



SQUELCH TALES



**Newsletter from the Merrymeeting Amateur Radio Association
for September 2024**



Come Finish your Summer at the WINDSOR HAMFEST!



Come join the Augusta Amateur Radio Association (AARA) for the Windsor Hamfest, a day filled with activities, learning, and networking. Whether you are an experienced ham radio operator or just starting out, this event offers a great opportunity to connect with fellow enthusiasts, explore new equipment, and participate in various activities. Don't miss out on this exciting event at the Windsor Fairgrounds!

Date: September 7, 2024

Time: 8:00am to Noon

**Location: Windsor Fairgrounds,
82 Ridge Rd., Windsor, ME 04363**

Entry fee: \$5.00

Sponsor: Augusta Amateur Radio Association

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In Frequency: 146.670 MHz, PL 100

Highlights:

- 1. Indoor and Outdoor Spaces available.**
- 2. Opportunities for vendors and tailgaters to showcase and sell their amateur radio equipment and accessories.**
- 3. Vendor Tables: Reserve your table in advance to ensure a spot.**
- 4. Food and Refreshments: Available on-site for purchase.**
- 5. Raffles and Prizes: Exciting prize drawings throughout the event.**
- 6. VE Licensing Testing at 9:30am: Get your license or upgrade your current one with on-site testing. (bring your ID, FRN number & \$15 exam fee).**

Contact Information:

**Public Contact: Bill Crowley, K1NIT
Address: 150 Maple Street, Farmingdale,
ME 04344**

Phone: 207-512-0312

Email: k1nit@arrl.org

Hope to see you there.



BUTTERNUT HF6V VERTICAL LOOKING FOR A GOOD HOME

OFFERED BY W1ZE

Several issues of this newsletter ago I had an article about my forty year old ground mounted HF6V vertical antenna and how it was the best multi-band vertical antenna I ever used. Since then that HF6V and I are getting a little long in the tooth so I decided to replace it with another vertical that at my age I don't have to clean up every five years or so. I replaced it with a Hustler 6BTV multi-band vertical that covers the same bands as the old HF6V. The 26.0 ft. tall Butternut vertical, is resonant on 80, 40, 30, 20, 15 and 10 meters and will easily handel 1,500 Watts PEP/CW, 375W Digital.



When I took the HF6V out of service it was still working well but it needs cleaning of contacts and joints before reinstalling it again.

I am offering this good performer to any one that wants it to clean up and put back on the air. And the best part it is FREE.

As a note, Butternut still makes the HF6V and if you want a new one the price now is +/- \$840 Check out the reviews at:
<https://www.eham.net/reviews/view-product?id=242>

I have the manual for it with all the instructions for assembly and tuning.

If interested you can contact me via email at:
w1ze@arrl.net or jbrandall43@comcast.net.



MARA Executive Board revised Association Bylaws



This past month the Merrymeeting Amateur Radio Association's Exec. Board decided it was time to update the bylaws to reflect the current status of the Association. At the August general meeting a draft of the revised bylaws was presented to the members in attendance participating on Zoom. After discussion of the various minor changes to the bylaws, a paper ballet vote was taken and it update was approved unanimously.

For those of you that did not attend the meeting, or non members who wish to read the bylaws they can be read and downloaded from the Associations web page in the 'Contact' section here at: www.ks1r.org



Fox Hunting may be in the MARA's near future

By Bruce Randall, W1ZE

For the past several months at the MARA meetings the topic of what fun and interesting activities we could do been discussed. There seems to be interest in hidden transmitter "fox Hunting." Many members that are new to this great hobby on never participated in this fun ham radio activity.



Back in the early 60s I participated is several T-Hunts with the Anaheim Amateur Radio Association. That club had a monthly Saturday breakfast at a cafe' in town then followed by a T-Hunt (Fox Hunt) and it was a lot of fun. Several hams becoming real pros

finding the hidden transmitter quickly with home brew antennas and gear.

For that reason I want to provide our readers some links to sites that will better inform you of what Fox Hunting, ham radio style, is all about.

Here are some web sites that are informative and maybe enough info to get the fox hunting juices flowing.

Fox Hunt! (Radio Direction Finding) - Ham Radio Q&A:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vR2cpd0vQdM>

Fox Hunting hidden transmitters & gear:

<https://www.byonics.com/foxbhunt>

Basic Fox Hunting Equipment

<https://tamiamiarc.org/basic-fox-hunting-equipment/>

Transmitter Hunting:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transmitter_hunting

Design and build a Fox Hunting Yagi Antenna

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v7aXfWx-zto>



Dr. Scott McIntosh on Cycle 25

Contributed by Larry banks, W1DYJ

Hi all,

The following YouTube presentation is a very informative discussion of the current solar cycle. Dr. McIntosh is part of the team that predicted a different outcome a few years ago.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yj3TcoajK_o&t=3s

Note that it is about an hour long, but the actual talk is about 20 minutes. However some very interesting questions are asked later: at about 24 minutes W3LPL (a well known ham) gets involved. A bit later VK0DS--in Antarctica--asks some questions. At about 40 minutes there is an interesting discussion about the science of Solar Weather and the conflicts with academic/commercial interests. If you care about solar magneto-hydrodynamics, stick around to about 44 minutes.

Larry / W1DYJ



Everything You Wanted to Know About Coax But Afraid to Ask

A Column in "On All Bands"

Ham Radio dealer DX Engineering puts out a newsletter called, "On All Bands." It has short columns on ham radio equipment and sometimes DX activities technical articles of interest to hams. You can sign up to be put on their newsletter emailing list.

The following is a thread to an article in that newsletter titled, "Everything You Wanted to Know About Coax But Afraid to Ask." For those of you are semi new to this great hobby the article is very informative. Give it a read.

<https://www.onallbands.com/ham-radio-101-everything-you-wanted-to-know-about-coax-but-were-afraid-to-ask/>



