

Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency

Region #2

Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services Team

WC1MAB



July 2016

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This Month in Emergency Communications: Heat Related Preparedness

While definitely decreasing in frequency, summertime brownouts and blackouts have been a problem for many communities due to heightened demand on the electrical power grid as consumers try to stay cool. Heat waves can further increase the likelihood of a systemic overload. Heatwaves are also frequently followed or punctuated by thunderstorms that are stronger than usual.

These notes as we head into the hottest days of the summer are meant to highlight the need to test and verify our capabilities to meet the needs of our served agencies without the advantage of commercial power. Operators should make sure off grid power systems are still viable and safe to operate should the need arise.

Monthly Net Report

The July communications test night seemed pretty sparse for check-ins. This is likely due to people being out and enjoying the summer holidays. For the nets, a total of **28 check-ins** were noted across the four sector nets many of whom were RACES stations.

Three of the four nets were run with Net Control Operations being handled by Region 2 Headquarters operators (WC1MAB) and the Sector 2D net being handled by Don at WA1PLE which is our normal operating posture for the monthly net.

Region 2 HQ did not participate in the monthly HF net due to the dipole antenna being out of service. The MEMA communications shop has been made aware of the issue and have been working on procuring a replacement antenna. It is expected that the HF capabilities will be back in service before the end of the summer.

Sector Net Reports

Sector 2A

Net Control (Local):

WC1MAB/N1YLQ - Mike

RACES Stations

- 1.) Acushnet – WA1EMA (KA1RSY) Ed
- 2.) Fall River – WA1MZL – Steve
- 3.) New Bedford – N1IXC/N1JXZ
- 4.) Rehobeth – ???
- 5.) MEMA R2 HQ – WC1MAB/N1YLQ

Non-RACES / Non-Sector Stations

None

Sector 2B

Net Control (Local): KA1PS - George

RACES Stations

- 1.) Hanson - KB1MOC
 - 2.) Marshfield - KA1PS – George
 - 3.) Middleboro - KB1TEE
 - 4.) Whitman – KB1MTW
 - 5.) Taunton* – N1EZH – Barry
 - 6.) MEMA Region 2 HQ - WC1MAB
- * Taunton is assigned as Sector 2A, but due to propagation limitations, N1EZH typically checks in with Sector 2B.

Non-RACES / Non-Sector Stations

- 7.) KA1CRB – New Bedford

Sector 2C

Net Control (WC1MAB): N1UMJ - John

RACES Stations

- 1.) MEMA Region 2 HQ – WC1MAB
- 2.) Falmouth – KX1C
- 3.) Dukes County – KB1QL

Non-RACES / Non-Sector Stations

- 4.) Bass River – KB1GTG
- 5.) Chatham – KC1EUG
- 6.) KC2LWR – W. Falmouth (Vacationing from Schenectedy, NY)

Sector 2D

Net Control (WC1MAB): N1MOJ - Jessica

RACES Stations

- 1.) KB1TGF Jeff - Walpole
- 2.) K1FNX - Sharon
- 3.) KB1TGF - Walpole
- 4.) K1HRV Dave - Millis
- 5.) MEMA Region 2 HQ - WC1MAB

Non-RACES / Non-Sector Stations

- 6.) KC1D
- 7.) AA1VU - Mariem
- 8.) W3WEE
- 9.) KB1AAX
- 10.) K1ARC

HF Net Report

Net Control (Local): WA1AR – Marc

Frequency: 3930 khz

Checked-In Stations

- 1.) AB1PH Don - Walpole
- 2.) WA1AR Alan – Wrentham
- 3.) N1EVE
- 4.) WC1MAA- MEMA Region 1
- 5.) WC1SW – Southwick EOC
- 6.) K1FNX - Sharon
- 7.) KB1TGI - Walpole
- 8.) K1HRV Dave - Millis

Notes:

Conditions were less than optimal due to high absorption on 75m which is a common challenge in the summer months.

RACES/ACS Station Spotlight

You may notice that this section is blank this month. That is because we have not received any submissions of photos and/or writeups about RACES/ACS stations in our region. If you have photos of your station and wish to have it showcased here, please send them in to Michael Leger (N1YLQ) at WC1MAB@gmail.com. Thanks!