cancellation last month due to the snowstorm. So, study up, study hard until then. We will be looking at a Tech class upcoming but that will likely be in July after the holiday.

That's about all for now Field Day is approaching and hopefully you are planning to attend. I will be doing the tour of Field Day sites throughout Western Ma.

Till next month. 73 Ray AA1SE

## Virtual NTS Traffic Net Begins March 5, 2025

Many Technician class amateurs miss out on fun and skills learning of traffic handling because they reside in areas of the country where local traffic nets on VHF repeaters don't exist. The Virtual NTS Traffic Net (VNTN) seeks to address this problem with the creation of a Zoom-based local traffic net that can be accessed by anyone with an internet connection.

VNTN will accept check-ins and radiogram traffic utilizing standard phonetics and prosigns; in short, participants will enjoy the same experiences as those who check into conventional "RF" traffic nets. The net will incorporate a "hands-on" training approach in traffic procedures, radiogram creation, and relay.

It is our hope that new amateurs who participate in VNTN will be motivated to join section and region nets on HF after upgrading to a higher license class.

The Net will meet weekly, and hold its inaugural session on Wednesday, March 5, 2025 at 7:00 PM ET. The VNTN URL is: <<https://bitl.to/3xj4>>.

Phil Temples, K9HI  
EC-FSC NTS Subcommittee Chair  
ARRL Vice Director, New England Division  
[k9hi@arrl.org](mailto:k9hi@arrl.org)

## For sale, Wanted and Free stuff

W1QED has for sale:  
Yaesu FTdx3000 in original packaging,  
lightly used, non-smoking home.

Yaesu FTdx3000 HF transceiver - \$1300  
Matching speaker SP-2000 - \$120  
MFJ-993B tuner - \$150  
MFJ-5124Y interface - \$50  
Total - \$1620  
Will take \$1500 for the entire package

AA1SE has For Sale:  
Yaesu FT 991 A 160m-70cm transceiver Barely  
used. \$1000

MFJ 259 Antenna analyzer, never used. \$300

MFJ 1026 noise canceling signal enhancer BNIB  
\$225

Astron SS18 Power supply New cond. \$140

Samlex SEC1235M Power Sup. New cond. \$150

Contact Ray, AA1SE at [ray.aa1se@gmail.com](mailto:ray.aa1se@gmail.com)

W1HFN - For sale

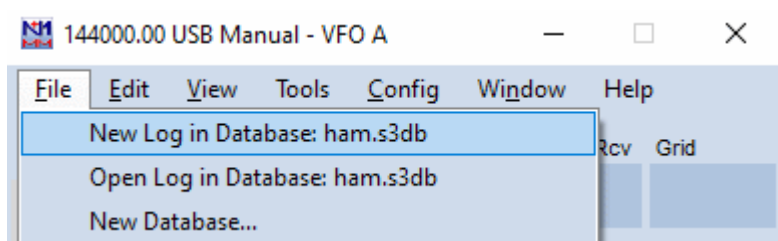
Doing some shack cleaning, For Sale:  
Hy-Gain VB-64DX 6 Meter 4 element beam with  
instruction manual. Recent MFJ price \$239.95 (sold  
out). \$80.00

Contact Barry - W1HFN at  
[w1hfnham@gmail.com](mailto:w1hfnham@gmail.com) happy to demo any of  
the above.

## N1MM Setup for Field day

Here are some tips for MARA club members, and others, to use the N1MM logging program for [Field Day](#). Non-club members are free to use this info as well, just ignore the points about specifying MARA as your club. Or if you want to send points our way, feel free!

First, download and install [N1MM logger](#) onto your Windows machine. Then select File → "New Database..." and enter w1gz as the file name. Next select the File->"New Log in Database: w1gz.s3db" menu option.



n1mgo2025.s3db

### Select Contest Type for New Log

Log Type  ARRL Field Day (June) ▼

Start Date

Total number of contacts in database 2445

Contest Associated Files

**Category** Show Setup Show Rules

Operator  State for Log Type QSOPARTY

Band  ▼

Power  ▼

Mode  ▼

Overlay  ▼

Station  ▼

Assisted  ▼ Time Category  ▼

Transmitter  ▼

Sent Exchange  Omit RST. E.g. CQWW: 05 SS: A 56 EMA

Operators  Update Ops from Log

Soapbox

OK Help Cancel

Configure the log for Field Day (FD). Don't worry about specifying your club affiliation at this time. We'll take care of that later when you submit your log to the [ARRL](https://www.arrl.org/). Make sure the "Sent Exchange" is correct for our setup. Also make sure the "Mode" is set to SSB+CW+DIGITAL.

Next setup the hardware and modes by opening the "Config" menu.

Select the "Port" (usually a serial port), "Radio" and "Details" for your radio.

Configurer

Hardware Function Keys Digital Modes Other Winkey Mode Control Antennas Score Reporting Broadcast Data **WSJT/JTDX Setup**

☒ SO1V ☐ SO2V ☐ SO2R

Port	Radio	Digi	CW/Other	Details	IP Addr:Port
TCP	Elecraft K4	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Set	192.168.1.41:9200
None	Elecraft K4	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Set	192.168.200.100:9200
None	Elecraft K4	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Set	
None	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Set	
None	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Set	
None	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Set	
None	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Set	
None	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Set	
LPT1		<input type="checkbox"/>		Set	
LPT2		<input type="checkbox"/>		Set	
LPT3		<input type="checkbox"/>		Set	

38400,N,8,1,DTR=Always Off,RTS=Always

OK Cancel Help

Next, setup the “WSJT/JTDX Setup” tab if you are going to run FT8/FT4

First you must install wsjt-x, I suggest [wsjt-x improved](#) using the AL (alternate layout) which is optimized for Laptops and small screens. Then setup the N1MM tab for wsjt.

**N1MM+ Logger needs to be restarted for changes made below to take effect.**

**WSJT-X and JTDX UDP Settings**  
 WSJT and JTDX UDP connection settings. IP Address and port must match each programs settings. This allows UDP message communications to take place, usually done on port 2237. Logging from other programs can also take place, usually done on port 2333. (Radio #1 Default: 2237 - Radio #2 Default: 2239)

Radio #1 Settings			Radio #2 Settings		
Enable	IP Address	UDP Port	Enable	IP Address	UDP Port
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enable	127.0.0.1	2237	<input type="checkbox"/> Enable	127.0.0.1	2239

**JTDX / Others TCP Settings**  
 Sets the IP Address and port that an external program uses to connect to N1MM+ via TCP Port for logging purposes. The Default port for JTDX is 52001. (Radio #1 Default: 52001 - Radio #2 Default: 52006)

Radio #1 Settings			Radio #2 Settings		
Enable	IP Address	TCP Port	Enable	IP Address	TCP Port
<input type="checkbox"/> Enable	127.0.0.1	52001	<input type="checkbox"/> Enable	127.0.0.1	52006

**Path to WSJT/JTDX**  
 WSJT/JTDX Path Used for S01V, S02V mode and Radio1 in S02R.  
   
 WSJT/JTDX Path Used for S02R Radio 2  
   
 Command Line Params  
  
 Command Line Params

**Auto Load the WSJT Decode List Window when WSJT-X/JTDX Loads.**  
 Radio #1 ☒ Enable    Radio #2 ☐ Enable

OK Cancel Help

Next, if you have a network setup for the computers, open the network status window and check for the other computers in the network.

Network Status N1MGO-I9 192.168.1.211 - 2 Stations in network

Computer	IP Address	Pass	Run	10	100	Freq	Op	Msg	Send	Re.
GORDONDE...	192.168.1.188	0.00	S&P	0	0	0.00		Connect...	Fail	Fail
N1MGO-I9	192.168.1.211	0.00	S&P	0	0	14200.00	N1MGO		Ok	Ok

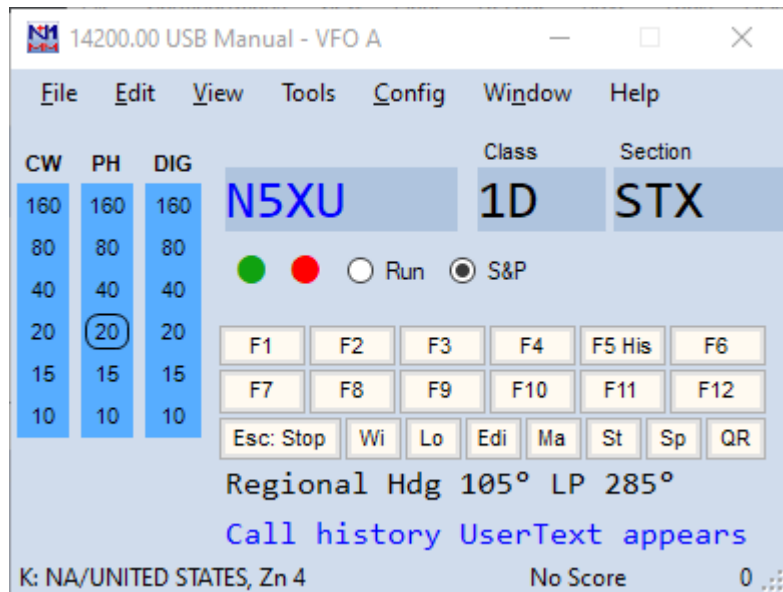
You can open the WSJT application by going to "Window" and selecting "Load WSJT/JTDX" at the bottom.



When you start operating, do an OPON in the call enter box or [CTRL] O to enter your call as the current operator.

Once Field Day has started, log a QSO by selecting the band and mode being used if not connected to the radio, type in the other station's callsign and exchange then press enter when done. Try to use consistent [ARRL section abbreviations](#).

**NOTE:** If using WSJT all logging is done by WSJT, do NOT enter anything in the N1MM logging window.



You can start and stop N1MM as many times as you want during the course of the contest.

**NOTE:** If you are using FT8/FT4 close the WSJT window before closing N1MM.

The grid locator for MT. Wachusett is **FN42BL**.

## Setup WSJT-X

In wsjt-x open File→Settings, Advanced tab check the “Special operating activity” box, then check the “Arrl Field Day” button.

Settings

General Radio Audio Tx Macros Reporting Frequencies Colors Advanced Alerts Filters

JT65 VHF/UHF/Microwave decoding parameters

Random erasure patterns: 6

Aggressive decoding level: 1

☒ Two-pass decoding

GUI tweaks for high-resolution monitors

☒ HighDPI scaling (restart required)

☐ Increased height of the tab widget (restart required)

☒ Special operating activity

☐ Fox ☒ SuperFox mode ☐ Hound

☐ OTP Key: Interval 1

☐ NA VHF ☐ NCCC Sprint

☐ EU VHF Contest

☐ WW Digi Contest

☐ Q65 Pileup

☐ Enable Cloudlog Features

API URL:

API Key:

Station ID: 1

Test API Key

Miscellaneous

Degrade S/N of .wav file: 0.0 dB

Receiver bandwidth: 3100 Hz

Tx delay: 0.1 s

Tone spacing

☐ x 2 ☐ x 4

Waterfall spectra

☒ Low sidelobes ☐ Most sensitive

☐ Show OTP messages OTP URL: <https://www.9dx.cc>

☒ ARRL Field Day FD Exch: 3A

☐ ET Roundup messages ET Roundup Exch:

☐ ARRL Digi Contest

☒ CQ with individual contest name Contest name: FD

OK Cancel