

# *August* PARTicles



The newsletter of PART of Westford, MA – WB1GOF

*Celebrating 40 years of public service 1975-2015*

## President's Column

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- Andy Stewart (KB1OIQ)

The QSL cards from the 13 Colonies Special Event continue to arrive in my mailbox. I'm still waiting for K2H and K2I. K2L originally said that they would only do LoTW/eQSL, but now it looks like they have QSL cards to send (see <http://www.qrz.com/db/k2l>), so I'll have to request a card. The certificates for the event are still being mailed, and many people have received them.

The digital mode FT8 has become quite a popular mode in a very short time! The WSJT-X software, version 1.8, supports this weak signal mode on multiple operating systems. The logging software authors are scrambling to include FT8 support, and LoTW, eQSL, and QRZ.com are in various stages of supporting FT8 mode. The ADIF committee has officially added FT8 to its supported modes list as of ADIF version 3.0.6 (13-aug-2017). As the maintainer of the Xlog logging software for Linux, I'll get the changes into the software sometime after the ARRL New England Convention (Boxboro).

The selection of speakers for Boxboro is nearly complete. Many thanks to those of you who have volunteered in

this way. I haven't yet seen an email request for volunteers for ticket sales and the like, but there is a signup form on the website (<http://www.boxboro.org/volunteer>).

The Boxboro Convention relies heavily on volunteers in order to make the event successful. Please consider offering a couple of hours of your time to help, if you can.

Our next PART meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 15, 2017, starting at 7 PM, at the Cameron Senior Center in Westford.

Election of PART officers will take place at the September 19, 2017 PART meeting. Nominations will be closing soon, so please send your nominations to Alan (K1ALL). It is OK to nominate yourself, and if you nominate someone else, please check to be sure that they are willing to serve. There will be no nominations from the floor at the September PART meeting.

Have a lot of fun, and 73!

Andy

## Treasurer's Report

### *PART Treasury between 21-Jun'17 and 17-Jul'17*

(As of 18-Jul'17)

	General Fund	+	Repeater Fund	=	Checking Total
Old Balance	=\$4556.16	+	\$5061.01	=	\$9617.17
Income	+\$ 300.21	+	+\$ 71.26	=	+\$ 371.47
Expenses	-\$1001.09	+	-\$ 0.00	=	-\$1001.09
Net	-\$ 700.88	+	+\$ 71.26	=	-\$ 629.62
New Balance	=\$3855.28	+	\$5132.27	=	\$8987.55
Acc. Receivable	+\$0.00	+	+\$ 0.00	=	+\$ 0.00
Acc. Payable	-\$344.83	+	-\$ 0.00	=	-\$ 344.83
Net Credit	-\$ 344.83	+	+\$ 0.00	=	-\$ 344.83
Net Worth	=\$3510.45	+	\$5132.27	=	\$8642.72

[Note: Negative GF net, positive RF net, negative overall net; negative GF net credit, positive RF net credit, negative overall net credit/AHM]

### *PART 2017 Membership as of 2-Aug'17*

	Individuals (= New for 2017 + Renew for 2017)	Households (= New for 2017 + Renew for 2017)
Full (\$25)	36 (= 1 + 35)	[36 (= 1 + 35)]
Senior (\$15)*	43 (= 1 + 42)	[43 (= 1 + 42)]
Family (\$30)*	21 (= 2 + 19)	10 (= 0 + 10)
Student (\$15)	1 (= 1 + 0)	[ 1 (= 1 + 0)]
Associate (\$10)	0 (= 0 + 0)	0 (= 0 + 0)
Grand Total*	101 (= 5 + 96)	90 (= 3 + 87)
ARRL members:*	92	
(Including ARRL Life members:*	15)	

\* Starred lines changed since 14-Jul'17.

##To pay dues## -or-  
 PART, P.O. Box 503, Westford, MA 01886-0015 Club Meeting, Cameron Senior Ctr., 7:00PM, 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday  
 Renew online by PayPal at: [http://www.wb1gof.org/F\\_join/part\\_dues.html](http://www.wb1gof.org/F_join/part_dues.html)

## PART's official mailing address is:

PO Box 503  
Westford, MA 01886

Our website is: <http://wblgof.org>  
Our forum is: <http://wblgof.net/forums/>  
Contact us at: [info@wblgof.org](mailto:info@wblgof.org)  
Follow us on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/wblgof](http://www.twitter.com/wblgof)  
Like us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/wblgof](http://www.facebook.com/wblgof)

## PART Officers:

President: Andy (KB1OIQ) Stewart  
Vice President: Rich (AB1HD) Crisafulli  
Secretary: Rick (W1RAG) Green  
Treasurer: Alan (W1AHM) Martin  
Director-At-Large: Steve (W1KBE) Rimsa

## Upcoming PART Meetings/Events

### August 15<sup>th</sup> 2017

- PART Meeting. 7:00 -9:00 p.m. LOCATION: Cameron Senior Center, 20 Pleasant St., Westford MA

### August 21<sup>st</sup> 2017 – Solar Eclipse

- More at <https://eclipse2017.nasa.gov>

### September 2<sup>nd</sup> 2017

- PART monthly breakfast. Westford Regency. 8-10 AM (\$19/\$9; kids: \$9 – see note below)

### September 8-10, 2017 - Boxboro New England Amateur Radio Convention (<http://boxboro.org>)

### September 19<sup>th</sup> 2017

- PART Meeting. 7:00 -9:00 p.m. LOCATION: Cameron Senior Center, 20 Pleasant St., Westford MA

### October 7<sup>th</sup> 2017

- PART monthly breakfast. Westford Regency. 8-10 AM (\$19/\$9; kids: \$9 – see note below)

### October 17<sup>th</sup> 2017

- PART Meeting. 7:00 -9:00 p.m. LOCATION: Cameron Senior Center, 20 Pleasant St., Westford MA

### November 4<sup>th</sup> 2017

- PART monthly breakfast. Westford Regency. 8-10 AM (\$19/\$9; kids: \$9 – see note below)

### November 21<sup>st</sup> 2017

- PART Meeting. 7:00 -9:00 p.m. LOCATION: Cameron Senior Center, 20 Pleasant St., Westford MA

## Monthly PART Meetings and Social Events

- Every Sunday, 8 PM – PART Net on 146.955 repeater, Echolink Node 380799
- Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, NEW TIME - 7:00 PM – PART Meetings at Cameron Senior Center
- Every 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday, 8 AM, Regency Inn Westford – PART Monthly Breakfast
- Every Wednesday, 6 AM, Owl Diner Lowell – Breakfast

The Billerica BARS VE team conducts VE Sessions on 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month. They are held in the church hall of The Chelmsford Bible Church, 128 Gorham St, East Chelmsford at 7pm. New license and upgrade tests. Walk-Ins, not a problem. No Reservations needed.

For more information, contact: Bruce W1LUS at 978-851-2886 [Email Bruce W1LUS](mailto:Bruce.W1LUS@wblgof.org) or Gary W1GFF at 978-453-1100 [Email Gary W1GFF](mailto:Gary.W1GFF@wblgof.org).



## Ham Fleas/Events

### Links to Massachusetts hamfest websites (partial)

Cambridge MA Flea at MIT <http://www.swapfest.us>  
Boxborough MA NE ARRL Conv <http://www.boxboro.org>  
Adams MA N BerkshireARC <http://www.nobarc.org/hamfest.htm>  
Dartmouth MA SEMARA <http://www.semara.org/flea.htm>  
Falmouth MA FARA <http://www.falara.org>  
Feeding Hills MA MTARA <http://www.mtara.org>  
Framingham MA FARA <http://www.fara.org> & <http://www.n1em.org>  
Marlboro MA AARC <http://www.gsl.net/n1em>  
Newton MA Waltham ARA Auction <http://www.wara64.org/auction>  
Rockport MA CAARA <http://www.caara.net>  
S Dartmouth MA SEMARA <http://www.semara.org>  
Wakefield MA Photographica <http://www.phsne.org>  
Westford MA NEAntiqueRC <http://www.nearc.net>  
Whately MA FranklinCARC <http://www.fcarc.org/news.htm>  
Worcester MA WPI ACM <http://acm.wpi.edu/swapmeet/>



## *New England Area Ham/Electronic Fleas:*

<http://web.mit.edu/w1gsl/Public/ne-fleas>

### 2017

19 Aug Windsor ME AARA @FG Bill K1NIT 207 512 0312 A+  
20 Aug Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 F+  
27 Aug Adams MA NoBARC @BoweFld 6:30sell 7:30buy Eric KA1SUN 413 743 9975  
27 Aug Newtown CT CARA @Town Hall John W1JGM 203 417 0160 A+  
8,10 Sept Boxboro MA FEMARA NE Conv Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235  
9 Sept Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Outside John 860 673 0518 +  
10 Sept Ballston Spa NY SCRACES @FG \$6@7 Jim KG2H 518 703-9558 F+  
16 Sept Alexander ME StCVARC @EISch Roger W1LH 207 454 2174 A  
17 Sept Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 F+  
8 Oct Queens NY HoSARC Stephen WB2KDG 718 898 5599 A+  
13-14 Oct Deerfield NH NEARFest XXII @FG Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235 W+  
15 Oct Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 F+  
21 Oct Brookline NH NEARC Antique@EvtCr \$10@7:30 \$5@8:30 Bruce 603 772 7516 W+  
21 Oct Accord NY OMARC @JrHS Keith K2UNI 845 687 9951 A+  
22 Oct Meriden CT Nutmeg@Sheraton John N1GNV 203 440 4973 A+  
28 Oct Gales Ferry CT TCARC @FireCo auction Darryl WA1DD 860 443 7799 W  
29 Oct Hicksville NY LIMARC @LeviitHall Richard K2KNB 516 694 4937 A+  
11 Nov Bourne MA FARA @UpperCC VoTech \$5@9 \$10/S@7 ralph N1YHS 508 548 0422  
2 Dec Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Indoor John 860 673 0518 +

### 2018

20 Jan Whitman MA WARC @KoC Rt18 \$5@9AM \$15/T Chris 781 523 5010 F+  
3 Feb Springfield VT CVFMA @VFW @8 B/Free \$5/T@7 Dave K1ZS 603 446 7312  
24 Feb S Burlington VT RAoNV @HI I89x14 \$9@8 \$15@6 Mitch W1SJ 802 879 6589 +  
10 Mar Chicopee MA MtTomARA @Castle \$5@8:30 S@6:30 Brian KC1BDF 860 478 6790  
30,31 Mar Lewiston ME AARC ME Conv @Ramada @8 Ivan N1OXA 207 784 0350  
7 Ap Hampton NH PCARC @Masonic \$5@8 \$10/T@7 Mark K1RX 603 231 8965  
14 Ap Newton MA PHSNE Photographica Sat Only @AmLegion @9A John 781 592 2553

### ***Near-term local fleas***

Flea at MIT

Sunday, 16-Jul'17

Sunday, 20-Aug'17

Buyers \$6.00, 9:00AM-2:00PM (\$1.00 discount with flyer:

<http://web.mit.edu/wlmx/www/swapfest/swapfest-2017.04.pdf>

Parking Lot & Garage on Albany St. Cambridge, at Portland St.

<http://goo.gl/maps/KpTQO>

<http://web.mit.edu/wlmx/www/swapfest/buyers-parking.pdf>

This is your pre-meeting reminder to add something to your weekly shopping to bring to the next meeting. Watch your e-mail for specific needs this month.

PART member donations have been greatly appreciated in the past and we hope to continue this great community service at every meeting.



## **Field Day**

### ***Field Day 2017***

George, K1IG - Field Day Chairman

### **Field Day 2017 – Wrap-up**

All the points have been tallied, and Field Day 2017 will be remembered as another great PART event. Band conditions weren't quite as good as last year, but nevertheless we had nearly the same number of QSOs and the almost the same point total.



Our final numbers are:

Mode	QSOs	Multiplier	Total
CW	694	2	1388
Digital	84	2	168
Phone	529	1	529

Subtotal: 2,085

Power Multiplier: x 2

Total: 4,170

Bonus Points: + 1,650

Total Points: 5,280

The only bonus points we missed were for the message to the Section Manager.



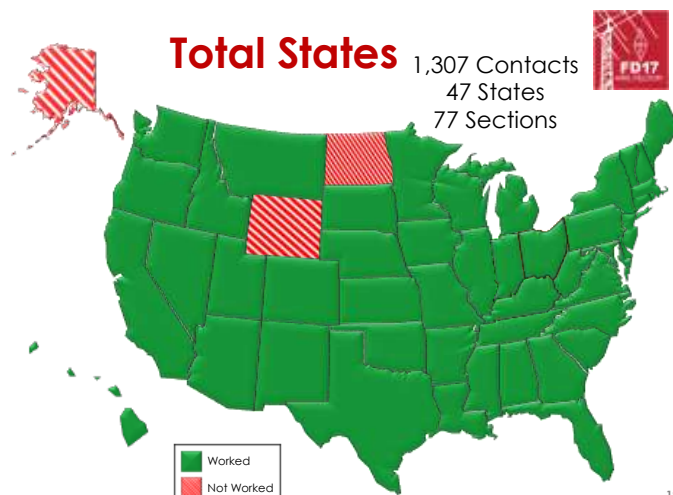


At the July PART meeting, two awards were presented for meritorious achievement at Field Day. Shown on the left, Bob, W1IS, received the rare and coveted "I Found Nevada" award for working Nevada on CW. This was the only state we missed in the 2016 Field Day, and Bob finally found it just a few hours before Field Day ended this year.

Lela, KC1ACV, received the "GOTA Bonus Award" (shown below) for being the first operator in the history of PART Field Day to make 20 contacts on the GOTA station. In addition to her award, Lela also received a couple of prizes to help her build her superstation.



Our final contact map shows that we worked 47 states, missing only Alaska, Montana, and North Dakota. It looks like we know what our goal is for next year!



## Special Event Stations in New England

08/19/2017 | Shea Naval Aviation Museum S.E.S.

**Aug 19, 1300Z-1900Z, W1NAS**, South Weymouth, MA. NAS South Weymouth / Shea Naval Aviation Museum Amateur Radio Club. 14.250 40 meters. QSL. Steve Cohn, 10 Hemlock Terrace, Randolph, MA 02368. We will again be operating this S.E.S. along with the Tri-City ARC in Groton, CT. to commemorate the first flight of the blimp "Snowbird" from NAS South Weymouth to Resolute Bay in the Arctic Circle while the submarine USS Nautilus sailed under the polar ice cap beneath the blimp.  
[qrz.com/db/w1nas](http://qrz.com/db/w1nas)

## 09/01/2017 | Meriden ARC 70th Anniversary

**Sep 30-Oct 1, 0000Z-2359Z, W1NRG**, Meriden, CT. Meriden ARC. 28.375 14.280 7.210 3.820. QSL. Meriden Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 583, Meriden, CT 06450. Meriden Amateur Radio Club 70th Anniversary event. Phone, CW and Digital modes. Listen in the General band segments. Multiple operators for Club station and member home QTH's [www.w1nrg.com](http://www.w1nrg.com)

## 10/06/2017 | Warren Fall Festival

**Oct 6-Oct 9, 0000Z-2359Z, W1W**, New Milford, CT. Northville Amateur Radio Association. 14.225. QSL. NARA, PO Box 354, New Milford, CT 06776. The Warren Fall Festival is a fund raiser for the Warren CT volunteer fire company. NARA volunteers to operate the special event station. [www.nalra.org](http://www.nalra.org)

## 10/07/2017 | Dempsey Challenge Bicycle Race

**Oct 7-Oct 8, 1200Z-2300Z, N1D**, Auburn, ME. Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club. 28.460 14.270 7.200. Certificate & QSL. Androscoggin ARC, W1NPP, P.O. Box 1, Auburn, ME 04212. [www.w1npp.org](http://www.w1npp.org)

## D-STAR Event



**D-STAR QSO PARTY 2017**  
*Invitation to the Biggest D-STAR QSO PARTY!*

*Talk to the world by connecting through  
D-STAR repeaters around the globe.*

**The Party Runs From**  
**SEPTEMBER 22 (Fri.) 00:00 UTC ▶ 24 (Sun.) 24:00 UTC**

Also, Icom has suggested a Pizza Party on Thursday night, September 8<sup>th</sup> to be held in conjunction with the ARRL New England Division Convention in Boxboro. PLEASE stay tuned for more information as to time, place and cost (for the pizza)!



From eHam.net News:

### [Tom K Jose Bridges Distance with Ham Radio:](#)

by telanganatoday.com on August 13, 2017

Hyderabad: From making headlines when he used his Ham radio skills to extend help to those hit by the Hud Hud Cyclone three years ago, 18-year-old Tom K Jose is now a busy person. He is gathering youngsters to join his clan of Ham radio operators. Tom, who became an amateur radio operator at the tender age of 13, is a third generation Ham operator, with his grandfather beginning the hobby, followed by Tom's parents and now, Tom and his brother. In 2015, he was invited to the world's largest gathering of Ham operators -- the Dayton Hamvention in the US. Here, he earned many fans after he gave a presentation at the event's Youth Forum in front of 25,000 people. This saw him securing an annual scholarship of \$2,000 from the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), which he is now using to spread the word about Ham radio in the city.

### [Amateurlogic 107 is Released!](#)

by peter berrett (VK3PB) on August 12, 2017

Peter operates the new FT8 Digital Mode from Joe Taylor. Tommy builds the DSO138 Scope Kit. George discusses the Raspberry Pi Zero W. Wayne build an Antenna Tripod.

### [An NJIT Researcher Throws a Global Ham Radio 'Party' to Study the Eclipse:](#)

by phys.org on August 12, 2017

When a solar eclipse plunges the country into darkness Aug. 21, Nathaniel Frissell will be stationed directly along the shadow's path, leading one of the largest ionospheric experiments in the history of space science from the back porch of a cabin in Gilbertsville, Kentucky. With a 102 ft. wire antenna, he will contact a network of ham radio operators he's assembled around the world to test the strength and reach of their high frequency signals as one measure of the eclipse's impact on Earth's atmosphere. More than a week in advance, nearly 200 operators - from New Jersey, to Tennessee, to Wyoming in the U.S. and at far-flung locales such as Chile, Greece and India - are already signed on to be "citizen-scientists" that day by recording their contacts with one another. Their number grows daily. "Among other phenomena, we're hoping to use our radio transmissions to identify how much of the ionosphere is impacted by the eclipse and how long the effects last," explains Frissell, an assistant research professor of physics at NJIT's Center for Solar Terrestrial Research and a sophisticated practitioner of ham radio who is intent on elevating the technology's role in space science research. He will share data and analysis from the day at the American Geophysical Union annual meeting in December. Frissell has been preparing for this rare event for more than two years. While a Ph.D. student at Virginia Tech, he founded the Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation (HamSCI), an organization that connects professional researchers such as space physicists and astronomers with the amateur radio community. By merging their data, the different groups will be able to construct a comprehensive picture of atmospheric effects caused by space weather events ranging from the solar eclipse later this month to more common phenomena, such as solar flares. In 2014, he first demonstrated the use of ham radio data by showing the effects of an X-class solar flare on high frequency communications. On NJIT's campus, members of Frissell's team of undergraduate ham radio operators, including Spencer Gunning, Joshua Vega and Joshua Katz, have been constructing a website and developing data analysis tools that will allow them to gather and interpret the observations generated during the eclipse. Hundreds of hams around the world are planning on participating in this event, and they will be generating a large and diverse set of measurements.



### **Eclipse Creates Radio Research Opportunity:**

by kilgorennewsheald.com on August 11, 2017

All of North America will experience a solar eclipse when the sun, Earth and moon align Aug. 21, and a group of local researchers will be training an expert eye -- and ear -- from their angle in Kilgore. Amateur ham radio enthusiasts from Longview and Tyler will gather with fellow aficionados here at the Texas Museum of Broadcasting and Communications, studying what effects the celestial phenomenon has on their craft. The community is welcome to join the party. "They are coming here to see what happens to radio propagation when there's a total eclipse," according to Chuck Conrad, owner and executive director of the Texas Broadcasting Museum at 416 E. Main St. "This is a nationwide thing ... All kinds of other natural phenomenon affect the propagation of radio waves. Maybe a total eclipse does. Maybe absolutely nothing." Conrad's a ham radio operator as well, but he's not an active practitioner. "I haven't plugged my ham radio equipment in in many years," but the local communications equipment collector and radio station operator was happy to host the Longview/East Texas Amateur Radio Club's tailgate party in May, drawing dozens of LETARC members and their comrades to the museum. "What they do doesn't get enough credit. When it hits the fan around here ... no cell, no Internet, no power ... their stuff works. They're the last communications media." According to Bennett, the local ham radio operators-turned-researchers will pass their data on to Virginia Tech, where a professor of electrical engineering is leading an experiment to study the impact of the solar eclipse on radio propagation. "Radio wave propagation is affected by the electrical part of the atmosphere and during the eclipse, we really have the opportunity to collect data and learn more about the impact of these changes on systems we've come to rely on," professor Greg Earle said in a July press release from the university.

### **Spaceman Makes Contact with Youngsters via Amateur Radio in Chingford:**

by yellowad.co.uk on August 11, 2017

AN ASTRONAUT made contact with a crowd of young people from 26 countries in Chingford on Tuesday, August 8. Eighty young people spoke to Paolo Nespoli on the International Space Station via amateur radio at Radio Society of Great Britain's (RSGB) event in Gilwell Park. Cameron Eales, ZS6CYE asked Paolo: "How important do you consider amateur radio to your set of technical skills?" Paolo replied: "I was really into when I was young as my tutor had a radio and it helped me to refine my technical skills. So ham radio helped me in building my future."

### **World War II Code Breaker Celebrates 100th Birthday:**

by staustellvoice.co.uk on August 11, 2017

He might have been a Second World War codebreaker but George Aston is keeping no secret about the key to his long life after turning 100. The lively centenarian from Bethel celebrated his 100th birthday on Thursday and put reaching the milestone down to walking every day. Surrounded by gifts and cards, including one from the Queen, George - who wore an L plate around his neck to mark the occasion - saw in a century with family and friends at the Porth Avallen Hotel in Carlyon Bay.

### **After Ordinance Change, Man opts to Shelve Antenna Plan:**

by chicagotribune.com on August 11, 2017

Minutes after the Northbrook zoning code was changed to make it easier for Gregg Salomone to apply to erect a 26-foot ham radio antenna in his front yard, Salomone said he wouldn't apply, after all. His decision came shortly after a Northbrook Village Board meeting in which the change was voted in, when a couple of his neighbors, speaking in the emptying board room, made it clear they didn't like the idea at all. "No one in his right mind would let him put his tower in there," neighbor Larry Guthman said. "There's no reason for it." Salomone said later, that, "after careful consideration, I have decided to withdraw my request for the antenna." He said he didn't "want to cause undue waves" among his

neighbors. "I respect what they have to say, and I'm happy they recognize my viewpoint, too," Salomone said. "I applaud the village for being progressive and accommodating."

#### **Foundations of Amateur Radio -- #114:**

by Onno VK6FLAB on August 10, 2017

The continued discussion in our community about Digital Modes got me thinking about what a Digital Mode actually is. At the most fundamental level, it's about encoding information into discrete chunks to exchange information. Morse Code is an example of a Digital Mode, made up from combinations of dits and dahs.

#### **Just Ahead In Radiosport:**

by The ARRL Letter on August 10, 2017

Just Ahead In Radiosport:

#### **ARRL Posts Amateur Radio Parity Act FAQ:**

by The ARRL Letter on August 10, 2017

The Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2017 is now in the US Senate (S. 1534). ARRL has developed and posted a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs), "The Amateur Radio Parity Act: Setting the Record Straight," to explain and to clarify what the passage of the legislation would accomplish -- as well as what it would not.

#### **Hara Arena -- Hamvention's Former Home -- To be Auctioned by IRS:**

by The ARRL Letter on August 10, 2017

Hara Arena, the former home of Hamvention, is going on the auction block, the IRS has announced. The now-beleaguered building and grounds were closed a year ago last month by the owners, the Wampler Family, which, for years, had attempted unsuccessfully to put Hara on a profitable plane. The minimum bid is \$850,000; proceeds will satisfy a tax lien. The auction comes in the wake of an Order of Sale entered in the US District Court for the Southern District of Ohio. The IRS will take bids on August 30 on the 1001 Shiloh Springs Road site, starting at 11 AM ET (bidders must be registered by 10 AM ET).

#### **The Doctor Will See You Now!**

by The ARRL Letter on August 10, 2017

"Keys and Keyers" is the topic of the current (August 3) episode of the "ARRL The Doctor is In" podcast. Listen...and learn!

#### **ARDF Enthusiasts Compete In USA National Championships:**

by The ARRL Letter on August 10, 2017

Fifteen US-eligible competitors took home first-place awards in the just-completed 17th US National Championships of Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) in Harrison, Ohio. The competition ran from August 3 through 6 on the 4,345-acre Miami Whitewater Forest and other nearby wooded sites, and it attracted more than 80 fans of the sport -- also known as foxtailing and radio-orienteeing.

#### **Youngsters On the Air Summer Camp Doubles Down On ARISS Contacts:**

by The ARRL Letter on August 10, 2017

More than 80 participants from about 30 countries are wrapping up this year's Youngsters on the Air (YOTA) international summer camp -- YOTA UK 2017 -- which continues until August 12 at Gilwell Park in London, the site of Scouting headquarters in the UK. Attendees include two members of the German team who cycled all the way. The Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB) is serving as the host of YOTA UK 2017.



## ARRL News

### [Radio Arcala to Leverage FT8 Digital Mode in Market Reef Activation](#)

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August 11, 2017 - **Radio Arcala** (OH8X), the consortium of serious Finnish contesters, has heaped more praise on Nobel Laureate and software developer Joe Taylor, K1JT, for the recent beta release of **FT8 mode**. OJoBH/OJoJR will be active August 12-19 from Market Reef and expects to make use of FT8 and other modes that are part of Taylor's *WSJT-X* suite of Amateur Radio digital software.

"Tuning the poor 20-meter band...

### [ARRL Announces Colvin Award Grant to Bouvet Island 3Y0Z DXpedition](#)

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August 11, 2017 - The ARRL has granted a **Colvin Award** to help support the upcoming **3Y0Z DXpedition to Bouvet Island**, the second most-wanted DXCC entity. The DXpedition is scheduled to get under way early next year.

"This is a great team, putting forth a complicated DXpedition to the most remote island on Earth and one of the rarest of the rare DXCC entities," said ARRL Field Services Manager Dave Patton, NN1N.

### [The Doctor Will See You Now!](#)

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August 10, 2017 - "Keys and Keyers" is the topic of the current (August 3) episode of the "**ARRL The Doctor is In**" podcast. Listen...and learn!

Sponsored by **DX Engineering**, "ARRL The Doctor is In" is an informative discussion of all things technical. Listen on your computer, tablet, or smartphone -- whenever and wherever you like!

Every 2 weeks, your host, *QST* Editor-in-Chief Steve Ford, WB8IMY, and the Doctor hims...

### [Joe Spier, K6WAO, Elected as AMSAT-NA Executive Vice President](#)

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Thursday, August 10, 2017, 9:13:00 AM

The **AMSAT** Board of Directors on August 8 elected AMSAT Vice President, Educational Relations, Joe Spier, K6WAO, of Reno, Nevada, as Executive Vice President. Spier's new duties will include implementation of AMSAT-NA's Strategic Planning. He will continue for now in his other duties as 2017 Space Symposium Chairman, AMSAT News Service co-editor, and in ARISS Education and Educational Relations....

### [IARU Region 2 Area G Announces Emergency Communications Exercise](#)

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August 09, 2017

### [Radio Amateurs in Atlantic Canada Go on Standby During Telephone Outage](#)

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August 09, 2017 - Atlantic Canada authorities called on Amateur Radio operators in parts of Nova Scotia on August 4, in the wake of a telephone service outage. According to CBC, Bell Aliant landline and cell services were down, starting at approximately 11:20 AM. Telus, Virgin, and Koodo users were also affected. Jeremy Fowler, VE1JHF, a member of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club, said he and other members of his ...

## [Hurricane Watch Net Activating for Tropical Cyclone Franklin](#)

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August 09, 2017

## [The September Issue of Digital QST is Now Available!](#)

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August 09, 2017

## [Order This Book and Get Ready for the Eclipse!](#)

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August 08, 2017 - On August 21, a total solar eclipse will cause the shadow of the moon to traverse the US from Oregon to South Carolina in just over 90 minutes. Radio amateurs are preparing to participate in one of the largest ionospheric experiments ever performed by making radio contacts and looking for signals throughout the eclipse. How much do *you* know about the ionosphere and radio wave propagation?

## [NCDXF Announces \\$100,000 Contribution to the 3Y0Z Bouvet Island DXpedition](#)

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August 08, 2017

## [First Bulgarian Amateur Radio CubeSat to Launch in 2018](#)

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August 08, 2017

## [ARDF Enthusiasts Compete in USA National Championships](#)

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August 07, 2017

## [RSVP for the SEQP](#)

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August 07, 2017 - The Solar Eclipse QSO Party (**SEQP**) is just a couple of weeks away! The SEQP is a special operating event organized by the Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation (**HamSCI**) to study ionospheric effects caused by the August 21 total solar eclipse.

During the SEQP, hams are being asked to operate on the HF bands in a manner similar to a contest or QSO party. Let the HamSCI researchers know where you...

## [Applicants Must Use FCC Form 605 with “Felony Question,” Starting on September 7](#)

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August 07, 2017 - In an August 7 **Public Notice**, the FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) announced formally that FCC Form 605, *Quick-Form Application for Authorization in the Ship, Aircraft, Amateur, Restricted and Commercial Operator, and General Mobile Radio Services*, now will ask whether the applicant has ever been convicted of a felony. The FCC said this revision is “consistent with application forms...



- 2017-06-22 [ARLX006](#) ARRL Sacramento Valley Section Official Observer Coordinator Norm Lucas, WB6RVR (SK)
- 2017-06-19 [ARLX005](#) 2017 W1AW Field Day Bulletin Schedule
- 2017-05-24 [ARLB015](#) Spring Section Manager Election Results Announced
- 2017-05-20 [ARLB014](#) Ned Stearns, AA7A, Elected as Southwestern Division Vice Director
- 2017-05-05 [ARLB013](#) Important Notice - New MF and LF Bands are Not Yet Available to Use!
- 2017-04-27 [ARLX004](#) Armed Forces Day Crossband Military/Amateur Radio Communications Test is May 13
- 2017-04-06 [ARLB012](#) Revised Memorandum of Understanding between ARRL and FCC Still a Work in Progress
- 2017-04-05 [ARLX002](#) 30th International Marconi Day Event Set for April 22
- 2017-04-05 [ARLX003](#) Former Kansas Section Manager Orlan Cook, W0OYH, and Former Sacramento Valley Section Manager Ron Murdock, W6KJ (SK)
- 2017-03-13 [ARLB011](#) W1AW 2017 Spring/Summer Operating Schedule
- 2017-02-27 [ARLX001](#) Past ARRL Midwest Division Director Lew Gordon, K4VX (SK)
- 2017-02-24 [ARLB010](#) New Section Manager Appointed in West Virginia
- 2017-02-22 [ARLB009](#) Winter Cycle Section Manager Election Results Announced
- 2017-02-21 [ARLB007](#) FCC Invites Comments on ARRL Petition to Allocate New 5 MHz Band
- 2017-02-21 [ARLB008](#) New Section Manager Appointed in Illinois
- 2017-01-26 [ARLB006](#) Amateur Radio Parity Act Speeds to U.S. House Passage, Heads to U.S. Senate
- 2017-01-17 [ARLB005](#) New "Amateur Radio Parity Act" Bill Introduced in US House of Representatives
- 2017-01-13 [ARLB004](#) ARRL Asks FCC to Allocate New 5 MHz Band, Retain Channels and Current Power Limit
- 2017-01-12 [ARLB003](#) Illegal Drone Transmitters Could Interfere with Air Traffic Control, ARRL Complaint Asserts
- 2017-01-06 [ARLB002](#) FCC Dismisses Two Petitions from Radio Amateurs
- 2017-01-03 [ARLB001](#) W1AW 2017 Winter Operating Schedule



The PART monthly meetings are held at the Cameron Senior Center, 20 Pleasant Street in Westford. *NOW STARTING AT 7 PM*

Click [here](#) for the address and information.

## [JOTA 2016 saw 400% increase in ham radio stations](#)

**Richard Hooper, ZS6RKE**, the National JOTA/JOTI Coordinator for Scouts South Africa told SARL News that Jamboree On The Air 2017 is being held from October 20-22

## [The Australian Travellers Net](#)

To provide safety for radio amateurs travelling long distances often in remote areas, or being marine mobile, is the **Travellers Net** on air 365 days of the year

## [NASA TV to air six-hour spacewalk at ISS](#)

Two Russian cosmonauts will venture outside the International Space Station Thursday, Aug. 17, to deploy several nanosatellites, collect research samples and perform structural maintenance. Coverage of the spacewalk will begin at 10 a.m. EDT on NASA Television and the agency's website.

## [The ACMA to look at its handling of interference](#)

The Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) has issued a discussion paper on its Interference Management Principles

## [Solar Eclipse - Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation](#)

The **New Jersey Institute of Technology** (NJIT) in Newark will carry out amateur radio citizen science experiments during the Solar Eclipse on August 21

## [Building an SWR / Relative Power Bridge](#)

In these videos **Randy Hall K7AGE** builds an SWR / Relative Power Bridge based on a circuit from the blog of **Don Cantrell ND6T**

## [YOTA 2017 - daily diaries](#)

Want to know what the 80 young radio amateurs from 26 countries are doing at YOTA 2017? Then click [here](#)

## [Cross Country Wireless release HF and VHF/UHF Multicouplers](#)

Cross Country Wireless have released HF and VHF/UHF versions of their HF/VHF/UHF Multicoupler

## [Australian senate rejects bill to restore ABC shortwave](#)

Australia's senate has rejected proposed legislation to restore the international radio service of the country's public broadcaster

## [NewsWest for 13th August 2017](#)

Welcome to today's RD Contest Weekend NewsWest broadcast, brought to you by the team at WA Amateur Radio News

## [NASA announces television coverage for Aug. 21 solar eclipse](#)

On Monday, Aug. 21, all of North America will be treated to an eclipse of the Sun, and NASA Television will carry it live from coast to coast from unique vantage points on the ground and from aircraft and spacecraft, including the International Space Station. Coverage will be featured during the live four-hour broadcast *Eclipse Across America: Through the Eyes of NASA*

## [Kerry Amateur Radio Group in ILLW 2017](#)

The **Kerry Amateur Radio Group** will participate in this year's **International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend** from the Cromwell Point Lighthouse on Valentia Island, Co. Kerry using the callsign EI1K over the weekend 19th to Sunday 20th August.

## Heard on the Net (must be true!)

Here is a dissertation on physical science for your enlightenment. I don't know where it came from so it must be true! [ Update: This appears to have come from Dave Barry, and the same text can be found as: <http://www.uk.research.att.com/~fms/electricity.html> <http://rachel.albany.edu/~jc9334/barry1.html> and many other places on the web. I'd check with Dave, but he doesn't respond to email any more (and life's too short for snail mail)]

Today's scientific question is: What in the world is electricity and where does it go after it leaves the toaster?

Here is a simple experiment that will teach you an important electrical lesson: On a cool dry day, scuff your feet along a carpet, then reach your hand into a friend's mouth and touch one of his dental fillings. Did you notice how your friend twitched violently and cried out in pain? This teaches one that electricity can be a very powerful force, but we must never use it to hurt others unless we need to learn an important lesson about electricity.

It also illustrates how an electrical circuit works. When you scuffed your feet, you picked up batches of "electrons", which are very small objects that carpet manufacturers weave into carpet so that they will attract dirt. The electrons travel through your bloodstream and collect in your finger, where they form a spark that leaps to your friend's filling, then travel down to his feet and back into the carpet, thus completing the circuit.

AMAZING ELECTRONIC FACT: If you scuffed your feet long enough without touching anything, you would build up so many electrons that your finger would explode! But this is nothing to worry about unless you have carpeting.

Although we modern persons tend to take our electric lights, radios, mixers, etc. for granted, hundreds of years ago people did not have any of these things, which is just as well because there was no place to plug them in. Then along came the first Electrical Pioneer, Benjamin Franklin, who flew a kite in a lightning storm and received a serious electrical shock. This proved that lightning was powered by the same force as carpets, but it also damaged Franklin's brain so severely that he started speaking only in incomprehensible maxims, such as, "A penny saved is a penny earned." Eventually he had to be given a job running the post office.

After Franklin came a herd of Electrical Pioneers whose names have become part of our electrical terminology: Myron Volt, Mary Louise Amp, James Watt, Bob Transformer, etc. These pioneers conducted many important electrical experiments. Among them, Galvani discovered (this is the truth) that when he attached two different kinds of metal to the leg of a frog, an electrical current developed and the frog's leg kicked, even though it was no longer attached to the frog, which was dead anyway. Galvani's discovery led to enormous advances in the field of amphibian medicine. Today, skilled veterinary surgeons can take a frog that has been seriously injured or killed, implant pieces of metal in its muscles, and watch it hop back into the pond -- almost.

But the greatest Electrical Pioneer of them all was Thomas Edison, who was a brilliant inventor despite the fact that he had little formal education and lived in New Jersey. Edison's first major invention in 1877 was the phonograph, which could soon be found in thousands of American homes, where it basically sat until 1923, when the record was invented. But Edison's greatest achievement came in 1879 when he invented the electric company. Edison's design was a brilliant adaptation of the simple electrical circuit: the electric company sends electricity through a wire to a customer, then immediately gets the electricity back through another wire, then (this is the brilliant part) sends it right back to the customer again.

This means that an electric company can sell a customer the same batch of electricity thousands of times a day and never get caught, since very few customers take the time to examine their electricity closely. In fact, the last year any new electricity was generated was 1937.

Today, thanks to men like Edison and Franklin, and frogs like Galvani's, we receive almost unlimited benefits from electricity. For example, in the past decade scientists have developed the laser, an electronic appliance so powerful that it can vaporize a bulldozer 2000 yards away, yet so precise that doctors can use it to perform delicate operations to the human eyeball, provided they remember to change the power setting from "Bulldozer" to "Eyeball."

## Repeater Nets

**146.955 Nets – There are a number of nets that are regularly scheduled on the 955 repeater.**

- Sunday night at 2000/8:00 PM [Sunday Night PART Net](#) – every
- [Sector 1C Emergency Communications Net](#) – this net occurs the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday or every month (except when it is a holiday).
- [Skywarn](#) and [ARES Nets](#) – these nets are spontaneous when local conditions warranted.

NOTE: You can LISTEN ONLY to this repeater audio by linking to this URL:

<http://www.radioreference.com/apps/audio/?feedId=10933> (effective 2/2012)

**442.450 D-Star Nets – There are a number of nets that are regularly scheduled.**

- Sunday 8:00 PM [Ozark Mtn D-STAR Net](#) – Reflector 001C
- Tuesday 8:00 PM [New England Amateur D-STAR Net](#) – Reflector 010C
- Friday 8:00 PM CanNet D-Star Net – XRF021B

NOTE: The status of the WB1GOF D-Star repeaters can be seen at <https://wb1gof.dstargateway.org>

## Monthly PART Breakfast

Don't forget the monthly PART breakfast the 1st Saturday of each month at the Westford Regency Inn at 8 AM. The full hot & cold buffet breakfast costs about \$19 (includes tip) per person, a cheaper, lighter fare is available for adults and children. **NOTE: PLEASE let the folks who are settling the bill with the staff know whether you had a full or continental breakfast!**

### Monthly Breakfast Pricing

*Full breakfast: \$19.00 (new price)*

*Continental breakfast: \$12.00 (new price)*


*Kid's breakfast: \$9.00*



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Robert Schmeichel  
2011



Copyright WB1GOF,  
Robert Schmeichel  
2013



# NEW ENGLAND'S PREMIER AMATEUR RADIO CONVENTION

Join us September 8, 9, and 10<sup>th</sup> in Boxborough, MA

*Get Tickets!*



## Repeater Information

### Repeater Interference

The 146.955 repeater periodically has had interference to in-progress conversations as well as at random quiet times throughout the day and night. The repeater interference committee needs your help in collecting data. If you hear any type of interference, please report the following info to **"repeater" at "wb1gof.org"**:



- Time: When did the event happen?
- Observing location: Where were you? Were you mobile?
- Frequency: Input only (146.355 MHz)
- What you heard: Voices, tones, kerchunking or whatever.
- Signal strength: Either by ear (noisy, quiet or full quiet) or S meter
- Radio: To get an idea of the reporter's radio situation.

\* Most important - what direction: How did you determine direction? This is the most essential piece of information. Even if it's an estimate as in "Roughly east" or "from the Northeast" it's useful. NEVER EVER reply or direct any thing to the sick person causing the interference. Because some of us have answered this person, he knows we are aware of him and that is what keeps him doing it. Also since you are communicating with a non IDing station you are operating just as illegally as he is. YOU ARE BROADCASTING! NEVER TALK ABOUT INTERFERENCE on air. NEVER

*If you are interested in assisting in helping us identify the sources of interference, contact Terry-KA8SCP.*

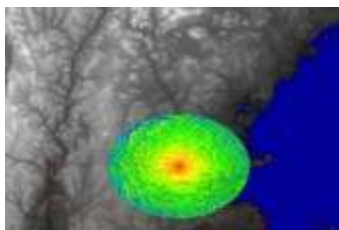
### EmComm events and repeater use

Most everyone knows that the 146.955 repeater is used during times of emergency situations, drills and exercises. Skywarn and the monthly EmComm drills are the normal events.

So what does this mean to those that are just looking for regular QSOs with other users? It means that if you are in a regular QSO and there is a significant weather situation that has been getting press/air-time lately, you can expect that if severe weather develops in our area, the folks from Taunton-WX1BOX may interrupt a QSO and ask anyone on frequency what may be happening weather wise. The BOX operator will probably ask for specific information, hail, wind damage, property damage from lightning or wind, etc. Please give him the information he needs or tell him that you've not heard of any such activity. You don't need to tell him it is sunny in Nashua!

There may come a time when an unexpected emergency situation arises. These will significant events that may affect life and property. This is where EmComm activity may step in. Usually an NCS will interrupt a QSO and announce the situation and ask for a QSO to cease or to be "aware" of the possibility of priority calls/traffic. Please make sure you leave breaks between transmissions so stations with traffic can get in between QSOs. If there is enough traffic, it may be necessary for your existing/interrupted QSO QSY to another frequency. You should use your best judgment or check with the NCS on what he feels is best.

If you have any questions, please feel free to correspond with Terry-KA8SCP. All requests for repeater use can be initiated by email to [info@wb1gof.org](mailto:info@wb1gof.org).



**R**epeater propagation info is available on the PART [website](#). Check out the links to the summit information as well as coverage and plot plans maps for the WB1GOF repeaters. Complete info on the site can be found at this [URL](#).

## PART Gear

The PART Quartermaster has lots of great PART-ware for sale including mugs and shirts. You can get information how you can obtain your PART-ware at the monthly club meetings.

Club members are also encouraged to obtain an official PART badge (the first one is FREE to new members). We use The Sign Man of Baton Rouge as our official supplier, and you can browse the club's design at:

<<http://thesignman.com/clubs/part.html>>. However, please place your order via the PART Membership Chairman, Hugh Maguire-N1QGE, [hulin127@verizon.net](mailto:hulin127@verizon.net) so that we may benefit from bulk pricing.



## EmComm

**Emergency Communications** – The WB1GOF 146.955 repeater is used on the first Monday of every month (except federal/state holidays) for an EmComm Net starting at 1930 local time. If you are interested in being part of the local emergency communications team in your community, feel free to contact any of the following folks:

Terry Stader – KA8SCP, MEMA Region 1 Communications Officer & Town of Westford

Bill Ohm – W1OHM, for the Town of Chelmsford

Darrel Mallory – K1EJ, North Middlesex ARES

- We need radio operators that can pass messages on to the local emergency management directors in several towns in northern Middlesex County.

**Skywarn** - The WB1GOF 146.955 repeater is also used for reporting significant weather events to the National Weather Service from our local spotters. You can provide valuable information even if you have not attended one of the training sessions. Listen to the Skywarn Net Control Station for reporting criteria, when you have information that qualifies, please advise him with your report.

**Situational Awareness** – Recently, the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency has asked the Amateur Radio community to provide situational awareness and disaster intelligence information within your local community via EmComm nets and/or Skywarn stations. Significant events such as widespread power outages can be reported and by agencies such as MEMA to evaluate the scope of a blackout for example. Initially, you should try and contact the EmComm Net Control Stations on the Westford 146.955 repeater to pass this information. More on this new program will be forthcoming.

**PART Sunday Night Net** – The PART Net each Sunday night is an IMPORTANT part of our regional EmComm function. With each station that checks in from the surrounding communities, we test our ability to communicate vital information to the ham radio community. Sure we announce club info but we can also communicate regional disaster news and serve as a “hub” for news of situations in our communities. The repeater is on a generator, so even if we lose power in the region, an HT with a supply of batteries will reconnect you to other local hams.



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This month's editor: Terry Stader – KA8SCP

PART official mailing address is:  
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Our website is: <http://wb1gof.org>  
Our forum is: <http://wb1gof.net/forums/>  
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Follow us on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/wb1gof](http://www.twitter.com/wb1gof)  
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