



July 2016 PARTicles



The newsletter of PART of Westford, MA – WB1GOF

Celebrating 40 years of public service 1975-2015

President's Column

- Andy Stewart (KB1OIQ)

Field Day was a great success by all measures! I was very pleased to see that so many people had signed in. Our Field Day chairman, George (K1IG), will have a complete wrap-up of Field Day at the July PART meeting.

On June 27th, 2016, the Monday after Field Day, our friend and club member Bob Little (W1BAE) became a silent key. Many of us had really gotten to know Bob during Field Day. I spent most of the weekend with him in the GOTA station, joking around as though we had known each other for years. We were shocked and saddened by his passing. Steve (WA1KBE) and I have been in touch with Ellen (Bob's widow) and have offered to help in any way that the family needs. We saved a seat for Bob at the PART breakfast a few days later. Please bring any photos, stories, and memories of Bob to the next PART meeting, where we'll have time to reflect.



The annual 13 Colonies Special Event grabbed out attention in early July. Many operators participated in this event from their home stations, using the special event callsign assigned to their state. For Massachusetts, our callsign was K2H. We had 18 different operators for K2H, all coordinated by a Google Calendar and Charlie's (K1PUB) leadership. At the next PART meeting, we'll talk more about the 13 Colonies event, which had several (6?) operators from PART. I hope the operators will share their experiences at the club meeting.

Since I've been handing the QSLing for K2H, I thought I would share a couple of

stories from what I've seen on the incoming QSL cards and heard through the grapevine.

a) One QSL card from a CW operator named Ray said that K2H was his first CW contact in 45 years.

b) I received a letter requesting a K2H QSL card from a new ham named Hulbert. His letter indicated that he did not have enough money to print his own QSL cards due to his limited income. He was *thrilled* that he had made his very first clean sweep. I sent him his K2H QSL card and included a \$5 bill to defray the cost of his 13 Colonies clean sweep certificate. I also included a short note welcoming him to the hobby and congratulating him on this accomplishment.

c) Many cards had kind words of praise and thanks for our efforts!

d) One person on an early morning 40m phone net was apparently unhappy about a particular K2H operator clearing the pileup "by the numbers".

e) In a few cases, K2H was their final contact for a clean sweep, and they expressed their happiness for the contact.

f) One ham wrote that he thought this was the best special event in his 50 year ham radio career.

Many thanks to these people who helped fill out 175 K2H QSL cards over dinner recently: Alan (W1GXH), Chauncey (K1OPE), Rich (AB1HD), Rick (W1RAG), Lela (KC1ACV), Alan (W1AHM), Alan (K1ALL), and George (K1IG).

Our annual club elections will take place at the September meeting. Your current officers are:

President: Andy (KB1OIQ) (elected)

Vice President: Rich (AB1HD) (elected)

Secretary: Rick (W1RAG) (elected)
 Treasurer: Alan (W1AHM) (elected)
 Director-at-Large: Steve (WA1KBE)
 (appointed by the Board)

The Board of Directors will meet soon to appoint next year's Director at Large. Any club member in good standing may run for office by simply stating their interest in writing to

the Nominations Chairman (email is sufficient). Once again, Alan (K1ALL) has agreed to be the Nominations Chairman and run the election at the September PART meeting. If interested, please contact Alan (K1ALL) at allod@comcast.net.

Have a lot of fun, and 73, Andy - KB1OIQ

Treasurer's Report

PART Treasury between 15-March '16 & 19-Apr '16 (As of 19-April '16)

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Repeater Fund</u>	<u>Checking Total</u>
Old Balance	\$ 4,200.47	\$ 4,051.31	\$ 8,251.78
Income	\$ 110.00	\$ 36.12	\$ 146.12
Expenses	\$ (127.10)	\$ 0.00	\$ (127.10)
Net	\$ (17.10)	\$ 36.12	\$ 19.02
New Balance	\$ 4,183.37	\$ 4,087.43	\$ 8,270.80

PART Treasury between 20-Apr '16 & 17-May '16 (As of 17-May '16)

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Repeater Fund</u>	<u>Checking Total</u>
Old Balance	\$ 4,183.37	\$ 4,087.43	\$ 8,270.80
Income	\$ 135.00	\$ 34.26	\$ 169.26
Expenses	\$ (273.10)	\$ 0.00	\$ (273.10)
Net	\$ (138.10)	\$ 34.26	\$ 392.68
New Balance	\$ 4,045.27	\$ 4,121.69	\$ 8,166.96

PART Treasury between 18-May '16 & 20-Jun '16 (As of 21-Jun '16)

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Repeater Fund</u>	<u>Checking Total</u>
Old Balance	\$ 4,045.27	\$ 4,121.69	\$ 8,166.96
Income	\$ 89.42	\$ 137.65	\$ 227.07
Expenses	\$ (55.96)	\$ 0.00	\$ (55.96)
Net	\$ 33.46	\$ 137.65	\$ 171.11
New Balance	\$ 4,078.73	\$ 4,259.34	\$ 8,338.07

PART 2016 Membership as of 12-July '16

Individuals			Households		
(= New for 2016			(= New for 2016		
+ Renew for 2016)			+ Renew for 2016)		
Full (\$25)*	45	(=6 + 39)	45	(= 6 + 39)	
Senior (\$15)*	43	(=3 + 40)	43	(= 3 + 40)	
Family (\$30)	17	(=1 + 16)	7	(= 0 + 7)	
Student (\$15)	0	(= 0 + 0)	0	(= 0 + 0)	
Associate (\$10)	0	(= 0 + 0)	0	(= 0 + 0)	
Grand Total*	105	(= 10 + 95)	95	(= 9 + 86)	

ARRL members:* 97 / 92.3%

(Including ARRL Life members:* (12)

NOTE: * Starred lines changed since 8-Apr '16

Latest new PART members:

Dan/K0HNL (Acton)
 Dan/N1BYT (Acton)
 George/TBD (Acton)

New Call Sign:

Glenn/W1RBO (ex-KC1BGR)
 Mike/W1MPP (ex-WM1K)
 Dick/K2KA (ex-AB1A)

Silent Key:

Bob/W1BAE (Concord, MA)

##To pay dues##
PART, P.O. Box 503, Westford, MA 01886-0015
Renew online by PayPal at: http://www.wb1gof.org/F_join/part_dues.html

-or-
Club Meeting, Cameron Senior Ctr., 7:00PM, 3rd Tuesday

PART's official mailing address is:

PO Box 503
Westford, MA 01886

Our website is: <http://wb1gof.org>
Our forum is: <http://wb1gof.net/forums/>
Contact us at: info@wb1gof.org
Follow us on Twitter: www.twitter.com/wb1gof
Like us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/wb1gof

PART Officers:

President: Andy (KB1OIQ) Stewart
Vice President: Rich (AB1HD) Crisafulli
Secretary: Rick (W1RAG) Green
Treasurer: Alan (W1AHM) Martin
Director-At-Large: Steve (WA1KBE) Rimsa

Upcoming PART Meetings/Events

July 19th 2016

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

Aug 6th 2016

- PART monthly breakfast. Westford Regency. 8-10 AM (\$15/\$9; kids: \$8 – see note below)

Aug 16th 2016

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

Sept 3rd 2016

- PART monthly breakfast. Westford Regency. 8-10 AM (\$15/\$9; kids: \$8 – see note below)

Sept 9th, 10th & 11th 2016

- Boxboro 2016/ARRL New England Convention – see www.boxboro.org for tickets and more info

Sept 20th 2016

- PART Meeting & Club Elections. 7:00 -9:00 p.m. LOCATION: Cameron Senior Center, 20 Pleasant St.

Oct 1st 2016

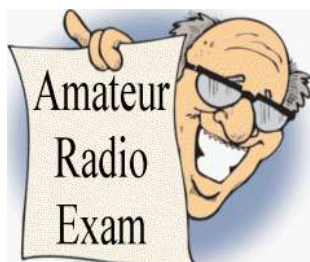
- PART monthly breakfast. Westford Regency. 8-10 AM (\$15/\$9; kids: \$8 – see note below)

Oct 18th 2016

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

Monthly PART Meetings and Social Events

- Every Sunday, 8 PM – PART Net on 146.955 repeater
- Every 3rd Tuesday, NEW TIME - 7:00 PM – PART Meetings at Cameron Senior Center
- Every 1st 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 2nd Thursday of every month. They are held in the church hall of Matthews Memorial 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@arrl.org) or Gary W1GFF at 978-453-1100 [Email Gary W1GFF](mailto:Gary.W1GFF@arrl.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>

2016

6 Aug Milo ME PARC 8AM@Kiwanis Free George WA1JMM 207 441 6112 W
13 Aug St Albans VT STARC @VFW \$5@8 Arn N1ARN 802 309 0666
20 Aug Windsor ME AARA @FG Bill K1NIT 207 512 0312 A
21 Aug Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 +
28 Aug Adams MA NoBARC @BoweFld 6:30sell 7:30buy Eric KA1SUN 413 743 9975
28 Aug Newtown CT CARA @TownHall John KC1CBL 203 417 0160 A

9,10,11 Sep Boxboro MA FEMARA NE Conv

Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235

www.boxboro.org

10 Sept Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Outdoor John 860 673 0518 +
11 Sept Ballston Spa NY SCRACES @FG Peter W2BEW 518 893 7484 A+
17 Sept Forestdale RI RIAFMRS @VFW \$5/Sp@8 Pete AA1PL 401 639 4484
18 Sep Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 +
24 Sep Brookline NH NEARC Antiqe @EvtCr \$10@7:30 \$5@8:30 Bruce 603 772 7516
24 Sept Forestdale RI RIAFMRS @VFW \$5/Sp@8 Roland N1JOY 617 839 9081 +
9 Oct Queens NY HoSARC @HoS Stephen WB2KDG 718 898 5599 A

14,15 Oct Deerfield NH NEARfest XX @FG

Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235

16 Oct Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 T+
16 Oct Meriden CT Nutmeg @Sheraton John N1GNV 203 440 4973 A
29 Oct Gales Ferry CT TCARC @FireCo Darryl WA1DD 860 443 7799 +
30 Oct Hicksville NY LIMARC @Levitt Hall Richard K2KNB 516 694 4937 A+
12 Nov Bourne MA FARA @UpperCC VoTech \$5@9 \$10/S@7 Ralph N1YHS 508 548 0422 +
3 Dec Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Indoor John 860 673 0518 +



Near-term local fleas

Flea at MIT - Sunday, 21-August '16

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

<<http://web.mit.edu/w1mx/www/swapfest/swapfest-2016.04.pdf>>) Parking Lot&Garage on Albany St. Cambridge, at Portland St.

NEAR-Fest XIX - Friday, 14-Oct '16 and Saturday, 15-Oct '16

Buyers \$10 for Fri+Sat <<http://www.near-fest.com>>

Deerfield Fairgrounds, 43 Stage Rd. (Rt. 43), Deerfield, NH <<http://goo.gl/maps/gdFDT>>



September 9, 10, & 11

The ARRL New England Division Convention
at the Holiday Inn, Boxborough

PURCHASE TICKETS ONLINE AT WWW.BOXBORO.ORG
Also at participating retailers, or at the door

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.



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.

Amateur Radio News



From eHam.net News:

[Boy Scouts Get Ham Radio Badges:](#)

by [newspressnow.com](#) on July 17, 2016

Boy Scouts at Camp Geiger wrapped up their week of amateur radio study and got their radio badge.

[Radio Operators Prepare for Future Fire at Towers:](#)

by [scdailypress.com](#) on July 17, 2016

While fire crews continue to suppress the Black Fire, which originated from a lightning strike in the drainage beneath Black Peak, owners of communications sites on the peak began repairs from the fire and suppression techniques, while looking toward more preventative measures for the future. One of the communications sites on Black Peak is owned by the Gila Amateur Radio Society. While the blaze mainly burned away from the towers, society President Marc Levesque said the tower and antenna were damaged. The society also spent time Friday cleaning retardant used by crews to fight the fire off of solar panels at the site. "But we managed to get the repeater back on the air," Levesque said in an email to the Daily Press. The amateur radio tower is crucial to operations for Grant County Search and Rescue, which uses the repeater while in the field.

[New CQ World Wide DX Contest Director Restructures Contest Leadership:](#)

by [CQ Communications](#) on July 16, 2016

(Hicksville, NY - July 16, 2016) -- Newly-appointed CQ World Wide DX Contest Director Doug Zwiebel, KR2Q, has announced a restructuring of the contest committee's leadership as his first formal act. Zwiebel is changing the director's position to a "triumverate," with Scott Robbins, W4PA, joining the committee and Bob Naumann, W5OV, re-joining the committee as co-directors. The change has the full support of CQ management.

[90-Year-Old's Hobby is Ham Radios:](#)

by [andalusiastarnews.com](#) on July 16, 2016

At 92, Ralph Dunn has been a ham radio operator for nearly 60 years. Dunn said he got his license on Christmas Eve 1957. "I worked at Alatech as an electrician," he said. "It got to be involving a little electronics and I decided a ham radio would work right in my job." Since then, it's been his hobby. "It is a means of transferring voice from here to yonder all over the world," he said. "We can talk all over the world, if you're on the frequency they are on." The last weekend in June is when local ham radio operators have their annual field day, but it's not something the nonagenarian cares much for these days. "I used to participate," he said. "It's just not my thing anymore. It's great for younger people to get together and have refreshments." But he's still into his ham radios. "I still do it," he said. "I check in on the Alabama Net. That's a place for transferring intelligence one place to another." Dunn said ham operators are good during natural disasters. "You may not have communication, but a ham radio can communicate," he said. One of his favorite memories is helping with the Elba floods. "There was no communications," he said. "The telephones were out of order and we handled communication for the Red Cross out of Elba." They handled 2,000 pieces of "traffic" out of Elba, he said. He said he's talked to California many times and in the Canal Zone, and Europe. The love of it has kept him doing it all these years, he said.

[Ham Antenna Rises to the Occasion:](#)

by [hackaday.com](#) on July 16, 2016

There was a time when you could do what you wanted in your yard and hams could build giant antenna farms. These days, there are usually laws or deed restrictions that stop that from happening. Even if you can build an antenna, you might want to quickly put up something temporary in an emergency. [Eric's] solution? Suspend a wire from a weather balloon filled with helium from the local WalMart. The 8 foot balloon took two containers (18 cubic feet) of gas before it would rise sufficiently. Once you have a floating balloon, the rest of the concept is simple: connect a wire (100 feet of 26 gauge), use a tuner to match the load to the transmitter, and you have instant antenna.

Around the World In 24 Hours:

by barrietoday.com on July 10, 2016

The Barrie Amateur Radio Club has reached around the world, provided critical communication during local emergencies and even connected with space. "Chris Hadfield, the first time he went up and he wanted to use a Canadian call (number) . . . it was our club that got him that call," said Brant Smith, president of the Barrie club. "One of the guys in the club that's been a Ham for a long time phoned the DOC and tried to fast track the paperwork because it was for Chris Hadfield." Hadfield's uncle lives in Barrie and was a member of the amateur radio club. "His uncle was the first person to contact him the first time he went up to the International Space Station," Smith said. "That contact was from Barrie and a few other guys were also able to get ahold of him, but as soon as the American's heard that he was on there up goes the beams with the high power and boom, that was it." Ham radio operators in Barrie and over 1,600 stations across Canada and the US participated recently in a 24-hour Field Day, an opportunity to connect and test emergency preparedness.

Utah Amateur Radio Enthusiasts to Gather at Hamfest:

by kuer.org on July 9, 2016

Utah's amateur radio community is holding the 2016 Great Salt Lake Hamfest this weekend. A Hamfest has not been held in this area for several decades. Michael and Susan Smith live in a typical Sugarhouse home, but if you look up at the roof, you'll notice an array of antennas. Every Wednesday night they huddle around one of their many radios to check in to their local Amateur Radio Emergency Service for a kind of practice run known as a net. "This is Kilo Mike Seven Tango Mike Sierra, Mike in Salt Lake City checking in," says Michael Smith, otherwise known as KM72MS. He got into ham radio because of his interest in emergency preparedness. "Desire for safety in a neighborhood that's prepared in a variety of ways that often times can come," Smith says. "For instance, we live in a very high earthquake hazard area, and these things are serious issues."

How 1 Ham Radio Guy Helped a Special Kids Camp 180 Miles Way on Fire:

by stgeorgeutah.com on July 9, 2016

ST. GEORGE -- In the age of cell phones and internet, amateur radio operators -- also known as "ham operators" -- are commonly looked upon as an anachronism, a throwback to earlier times. However, sometimes the old technology can be more reliable than the new high-tech gadgets and smartphones. St. George ham operator Lynden Kendrick, who is a member of the Dixie Amateur Radio Club in St. George, the Community Emergency Response Team, the American Radio Relay League and Washington County Amateur Radio Emergency Services recently proved this point. On the evening of June 26, Kendrick was talking on his radio to a fellow ham in Malad City, Idaho, on a radio system known locally as the "Intermountain Intertie," a system of unmanned amateur radio repeaters linked up and down the state of Utah and into Nevada, Arizona, Montana, Wyoming and Idaho. Kendrick said the ham in Malad City went to get a pencil, and another voice came on the radio asking for assistance. Kendrick answered the voice, asking how he could help. The ham on the other end introduced himself as Mike in Pahrump, Nevada. Mike, who was later identified as Michael Hilbert of Moab, said the children's ranch where he works was surrounded by fire. The Lovell Canyon Ranch, also known as the Torino Ranch, is a summer camp ranch designed for at-risk and special needs children. Hilbert is the assistant to Brett Torino, the founder and owner of Torino Ranch. All children who had been camping at the ranch had been evacuated and there was only staff left at the ranch. Firefighters were controlling the blaze, but the power was out as were the telephones, internet and cell phone service. Hilbert asked Kendrick to call the local electric company and let them know. Kendrick immediately found the phone number for Valley Electric in Pahrump and got on the telephone with them. With a bit of back-and-forth between the radio and telephone, Kendrick was able to have the power company dispatch someone to the ranch to restore power.

How to Choose a Proper DX Radio:

by thebulletin.ca on July 9, 2016

Buying your first ham radio equipment is a crucial step for every beginner. Experienced hams certainly remember that moment as the happiest day in their lives. We are here to make buying as exciting and safe as possible. This article contains some useful tips and guides to purchase affordable and reliable DX radio equipment without facing any difficulties. We will introduce some of the best sources where you can buy cheap DX radio stations and all necessary components putting an ease on your wallet.

Ham Radio Tower Frustrates Maple Ridge Neighbors:

by cbc.ca on July 9, 2016

For 10 years, residents of a Maple Ridge neighbourhood have been fighting to have an amateur radio tower taken down, but a coalition of ham enthusiasts says they're providing a valuable service. The tower's next-door neighbours Al and Evelyn Shkuratomf say it's an intrusive and dangerous eyesore. They also claim there are no

engineering permits or papers to go along with the ham tower, and worry it could come down in a big windstorm or earthquake one day. "We have this structure overhanging us with really no place to fall except on us," said Evelyn. "It's going to happen at some point in time." To make matters worse, every time their neighbour starts broadcasting, they start getting strange sounds through their computer speakers from the radio interference, they say. They've asked him to take it down, but say he has refused. So for ten years, the Shkuratomfs have been writing to Industry Canada in Ottawa for help. Amateur Radio Coalition co-founder James Fowler calls situations like these "frustrating." "A lot of people just see it as an annoyance," he said. "That couldn't be further from the truth." Fowler, who has also battled with his neighbours in Edmonton about his own 15-metre radio tower, admits that amateur radio operators are often "your typical geekier types" who admittedly do use the service to simply chat with people from all over the world. But he says they also help with emergency situations when other forms of communications aren't available, like wildfires, earthquakes or even Maydays. "We're not here to piss off the public," Fowler said. "Don't hate us. We're just trying to help."

Going to Great 'Wavelengths' for the Community:

by wilsoncountynews.com on July 8, 2016

A group of men sit in a dark, muggy room at Baldy's Diner east of La Vernia. A thunderstorm has cut off the power, effectively bringing the restaurant to a halt, since the cooks are no longer able to prepare food. The outage hasn't affected the group, though. A situation like this barely raises an eyebrow among the members of the Wilson County Amateur Radio Club, whose devices continue to bounce strange noises around the room. "We've got a waterfall!" exclaims Louis Stanton, as blue wave patterns begin to flow down the screen of his laptop. These wave patterns are visualizations of the signals the operators are receiving through the rainstorm. The laptop is connected to a ham radio, which in turn is connected to an antenna outside, albeit under the patio roof because of the lightning. The whole system is being powered by a generator the size of a small briefcase. At first glance, this appears to be just a bunch of guys getting together to revel in their shared hobby. That would only scratch the surface, however, as they also are members of their local Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), federally certified volunteers trained in basic disaster response skills -- one of eight teams in a 50-mile radius and 2,600 teams nationwide. "The model boils down to neighbors helping neighbors," said Frank Dickey, Wilson County CERT coordinator and ham radio enthusiast. "We are trained to do the basic things to keep people alive until first responders arrive on the scene." CERT volunteers who are certified in ham radio operation have the additional responsibility of keeping channels of communication open when the power system fails.

Kids Crucial to Future of Amateur Radio:

by scnnews.com on July 8, 2016

Communication with the rest of the world has become so simple these days, we often take it for granted. Need to find out how to reach someone? We have a mini-computer in our pocket. Want to know what is happening on the other side of the state? Hop on the internet and you can find out. But what would you do if a disaster wiped out cell reception and made the internet inaccessible? That was just one of subjects the Stanwood Camano Amateur Radio Club (SCARC) covered Saturday, June 25, during its annual Amateur Radio Field Day at the Stanwood Camano Community Fairgrounds. Field Day is a national contest where amateur -- also known as ham -- operators try to make contact with as many other operators as possible. For this year's Field Day, SCARC decided to focus more on educating the public about amateur radio than on the competition, club president Fred Laun said. Community members were encouraged to arrive at the Stanwood Camano Community Fairgrounds around noon and participate in an educational drill demonstration led by the Camano Island Community Emergency Response Team. The drill showed participants how to contact first responders with the radios in case of emergency and how to evaluate and care for injured persons. Radios can be valuable in emergency situations because they can be up and running on generators or batteries within minutes of a power outage, SCARC Secretary Sue Ryan said. Ryan estimates that in the case of a natural disaster, the club could get its radios running within two to three hours of disaster striking. This would be pivotal in getting information off of Camano Island, if it were to become inaccessible due to a natural disaster.

Find Out More About the Beautiful World of Ham Radio Community:

by techworm.net on July 8, 2016

Some beginners may feel confused not knowing how to get started. Ham radio certainly need some special skills and knowledge. However, they are easily obtained. For example, there are many occasions when amateur radio operators under 10 had no difficulties in getting license and passing all necessary exams. The only thing you ill certainly need is a piece of engagement and interest in the topic in general. DX ham radio is not just about talking to each other. A huge part of being a ham include communication, sharing experience and helping other people who also want to become a part of this global community. For this reason, more and more special groups and memberships appear unite DX enthusiasts. The regularly gather together to share some of the latest ham radio

news, operating experience, knowledge and some other useful things you will take the advantage in future. These communities often arrange special classes for rookies who are preparing for their FCC examinations. You can join them online or visit your local gathering spot.

Radio Operator Visits Lake Mead as Part of Year-Long Quest:

by bouldercityreview.com on July 8, 2016

While Bob Murray was taking the long drive from Virginia Beach, Virginia, where he lives to Las Vegas to see a Garth Brooks concert he drove by Lake Mead National Recreation Area and saw an opportunity to participate in one of his favorite hobbies: ham radio. Ham radio, also known as amateur radio, is a hobby in which people around the world contact each other using only radio equipment. Ham radio requires no internet connection or cellphone and works by bouncing radio signals off the atmosphere. Murray is not your typical ham radio hobbyist. He is part of a group of radio operators who set up shop in national parks to make contact with each other across the country in a yearlong event called National Parks On The Air. When Murray drove by Lake Mead he knew he had to set up his ham radio and make contact with the 57 other national parks in America. "It was so simple to set up shop here," Murray said. "I just asked some of the rangers if I could set up my ham radio here and they were thrilled I asked." Lake Mead is the eighth national park Murray has activated this year for National Parks On The Air.

There Aren't Any Sunspots on the Sun Right Now:

by koin.com on July 8, 2016

PORTLAND, Ore. (KOIN) -- This week temps in the Portland metro area are a bit below normal. But that has nothing to do with the fact there are currently no sunspots on the sun. "Today we are free of sunspots on this side of the sun," PSU physics professor Jack Straton told KOIN 6 News, "but, of course, you can never know what's on the other side." The sun goes through solar cycles. Its surface changes between periods of increased and decreased sunspot production. "A sunspot is a place when the magnetic field pokes out of the sun and comes back in and so you'll always find them in pairs," Straton said. "(In an) 11-year period it goes up to really intense to a very few," Straton said.

Free eBook: Military Communications a Test for Technology:

by history.army.mil on July 7, 2016

Free eBook: Military Communications a Test for Technology: Very interesting: Especially the Hamlet Radio's that were built with a "self-destruct" button.

Maine Ham Connects with YMCA Campers:

by JASON PAFUNDI @ KENNEBEC JOURNAL on July 7, 2016

Amateur radio operator teaches campers in Winthrop about life before cellphones.

In Brief...

by The ARRL Letter on July 7, 2016

Balloting to Begin for AMSAT Board of Directors: The 2016 candidates for the AMSAT Board of Directors have been chosen, and ballots go out to members this month. The candidates are Tom Clark, K3IO; Clayton Coleman, W5PFG; Mark Hammond, N8MH; Bruce Paige, KK5DO, and Paul Stoetzer, N8HM. AMSAT members will elect three voting Board members -- the seats going to the three candidates receiving the most votes. Two alternates will also be chosen, based on the next highest number of votes received. Ballots will be mailed to the AMSAT-NA membership by July 15 and must be received at the AMSAT office by September 15. The current AMSAT-NA Board members are Barry Baines, WD4ASW; Tom Clark, K3IO; JoAnne Maenpaa, K9JKM; Lou McFadin, W5DID; Jerry Buxton, N0JY; Drew Glasbrenner, KO4MA, and Bob McGwier, N4HY -- Thanks to AMSAT News Service

Handiham Program's Sister Alverna O'Laughlin, Ex-WA0SGJ, (SK):

by The ARRL Letter on July 7, 2016

Handiham stalwart Sister Alverna O'Laughlin, ex-WA0SGJ, of Rochester, Minnesota, died on May 30. She was 84. Sister Alverna joined the then-fledgling organization in its earliest days, when founder Ned Carman, W0ZSW, came up with the idea of sharing Amateur Radio with people who have disabilities.



ARRL News

[Thailand to be Active on 6 Meters during CQ WW VHF](#)

Friday, July 15, 2016 - Thailand radio amateurs will be permitted to operate on 6 meters from 1701 UTC on July 16 until 1659 UTC on July 18, when the CQ World Wide VHF Contest takes place. Thailand's National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (NBTC) granted the permission, in response to a request from the Radio Amateur Society of Thailand. In 2014, the NBTC authorized Amateur Radio operation in principle...

[IARU Suspends Amateur Radio Association of Bahrain](#)

Thursday, July 14, 2016 - Authorities in Bahrain have notified the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) that the Amateur Radio Association of Bahrain (ARAB) is not authorized to represent Bahrain radio amateurs internationally. At the IARU Region 1 Executive Committee meeting held in May, Chariman Don Beattie, G3BJ, said he had told Bahrain authorities that initial recognition of ARAB as an IARU member society was b...

[Club to Mount One-Time Activation of Motor Island for US Islands Awards Program](#)

Thursday, July 14, 2016 - The Radio Association of Western New York (RAWNY) will undertake a one-time activation of Motor Island in the Niagara River on August 6 for the **US Islands Awards Program**, using the club's W2PE call sign.

[Sporadic E Provides Some Excitement on 2 Meters](#)

Thursday, July 14, 2016 - July 12 brought exciting times to VHF enthusiasts, when strong E skip propagation and a maximum usable frequency (MUF) approaching 200 MHz opened things up on 2 meters. Often a good indicator of favorable propagation above 6 meters is changing conditions on the FM broadcast band.

[FCC Finds a Fix for Amateur Radio Application Batch Processing Problem](#)

Thursday, July 14, 2016 - It's taken a couple of weeks, but the FCC has resolved a computer programming problem that had affected its ability to accept and process batch-filed Amateur Radio applications, resulting in a backlog for the Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) and others taking advantage of automated processing. The FCC information technology staff had been attempting to fix the glitch affecting the Universal...

[Amateur Radio Parity Act Receives Favorable House Energy and Commerce Committee Report](#)

Wednesday, July 13, 2016 - An **amended version** of the Amateur Radio Parity Act, **H.R. 1301**, received a unanimous favorable report on July 13 from members of the U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee. The bill now will go to the full House for consideration. Before reporting the bill out of committee, the panel first voted to accept the amended language "in the nature of a substitute." Rep Greg Walden, W7EQI (R-OR), who ...

[Sweden's SAQ Alexanderson Alternator Station Receives Nearly 300 Reports](#)

Wednesday, July 13, 2016 - Lars Kalland, SM6NM, at the SAQ Grimeton Heritage Site station in Sweden issued a preliminary report on July 12, noting that 297 listener reports were received, and most listeners

were able to copy at least part of the July 3 “Alexanderson Day” commemorative transmissions on 17.2 kHz. The vast majority of the reports were from Europe, but four listeners in the US were able to hear the SAQ signal...

[ARRL Board of Directors to Meet in Connecticut](#)

Wednesday, July 13, 2016 - The ARRL Board of Directors will meet July 15-16 in Windsor, Connecticut, for its second meeting of 2016. The session will mark the first Board meeting for ARRL's new CEO Tom Gallagher, NY2RF, who joined the Headquarters staff on February 29 and became CEO on April 18 upon the retirement of David Sumner, K1ZZ. Gallagher also serves as secretary to the Board.

[Ham Radio Outlet to Acquire Some AES Employees, Re-Open Milwaukee Location as HRO Branch](#)

Tuesday, July 12, 2016 - Ham Radio Outlet (**HRO**) has announced plans to hire an unspecified number of Amateur Electronic Supply (**AES**) employees, when AES shuts down its four locations in late July. In addition, the current AES Headquarters store in Milwaukee will become HRO's newest location later this summer, following renovation. On July 1, AES announced that it was going out of business and ending retail operations a...

[Amateur Radio Parity Act Draws Support in Opening Statements of Delayed Hearing](#)

Tuesday, July 12, 2016 - A Capitol Hill lockdown delayed the start of the Energy and Commerce Committee markup session on July 12. Police had ordered the lockdown while investigating a suspicious item found in an employee's backpack earlier in the day. Once the session did get under way about 40 minutes late, Committee Chairman Rep Fred Upton (R-MI) spoke briefly in support of H.R. 1301 and an “**Amendment** in the Nature ...

[FCC Amateur Radio Application Processing Problem Continues](#)

Tuesday, July 12, 2016 - A computer programming problem affecting the FCC's ability to accept and process automated, batch-filed Amateur Radio applications since late June still has not been fully resolved. The FCC information technology staff has been looking into the issue, which is affecting the Universal Licensing System (**ULS**) Electronic Batch Filing (EBF) system. When the issue first cropped up on June 28, it initiated...

[IARU Volunteers Recognized at Friedrichshafen](#)

July 10, 2016 - Two veteran International Amateur Radio Union Region 1 (**IARU-R1**) volunteers were honored at **Ham Radio** 2016 in Friedrichshafen, Germany, in late June.

Christian Verholt, OZ8CY, the former Chair of the Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC) Working Group and former EMC Advisor to the IARU International Secretariat, was presented with the IARU President's Diamond Award by IARU President Tim Ellam, VE...

[New ISS Crew Increment with Two Radio Amateurs Arrives on Station](#)

July 09, 2016 - NASA astronaut Kate Rubins, KG5FYJ, astronaut Takuya Onishi, KF5LKS, of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), and cosmonaut Anatoly Ivanishin of Roscosmos officially joined their Expedition 48 International Space Station (ISS) crew members on July 9 at 0626 UTC, when the hatches opened between their *Soyuz* MS-01 and the space station. There now are four radio amateurs onboard the ISS.

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

July 08, 2016

[Philippines Ham Emergency Radio Operations Network Bracing for Effects of Super Typhoon](#)

July 08, 2016 - According to information received from International Amateur Radio Union Region 3 (**IARU-R3**), the Philippine Amateur Radio Association's Ham Emergency Radio Operations (**HERO**) network activated on July 7 at 2145 UTC, as fears arose that super typhoon Nepartak could amplify the effects of the southwest monsoon. Heavy rains in some areas caused schools to preemptively cancel classes.

[Solar Car Challenge W1N Traveling Special Event Operation Set](#)

July 08, 2016 - Special event station W1N will travel from the Texas Motor Speedway to Minneapolis between July 15 and July 24 to highlight the 2016 **Solar Car Challenge®**. Several teams include students and adult advisors who are radio amateurs who wanted to operate a special event station during the Solar Car Challenge.

Activity will be limited on July 15-16 but will ramp up July 16-24, 0500 to 2359 UTC.

[The K7RA Solar Update](#)

July 08, 2016 - Tad Cook, K7RA, Seattle, reports: The recent zero-sunspot period of June 23 through July 4 ended with the appearance of a single **sunspot group** (2560) on Tuesday, July 5. Sunspot numbers were 23, 11, and 25, respectively, on July 5-7.

Compared to the previous week, the average daily sunspot number rose from zero to 4.9. Average daily solar flux declined from 75.6 to 73.1, while the average planet...

[Decades of Satellite Contacts Net Satellite WAS for Ohio Radio Amateur](#)

July 07, 2016 - It took Bob Liddy, K8BL, of Mentor, Ohio, nearly 4 decades to achieve Worked All States via satellite and earn WAS Satellite Award #341, although he wasn't really gunning for the award for all that time. His contacts spanned 38 years, and he submitted QSL cards to claim the award. His oldest satellite QSL card was from W7LSV in Oregon, for an Oscar 8 Mode A CW contact in 1978.

[Solar Power Systems Often Do Not Comply with EMC Standards, VERON Says](#)

July 07, 2016

[ISS Crew Increment with Two Radio Amateurs Launched and Now in Orbit](#)

July 07, 2016 - NASA astronaut Kate Rubins, KG5FYJ, astronaut Takuya Onishi, KF5LKS, of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), and cosmonaut Anatoly Ivanishin of Roscosmos **launched** early on July 7 from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan and now are in Earth orbit. Their eventual destination is the International Space Station (ISS).

An upgraded *Soyuz* MS-01 spacecraft on its maiden voyage carried Rubin...

[Amateur Electronic Supply Closing after 59 Years in Business](#)

July 07, 2016 - Amateur Electronic Supply (**AES**) will close its doors at the end of July after 59 years in business. No reason has been given for the decision to close the business. AES has been a premier player among Amateur Radio equipment retailers for decades, as well as a major presence at Dayton Hamvention® and other events. Various media outlets were informed of the closing in a brief e-mail message on J...

[Annual “Night of Nights” Event to Resurrect Historic Shore Stations](#)

July 07, 2016

[FCC Investigating Amateur Radio, Commercial Application Processing Glitch](#)

July 07, 2016

[Andorra Returns to 60 Meters, Gains New 4 Meter Band, More Power on 6 Meters](#)

July 06, 2016 - Radio amateurs in the tiny (less than 500 square miles) European principality of Andorra now have two new bands plus an increase in power on 6 meters. The changes followed requests from its IARU member society, **URA**.

Andorra returns to 60 meters under a new allocation of 5351.5-5366.5 kHz with a maximum power of 15 W EIRP, CW and USB, per consensus reached at World Radiocommunication Conference 2...

[ARRL 600 Meter Experiment Reports 202,400+ Hours of Operation, Zero Interference Complaints](#)

July 06 - The **ARRL 600 Meter Experiment** under the WD2XSH Part 5 Experimental license reports that *no* interference complaints have been received from other services operating in the 465-515 kHz band over the course of more than 202,400 hours of operation, nor was interference from other operations an issue for any of the experiment's participants. That statistic was contained in the Experiment's March 1 t...

[IARU HF World Championship July 9-10 is Mid-Year Contest Centerpiece](#)

July 06, 2016 - The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) **HF World Championship** over the July 9-10 weekend highlights the mid-2016 contest calendar for radio amateurs around the globe. W1AW/9 in Illinois and NU1AW/6 in California will represent the ARRL and the IARU Secretariat, respectively, as headquarters (HQ) stations. W1AW/9 will operate from the stations of Craig Thompson, K9CT, on CW, and from the st...



HamRadioNow: 5 Watt Field Day

In this video **Gary Pearce KN4AQ** shows us amateur radio low power QRP operation during Field Day. The Field of Beams was in Orange County, North Carolina for a couple days toward the end of June - yes, Field Day - set up by hams from the Durham FM Association and the Orange County Radio Amateurs

Left: Gary Pearce KN4AQ



Wireless Institute of Australia looks to the future

WIA News asks 'How do we cope with an ageing and so diminishing membership, do we disappear, like the corps of commissionaires, or can we reinvent ourselves in some way?'



More room to join XU7MDC International Team

The **XU7MDC International Team** is working very hard in these weeks to build, a very professional Dxpedition. They are testing many new items and tools overall to be able to reduce weight on the plane and maximize the results on their location at Sihanoukville Beach, Cambodia



SA radio amateurs launch new website

The **Kemptonpark Amateur Radio Technical Society**, ZS6KTS, has launched its new website



Cold war LY operators honoured

An article in the '**Eurasia Daily Monitor**' of the US think-tank 'The Jamestown Institutes' honours LY operators in the closing stages of the Cold War



YL activities

YLS from France and Germany (called Friendship 2016) have been active from Germany with the callsign DM88YLF since July 1st, and until July 31st



Dutch radio antenna to depart for the moon on Chinese mission

Researchers at Radboud University, ASTRON and the Delft company Innovative Solutions in Space (ISIS) are to develop a new instrument that will be onboard the Chinese Chang'e4 satellite that will be placed in an orbit behind the moon in 2018



Australia CubeSat testing begins

Satellites are being tested at the Australian National University Mount Stromlo space facility in Canberra ahead of a mass satellite launch from the International Space Station later this year



IOTA news from OPDX

Weekly IOTA News - compiled by Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW, editor of the Ohio/Penn DX Bulletin

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 1st 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 \$15 (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

The adult full breakfast is \$11.95 + 18% + 6.25% = \$15.00 (rounded up slightly). This price has recently changed. Here is the math for completeness and full disclosure.

Continental breakfast: \$9.00 (same price)

Full breakfast: \$15.00 (new price)

Kid's breakfast: \$9.00(new price effective March 2015)



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Robert Schmeichel
2011



Copyright WB1GOF,
Robert Schmeichel
2013

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.

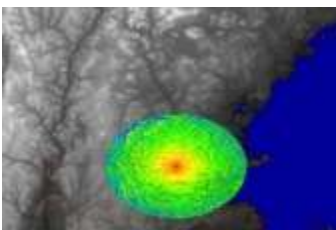
EmComm events and repeater use

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.



Repeater 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 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 loose 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:
PART, PO Box 503, Westford, MA 01886

Our website is: <http://wb1gof.org>
Our forum is: <http://wb1gof.net/forums/>
Contact us at: info@wb1gof.org
Follow us on Twitter: www.twitter.com/wb1gof
Like us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/wb1gof



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