



Minuteman Repeater Association

The Minuteman

Volume 53 Number 5 May 2024
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The Minuteman Repeater Association is a non-profit organization providing communications infrastructure and volunteers for community and emergency events.

Annual Meeting: Wednesday, 15 May 2024 ~7:30 - 9:30 pm

**Twenty Things I've Learned While Curating the Digital Library of Amateur
Radio & Communications** **Kay Savetz - K6KJN**

This is a Hybrid meeting: New England SciTech + ZOOM

(Directions to New England SciTech on Page 4)

Members: log into your account on MMRA.ORG to obtain the ZOOM info.

Kay will present a talk titled "Twenty Things I've Learned While Curating the Digital Library of Amateur Radio & Communications." The fast-paced talk will show some of the highlights of DLARC. Kay will share fascinating and hilarious documents, show lost and re-discovered bits of ham radio's history, and reveal what they've learned about the ham community.

Kay Savetz, K6KJN, is curator of Digital Library of Amateur Radio & Communications (DLARC.) DLARC is a project of Internet Archive, the non-profit digital library that's best known for "The Wayback Machine." Since 2022, Kay has been building DLARC, which has grown to be an unparalleled resource about ham radio, shortwave communications, and related technologies. A ham since 1989, Kay is also a historian specializing in Atari computers, having published more than 400 oral history interviews with people from the early days of microcomputing.

This is our Annual Meeting
**Important information about
our Annual Elections and a vote
to update our Bylaws**
See page 4

Note: Repeater Frequency Switch!
Hopkinton is now 447.775

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About the Minuteman Repeater Association

MMRA Control Operators Responsibilities

<https://www.mmra.org/MMRACOPolicy-March2019.pdf>

The Minuteman Repeater Association (MMRA) is dedicated to Amateur Radio and public service. The MMRA maintains a large system of repeaters in Eastern Massachusetts.

The MMRA meets each month from September to June. Meeting times, locations, and talk-in frequency vary and are announced in this newsletter and on weekly nets. Meetings are open to all interested parties. Guest speakers and programs of general interest occur in September, November, January, March, and May. The intervening meetings are also open to all members and are for general business.

The Minuteman newsletter is emailed one week before each general interest meeting. Members are encouraged to submit articles: send to the editor at newsletter@mmra.org. The deadline for articles is the last Friday of the month preceding the meeting.

Each Tuesday evening at 8pm the MMRA links most of the repeaters for an open net. The topic is "Technical Information and Other Stuff". Join us!

Membership in the MMRA is open to all radio amateurs. Annual dues are \$25 per individual or \$35 per family. See our website for details.

Contact information is listed on the top of the last page of this newsletter.

No part of this newsletter can be copied or posted elsewhere without prior approval from the club.

MMRA QRM Policy

MMRA members and all other operators are strongly encouraged to report repeater activity that does not abide by Part 97 rules or accepted amateur radio practice to the board of directors at contact@mmra.org or via other means.

The most effective way (and probably the only effective way) to deal with an individual causing QRM is to NOT engage with that individual on the air. Please include the time and date of any incident.

Repeater and Frequency Information

Band	XMTR Location	Freq	PL	Call	Linking To:	
					Hub 1	Hub 2
10m	Marlboro East	29.680	131.8 Linked to 146.79: 9am-3pm every day	W1MRA	???	???
6m	Marlboro East Remote receive Marlboro West: PL=100	53.810	71.9	W1BRI	PTL	PTL
2m	Brookline	145.160	na	K1MRA	D-Star (REF050C)	
	Belmont	145.430	146.2	KC1CLA	Off the air	
	Mendon	146.610		K1KWP	FTL	PTL
	Quincy	146.670		W1BRI	FTL	PTL
	North Reading	146.715		KC1US	FTL	PTL
	Weston	146.790		W1HAI	PTL	PTL
	Boston	146.820		Linked to 29.68: 9am-3pm every day		
	Billerica	147.120		K1BOS	FTL	PTL
	Output tone = 162.2			W1DC	PTL	PTL
	Marlborough	147.270		W1MRA	PTL	PTL
1.25m	Marlborough	223.940	103.5	W1MRA	FTL	PTL
	Quincy	224.400		N1KUG	FTL	PTL
	Weston	224.700		N1NOM	PTL	PTL
	Burlington	224.880		KC1US	FTL	PTL
70cm	Lowell	442.250	88.5	K5TEC	FTL	PTL: 446.775
	Weston *	442.700	88.5	N1DCH	Network Hub 2 (PTL to Hub 1)	
	North Reading System Fusion	446.775	88.5 Linked 71.9 Local	W1DYJ	FTL [88.5]	PTL [88.5]
	Hopkinton System Fusion	447.775	88.5 Linked 71.9 Local	W1BRI	FTL [88.5]	PTL [88.5]
	Marlborough	449.575	na	W1MRA	D-Star (REF050C)	
	Marlborough *	449.925	88.5	W1MRA	Network Hub 1	
33cm	Boston *	927.0625	D244	KK1RZ	PTL	PTL
	Marlborough * PL out = 131.8	927.700		W1MRA	PTL	PTL

Marlborough 144.390 none W1MRA APRS Digipeater

??? 145.630 146.2 W1MRA Fox Box

*Internet

HUB1- 449.925: IRLP node 4133 / Echolink node 4133
Connected to Echolink NEWENG2 conference (9127) for TIAOS net.
HUB2 - 442.700: IRLP node 4136 / Echolink node 4136
Connected to 220 Reflector 9124 on Tuesdays
927.0625: IRLP 4977 Normally linked to the NE900 Reflector, 9125. Linked to MMRA via "NEW-ENG2" node 9127 for the TIAOS net.
927.700: IRLP 4978 Normally linked together.

Notes: FTL = Full Time Linked (or default state) PTL = Part Time Linked (on schedule or demand)
Note — a repeater can be linked to only one Hub at a time, however the two hubs can also be linked together.

President's Corner ~ David Hornbaker, N1DCH

Happy Spring! I hope all your antenna projects are going well and safely!

I would like to encourage everyone to attend the MMRA Annual Membership Meeting and Election. In addition to voting for new officers and directors, we have two additional items to vote on: 1) Changes to the MMRA Bylaws. A link to the new by-laws was emailed to all voting members on March 28th (link on page 4). 2) Emergency fund – The emergency fund allows the MMRA Board to approve emergency repairs above the normal \$500 limit. These funds can only be used to repair/replace an existing repeater system on an emergency basis. Apart from last year, we have had this in place since 2018, and was implemented because Hub1 died, and a nor'easter cancelled a membership meeting where the vote was scheduled. Hub1 was off air for a couple of months with the delay in approval and the delay in ordering a new repeater.

After the vote is complete, Kay Savetz – K6KJN will be speaking on the Twenty Things I've Learned While Curating the Digital Library of Amateur Radio & Communications.

Please make plans to attend this month's meeting, We need to ensure that we have a quorum for the elections. If you cannot make it to New England Sci-Tech, you can join the Zoom meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88455380823?pwd=b1MyY0FsVXozWnAxRGZpOVR4Z1RHZz09>.

I look forward to seeing you all at the meeting.

Join us Tuesday nights at 8:00 PM for our weekly Technical Information and Other Stuff (TlaOS) net. There will be a lively discussion on all sorts of HAM issues, including equipment, antennas, software, repeaters, and other stuff. The main purpose is to test our ability to link up the repeaters in case of an emergency, or to support some event like a marathon. You can also join via EchoLink if your radio is a little under the weather (or in my case too lazy to walk down to the shack). See below for more information.

You can find out more information about how and when the repeaters are linked on the website (https://www.mmra.org/repeaters/repeater_linking.html).

Please remember to keep your profile up to date, especially if your email changes. Note that if your call-sign changes, send email to contact@mmra.org and we will update your callsign in the database.

Upcoming MMRA VE sessions:

The May VE Session will be held on Saturday, May 18th at 9:00 AM, at City Church Marlborough 2nd floor, 72 Jefferson Street (across from Kellher Field), Marlborough, MA <https://www.bing.com/maps?q=72%20Jefferson%20Street+marlborough+ma&FORM=HDRSC4>

The June VE Session will be held on Saturday, June 15th at 9:00 AM, at City Church Marlborough 2nd floor, 72 Jefferson Street (across from Kellher Field), Marlborough, MA <https://www.bing.com/maps?q=72%20Jefferson%20Street+marlborough+ma&FORM=HDRSC4>

Walk-ins are welcome.

Important Votes during this Annual Meeting

Annual Officer Elections

- President: Dave Hornbaker, N1DCH
- Vice President: John Spencer, WA1MDD
- Secretary: Ken Horton, KA1GFN
- Treasurer: Kevin Paetzold, K1KWP
- Clerk: Stephen Babbitt, KC1LPZ
- Directors to 2026: Robert Evans, N1BE & James Lee, N1DDK

Vote on Emergency Repeater Repair Fund: \$4000

Vote on updating the MMRA Bylaws

Over the past few months the Board of Directors has reviewed and updated the MMRA Bylaws. Here is the official notice sent out by acting secretary Kevin, K1KWP, on 28 March 2024:

The MMRA board of directors has approved revisions to the MMRA bylaws for the first time since 2012. A vote from the membership at the Wednesday May 15 Annual Meeting is required to approve these new bylaws. Thirty day notice of this vote is required.

The changes are essentially to clarify officer job descriptions, clarifying email voting procedures, clarification of what happens when the MMRA does not have a working email for a member, etc.

A marked up version of the proposed new bylaws is available at:
http://www.mmra.org/mmra-bylaws_draft2024-03-26_marked.pdf

A clean non marked up version of the proposed new bylaws is available at:
http://www.mmra.org/mmra-bylaws_draft2024-03-26-clean.pdf

Please attend this important meeting to ensure that we have a quorum.

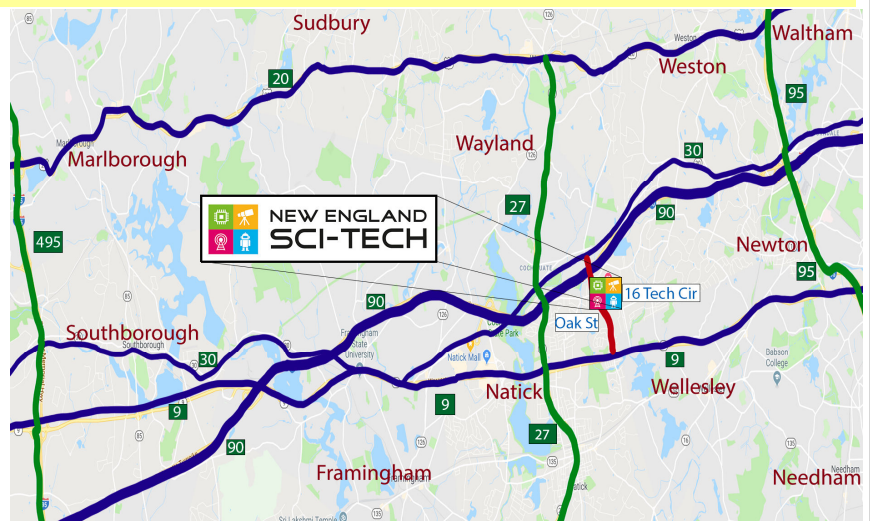
Directions to New England Sci-Tech Inc.

16 Tech Circle <https://www.nescitech.org/directions/> **Natick MA 01760**

From the north: take Rt 95 or Rt 27 or Rt 495 south to Route 30 toward Wayland. Once in Wayland, turn South on Oak Street and in 1/2 mile look for Tech Circle on your left. Follow Tech Circle to the end.

From the south: take Rt 95 or Rt 27 or Rt 495 north to Route 9 toward Natick. At the Wellesley-Natick line, turn North on Oak Street and in 1/2 mile look for Tech Circle on your right. Follow Tech Circle to the end.

From the east or west: follow either Rt 30 or Rt 9 toward Natick, turn onto Oak Street at a set of traffic lights, and in 1/2 mile look for Tech Circle. Follow Tech Circle to the end.



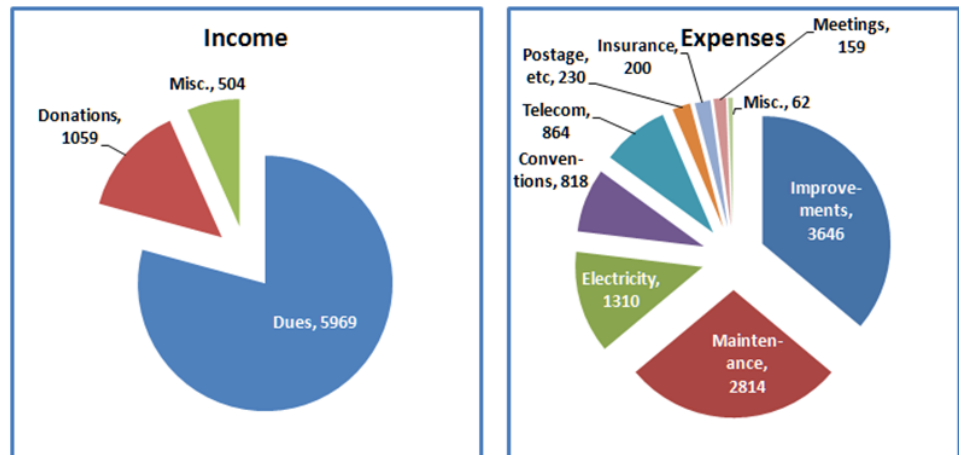
Treasurer's Report ~ Kevin Paetzold, K1KWP

The MMRA receives donations each year. In the 2023-2024 fiscal year I recorded \$1059.27 in donations. In the last 10 years the MMRA has averaged about \$1200 in donations each year. On behalf of the club I would like to acknowledge and thank K1YSO who donated since my list in the March newsletter.

As of this writing there are 236 paid memberships for the 2023-2024 year. At this point four people would still have to renew to reach parity with the 2022-2023 year (which ended on Aug 31, 2023). Sixty-two members have not yet renewed and fully expired on Jan 1, 2024.

I plan to be at the "NE HamXposition" on August 22-25. I hope to see you there.

MMRA Finances: 2023-2024



A little Black Box

A little black box of Jewels and Rocks,
 with lanterns that flicker and glow,
 Make lighter the gloom in my little back room,
 where often I hasten to go.
 An anthem it peals of whistles and squeals
 and of voices so ghostly and queer
 That you'd never decry, should you chance to pass by,
 what a brotherhood foregathers here!
 Each separate tone has a soul of its own;
 each voice is the voice of a friend,
 United through space in this gathering-place
 at the radiant rainbow's end.
 Reverberant sounds ride the wave that rebounds,
 like the waves of the sea from afar,
 Reporting the doings, the comings and goings of
 brothers, wherever they are.
 A curious band, spread over the land,
 yet joined from equator to poles,
 Disperses the gloom in each little back room
 by this magic communion of souls.
 I could part with a lot of the things that I've got,
 but I'll carry my love to the tomb,
 Of that little black box and the joys it unlocks
 when I enter that little back room!

~ By Max P. Vander Horck, WA6HUW, QST, November 1966

[Editor: thanks to Jack, W1WEF, YCCC member]

JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL



and ARRL New England Division Convention



August 22 to 25, 2024

The Largest Ham Convention in
the Eastern Corridor

New & Improved Vendor Hall

Extensive Flea Market

Largest Selection of Forums

NEW Thursday Night Comedian

WWW.HAMXPOSITION.ORG

The MMRA and AI ~ Bob DeMattia, K1IW

I asked Google Gemini to write 200 words about the Minuteman Repeater Association in iambic pentameter. Remember Chaucer and Shakespeare from high school? Here is the result:

**The Minuteman's call, a beacon strong and bright,
Unites ham radio voices through the night.
In Stow, Massachusetts, their purpose rings true,
To link and empower, a public service crew.**

**With repeaters humming, their signal takes its flight,
Extending ranges, voices cutting through the night.
From mountaintop to valley, messages unfurl,
Connecting kin and comrades across the world.**

**They hold aloft the arts of radio's embrace,
Maintain their stations, a dedicated space.
For public service ever, their network stands,
In times of crisis, helping outstretched hands.**

**New hams they welcome, fostering radio's art,
A community of voices, playing their part.
So raise a glass, to the Minuteman's might,
Connecting hearts and minds, through day and darkest night.**

VE Update ~ Ron Rothman, WO1E

The March MMRA Volunteer Examiner licensing session was held at the Marlborough Fire Station on March 23rd in Marlborough, MA. Those VE's in attendance included Steve Babbitt KC1LPZ, Alen Lewis K1ALL, Scott Anderson NE1RD, James Whelan KX1M, Ed Moore Jr. WE1I, Eric Williams KV1J and Ron Rothman WO1E.

The number of candidates being tested was six, which is a good number for a walk-in exam. We had four new Technicians and one upgrade to General. Unfortunately, one candidate did not earn a new license or an upgrade.

The April VE session was held at the Marlborough Fire Station on April 20th in Marlborough, MA. Those VE's in attendance included Steve Babbitt KC1LPZ, Alen Lewis K1ALL, Eric Williams KV1J, Dave Hornbaker N1DCH and Ron Rothman WO1E.

The number of candidates being tested was two. We had one new Technician. Unfortunately, one candidate did not earn a new license or an upgrade.

Our next VE testing session will be held on May 18th at 9:00 AM at City Church Marlborough 72 Jefferson Street, Second Floor (Shoe Box Building) Marlborough, MA.

Once again, The MMRA VE team will be on hand at the HamXposition on August 24th at the 10:00 AM session. In addition, I have been appointed to coordinate the exam sessions at the HamXposition. There will be three testing sessions Saturday at 10:00 AM, 1:00PM and Sunday at 10:00 AM. If you are a VE and want to help, please contact me on my cell (774) 258-0058 or email rrothman22@gmail.com. If you are interested in becoming a VE, please contact me as well. It's not as hard as you may think to get certified as a Volunteer Examiner.

20 March 2024 Membership Meeting ~ Minutes

Called to order @ 7:29 PM

New England Sci-Tech Center in Natick, MA

Repeater Status Report: 3/20/24 - Bob DeMattia – K1IW

Marlborough/Hopkinton 70 cm – 448.225/449.575 – The frequency swap has taken place. Hopkinton is now 448.225 (pl 88.5 linked and pl 71.9 local) and Marlborough DSTAR is now 449.575 MHz (pl 88.5). The Hopkinton repeater will change frequencies again due to conflict with the Mt. Washington repeater, which is on the same frequency and PL. This will happen after the Boston Marathon. *(Editor: this final change has occurred.)*

Quincy: 146.670 – The link radio on the repeater has been fixed. It is operating normally.

Belmont: (formally) - Ed, KC1CLA, is working relocating to a new site.

All other repeaters are in nominal operation.

The Ballot Listing for the May 15, 2024, Annual Meeting

- **President:** Dave Hornbaker, N1DCH
- **Vice President:** John Spencer, WA1MDD
- **Secretary:** Ken Horton, KA1GFN
- **Treasurer:** Kevin Paetzold, K1KWP
- **Clerk:** Stephen Babbitt, KC1LPZ
- **Directors:** Robert Evans, N1BE
James Lee, N1DDK

VE Exam Session

Saturday, March 23rd at 9:00 AM

Marlborough Central Fire Station, Training Classroom, 215 Maple Street (Rte 85), Marlborough, MA

Please tell your friends, who are interested in taking tests, that they must have photo IDs and FRNs

Copy of license required if upgrading (or proof from the ARRL or QRZ)

Note: SS#s, are no longer accepted by the FCC. Everyone must have an FRN

Upcoming Meetings

April 17, 2024, 7:30 PM Business Meeting- Zoom Teleconference only

May 15, 2024, 7:30 PM Membership Meeting – Twenty Things I've Learned While Curating
the Digital Library of Amateur Radio & Communications Speaker: Kay Savetz

Annual Officer Elections

Emergency Fund Vote

Location NE Sci-Tech & Zoom Teleconferencing

Tuesday night 8:00 PM (year-round)

Technical, information and Other Stuff Net

MMRA Linked Repeaters

Meeting ended informally at 7:46 PM

20 March 2024 Membership Meeting ~ Continued

Presentation by Scott Andersen, NE1RD, "The 100 Pound DXpedition – The first 20 years."

It was the Airlines' limitation of carrying up to two bags not exceeding 22 kg for each bag (approximately 100 lbs). Scott was very humble, sharing with us the mistakes he made on his travels to the various places, like the Virgin Islands. He carried more than he needed, did not relax enough to enjoy the non-ham activities like scuba diving and often picked a less than optimum location to set up his station. In summary he was teaching us to carry light, i.e. one antenna, concentrate on operating on one band and pick the highest location to operate your station rather than just being close to the water. Scott posted his daily activities to a blog and he has a website at <https://www.bsandersen.com> for more information.

Meeting Attendees:

David Hornbaker, N1DCH; Larry Banks, W1DYJ; Kevin W Paetzold, K1KWP; Bob DeMattia, K1IW; Stephen Babbitt, KC1LPZ; Shelley Northup, N1VJE; Bill Northup, N1QPR;

Zoom Meeting Attendees:

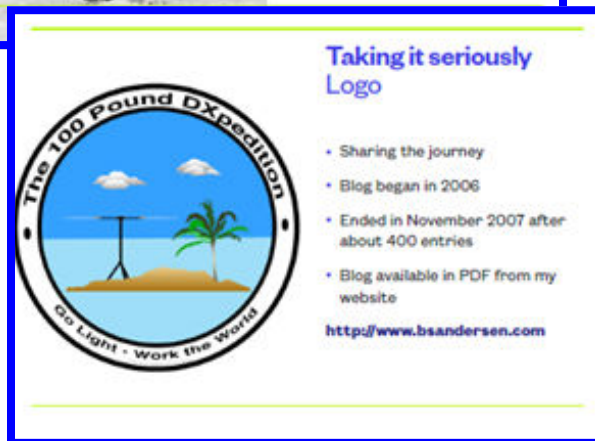
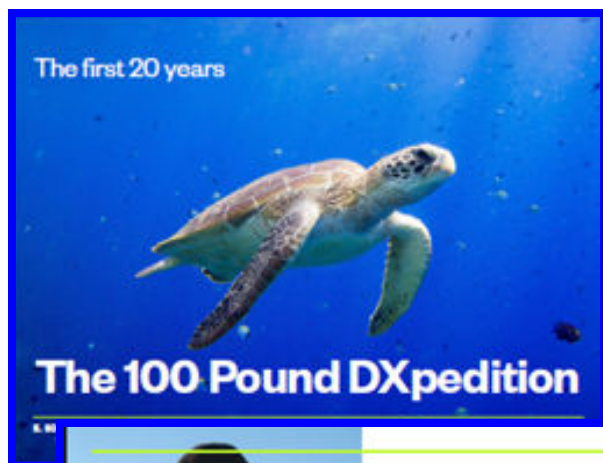
Bob Phinney, K5TEC; Ken Horton, KA1GFN; Deb Horton, N1NVJ; Joe Weisse, W1HAI; Joe Fratto, N1RLO; Larry Vidoli W1LSV;

Meeting Adjourned at 8:31 PM

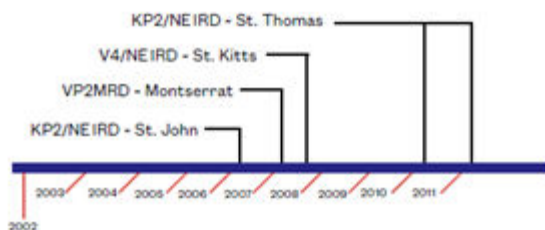
Respectfully Submitted by Stephen M Babbitt, KC1LPZ, Clerk

Some of Scott's slides

Scott's website: <http://www.bsandersen.com>



20 March 2024 Membership Meeting ~ Continued



NE1RD DXpeditions



KP2/NE1RD - 2006 St. John, USVI

- First DXpedition for a contest
- First time for our trip to be principally about radio (at least for me)
- First time packing elaborate antennas

Then I Lost My Mind

KP2/NE1RD ARRL DX Contest

- I brought enough gear for an all-band entry including antennas and coax
- In 2006 the solar cycle was nearing the bottom
- All but a handful of the 547 QSOs were on 15m
- The 15m antenna was a 40m vertical (3 half-waves) hung from a fiberglass pole

St. John Lessons?

- Stay within limits; accept the consequences
- Pick a single antenna system (one band at-a-time)
- Confine luggage to suitcases or Pelican cases (no golf bags)
- Bring only test/repair equipment you're likely to use
- BiC is more important than gear

VP2MRD - 2007 Montserrat

- Buddipole DXpedition to Montserrat
- Seven operators including Budd and Chris Drummond from Buddipole, Inc.
- One week of portable and fixed operation



20 March 2024 Membership Meeting ~ Continued



Montserrat Lessons?

- I over-planned and drove my colleagues crazy (read the room)
- Inter-station interference ended up being a social problem
- You can't have too much coax when with other operators
- Stop and smell the roses



Clublog Log and OQRS

- Club log gives you a complete view of your DXpedition's log
- The Online QSL Request System allows you to set up prices and other details for hams looking for a QSL from you. They click some buttons and you get a request electronically from Clublog.
- This system is used by many DXpeditions

Still not sure

- Can it make sense for a lightweight DXpedition to support multiple bands?
- Does it make sense to try to bring or make a Yagi?
- Would a remote antenna switch reduce coax requirements?
- Is being close to the ocean better than being up high on a hill away from the water?
- How can I pick a good location and property to rent?



V4 - 2007 St. Kitts

- Just me for CQ WW DX SSB
- Time to answer some questions
- Multi-band or single-band?
- Two element Yagi?
- Near ocean or up high?
- Reducing coax, does it help that much?



V4/NE1RD Lessons?

1. Concentrate on goals
2. Get a local call sign
3. Terrain and building must be accommodating
4. You don't have to operate on the low bands
5. I am carrying too many tools.
6. Your operating position is important
7. Travel medicines are important
8. Health
9. This is a vacation

I think I finally got it

2010 Results CQ WW WPX SSB

Single Operator - QRP

SSB	Call	Year	Scores	WPX
QRP ALL	VF2EXX	1990	6,727,444	779
QRP 120S	NH4CC	1990	2,165,940	540
QRP 135S	KP2/NE1RD	2019	639,086	362
QRP 200S	900V	2000	1,043,476	452
QRP 400S	N1TH	2018	174,376	222
QRP 800S	W8JLC	1981	82,984	187
QRP 1600S	W2MF	2019	17,775	75

- I not only won the QRP single band entry for North America, I set the record, too



What I've learned after stubbing my toes!

- Antenna for one band at-a-time
- Use something flexible: Buddipole
- Comfortable operating position
- Weigh everything
- Take care of yourself, too
- Remember: It's a vacation
- Use online resources

17 April 2024 Business Meeting ~ Minutes

Called to order @ 7:30 PM

Elections: The Ballot Listing for the May 15, 2024, Annual Meeting

- President: Dave Hornbaker, N1DCH
- Vice President: John Spencer, WA1MDD
- Secretary: Ken Horton, KA1GFN
- Treasurer: Kevin Paetzold, K1KWP
- Clerk: Stephen Babbitt, KC1LPZ
- Directors: Robert Evans, N1BE
James Lee, N1DDK

Emergency Fund: N1DCH made a motion to allocate \$4,000, seconded by KC1LPZ and passed unanimously.

Bylaws: The Board has approved the changes and must be voted on by the membership.

Treasurer's Report – Kevin K1KWP

Overall, we are in good shape with a projected \$20K in the bank. Currently our expenses are still greater than the revenue, but that gap is narrowing from last year. Visual details provided separately.

HamXposition – Larry – W1DYJ

Larry B made a motion that we spend \$350 for the Centerfold Ad spot, seconded by Dave H and passed unanimously.

Prizes: Last year we spent \$450 for the 3 prizes. One of the prizes, a Yaesu VX-6R HT was donated back to the MMRA. K1KWP made a motion to allocate \$200 for the 2nd and 3rd Place Prizes which was seconded by W1DYJ and passed unanimously.

Room Management regarding when and who will be there was discussed. No decision was finalized tonight.

Call-In Station – A discussion was made on the station location being in a spot where there is more foot traffic. Also the days to operate it was discussed with no final consensus made.

Repeater Status Report - Bob DeMattia – K1IW

New “Modeset” architecture implemented across the network for easier / more reliable network reconfiguration (900MHz Repeaters have not received the update yet).

No major issues with any systems

According to NN1C (BAA ham radio coordinator) the MMRA repeaters performed perfectly for the marathon.

Quincy 2m .67 Repeater Currently working with the City of Quincy for 67's replacement site.

(Formally) the Belmont Repeater: Currently working with the Town of Belmont for 43's replacement site.

Billerica 147.12: Currently awaiting word from a Billerica private property owner for 12's replacement site.

All other Repeaters: Functioning normally.

Hub 1 Linking – Joe Weisse – W1HAI – was making an inquiry on linking at night all three “NEW ENG” echolink nodes to hub 1. No decision was made at tonight's meeting.

17 April 2024 Business Meeting ~ Continued

Echolink: Also noted is Echolink is not working. During the Marathon it was disconnected but restored afterwards. During tonight's meeting echolink was not working, but Bob has reset it.

Club Activities - Stephen, KC1LPZ

Support to New or less Active Hams – The purpose of this agenda item is to precisely target the concerns and unasked questions that frustrate these folks from being active.

- ≈ Programming radios is one real concern. K1KWP suggests we have a radio clinic to address that problem. The frequency and format for this clinic was discussed.
- ≈ Other Elmering activities were mentioned.
- ≈ Elmering is a "team" effort, not the responsibility falling upon one of us to do coaching. As a team we can provide the right answers to move people forward.
- ≈ W1DYJ and KC1LPZ are planning to put together a proposal.
- ≈ Our experiences must be shared to excite and motivate these new members.

VE Exam Session

Saturday, April 20th at 9:00 AM

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Upcoming Meetings

May 15, 2024, 7:30 PM Membership Meeting – Twenty Things I've Learned While Curating the Digital Library of Amateur Radio & Communications Speaker: Kay Savetz

Annual Officer Elections

Emergency Fund Vote

New England Sci-Tech & Zoom Teleconference

August 25, 2024 12:00 PM

HamXposition – Royal Plaza Hotel, Marlborough, MA

Introduction to the MMRA and Raffle

Tuesday night 8:00 PM (year-round)

Technical, information and Other Stuff Net

MMRA Linked Repeaters

Newsletter

Information to Larry, W1DYJ

Deadline, Friday, April 26, 2024

Email W1DYJ@mmra.org

Meeting Attendees:

David Hornbaker, N1DCH; Joe Fratto, N1RLO; Larry Banks, W1DYJ; Kevin W Paetzold, K1KWP;; Stephen Babbitt, KC1LPZ; Ken Horton, KA1GFN; Deb Horton, N1NVJ; Joe Weisse, W1HAI; Bob De-Mattia, K1IW; Michael Kotarta, KB1WAM; Jerry Jennings, KC1PWO; Michael Jackson, KC1UFQ; Jason Berthelette, KC1UMM; John Mills, K1JSM; Larry Vidoli, W1LSV; John Spencer, WA1MDD; Elizabeth DeMarco, KC1SUY;

Meeting Adjourned at 9:19 PM

Respectfully Submitted by Stephen M Babbitt, KC1LPZ, Clerk

Upcoming MMRA Meetings

Note: Meeting locations and times are subject to change.
Consult the MMRA website for the most up-to-date information.

**ZOOM Teleconference login info is available
once you log into your account on MMRA.ORG**

Non-members: if you wish to attend, email contact@mmra.org.

May 15, 2024, 7:30 PM Annual Meeting

Twenty Things I've Learned While Curating the Digital Library
of Amateur Radio & Communications
Kay Savetz - K6KJN
Location: New England Sci-Tech + Zoom Teleconference

June 19, 2024, 7:30 PM Business Meeting – Zoom Only

August 25, 2024, noontime -- at HamXposition: meeting and raffle

Don't Forget - Join Us!

Every Tuesday @ 8 PM
Technical, Informational and Other Stuff Net

The MMRA's repeaters are linked Tuesday nights for the
TIOIS Net. Keep up with what's happening in the MMRA and
ask your ham related questions.

Net Control Operators:

Week 1 W1DYJ	Larry Banks
Week 2 K1BTZ	Jonathan Traum
Week 3 KC1CLA	Ed Curley
Week 4 K1KWP	Kevin Paetzold
Week 5 KB1OQA	Tom Turner

To connect using Echolink during the Net:
Echolink Conference *NEW-ENG2*

**NOTE: we need another NC to be available as a substitute. If
you are interested, email W1DYJ@mmra.org**

MMRA Leaders

Executive Board — Officers

President	Dave Hornbaker	N1DCH
Vice President	John Spencer	WA1MDD
Secretary	Jason Peardon	W1HFP
Treasurer	Kevin Paetzold	K1KWP
Clerk	Stephen Babbitt	KC1LPZ

Executive Board — Directors

Director >2024	Rob Evans	N1BE
Director >2024	James Lee	N1DDK
Director >2025	Bob DeMattia	K1IW
Director >2025	Roger Coulson	WA1NVK

Appointed

Technical Officer Bob DeMattia K1IW

Repeater Trustees

Belmont 145.43	Ed Curley	KC1CLA
Billerica 147.12	Mike Rioux	W1USN
Boston 146.82	John Mullaney	K1BOS
Boston 927.0625	Rick Zach	KK1RZ
Brookline 145.16	Joyce DeMattia	K1MRA
Burlington 224.88	Bruce Pigott	KC1US
Hopkinton 447.775	Bryan Cerqua	W1BRI
Lowell 442.25	Bob Phinney	K5TEC
Marlborough 53.81	Bryan Cerqua	W1BRI
Marlborough: 29.68, 144.39, 147.27, 223.94, 449.575, 449.925, 927.70		
all as W1MRA	Bill Northup	N1QPR
Mendon 146.61	Kevin Paetzold	K1KWP
N. Reading 146.715	Bruce Pigott	KC1US
N. Reading 446.775	Larry Banks	W1DYJ
Quincy 224.40	Bill Dunn	N1KUG
Quincy 146.67	Bryan Cerqua	W1BRI
Weston 146.79	Joe Weisse	W1HAI
Weston 224.70	Eddie Mulhern	N1NOM
Weston 442.70	Dave Hornbaker	N1DCH

Additional, non-Voting

Newsletter Editor	Larry Banks	W1DYJ
Emerg. Coord.	Kevin Paetzold	K1KWP
Pub. Serv. Coord.	Bruce Pigott	KC1US
VEC Liaison	Ron Rothman	WO1E
Net Manager	Larry Banks	W1DYJ
Web Page Editor	Bob DeMattia	K1IW
Social Media Coord.	Steve Umans	K8ZBE

President Emeritus

Bob DeMattia K1IW

Technical Officer Emeritus

Bryan Cerqua W1BRI

Contacting the MMRA



Members: mmra@groups.io

Note: This may take some time.

You must be approved by the moderator.



<http://www.mmra.org/>



<https://www.facebook.com/mmraham>

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MMRA VE SESSIONS

Check out <https://www.mmra.org/exam.html> or email ve@mmra.org

Ask your friends to become a member Just let them know that it is not fully automated. Although they can log into the MMRA website immediately, they need to be manually processed. This could take up to a week.

If you haven't updated your MMRA profile in a while, now is the time! Log into < [MMRA.ORG](http://www.mmra.org) > to do so.

Previous issues of the MMRA Newsletter are available at: www.mmra.org > [Newsletter Archive](#) (on the left). They are also available at DLARC: <https://archive.org/details/minuteman-repeater-association>

Heavy Hitters Traffic Net

This net is active on our repeaters Sunday to Friday evenings from 9:45—11 PM and Saturday from 10-11. Active repeaters are:

2m: Mendon (146.61), Quincy (146.67), North Reading (146.715), Boston (146.82), and Marlborough (147.27)

220: Marlborough (223.94), Quincy (224.40), Weston (224.70), and Burlington (224.88),

440: Lowell (442.25), North Reading (446.775), Hopkinton (448.225), and Marlborough (449.925)



NEW ENGLAND SCI-TECH

New England Sci-Tech Inc is a new 501(c)(3) STEM education center, amateur radio training center, and maker space located at 16 Tech Circle, Natick. It is home to New England Amateur Radio Inc (NE1AR) and the youth radio club Sci-Tech Amateur Radio Society (STARS). NE Sci-Tech welcomes memberships and donations via www.NESciTech.org or www.NE1AR.org.

Get connected on the MMRA Repeater System ~ Dave Hornbaker N1DCH

What is the best way to get connected on the MMRA repeater system? Try announcing yourself! Just say your call sign followed by "listening". If you want, you can include the last 3 digits of the repeater frequency. For example, "N1DCH listening" or maybe "N1DCH listening on 925", you may very well get a response. Try to connect by announcing yourself several times.

Most of the time, Marlborough Hub1 (449.925) is linked to the following repeaters, Boston (146.820), North Reading (446.775 and 146.715), Mendon (146.610), Lowell (442.250), Hopkinton (448.225) and Quincy (146.67.) Remember that when the repeaters are linked, you need to wait two or three seconds after you key up and before you speak. This is especially important on the TlaOS net on Tuesday when most of the repeaters are linked.

You can also link (and delink) the repeaters yourself. See the information you received when you became a member, or check the [User Control Codes](#) once you log into the MMRA web.

Try one of the non-linked repeaters too. There are Hams monitoring them as well. For more information on the repeater network and how it is linked at various times, check out https://mmra.org/repeaters/repeater_linking.html.