



PARTicles

The newsletter of PART of Westford, MA – WB1GOF

May 2014

President's Column

- *Andy Stewart (KB1OIQ)*

There is a lot going on with the club these days, as this is our busiest time of the year. We had several people step up to operate the K1P special event station over the Patriots' Day weekend. We made about 365 SSB contacts, and so far, I've sent out about 35 QSL cards. After many years, our pile of K1P QSL cards had dwindled down to about 25 remaining cards. Virtually all contacts were made on 20m due to the operating conditions and propagation. A couple of people noticed with some humorous irony that one of our operators (Colin W1DJR, formerly G8DJR) possesses an accent from across the pond. Many thanks to those who operated. I hope you all had fun!

I went to Near-Fest on Friday with Steve (WA1KBE). The weather was perfect and there were bargains to be had! Steve saw it first, and pointed it out to me. It was a 1960s Vibroplex Champion bug that was in excellent condition. I bought it and put it on the air during a recent SKCC weekend sprint and made 23 contacts. Nobody noticed that I was using a bug. Between us, we found several additional bargains, and had to check to be sure that one of us had a \$1 bill to pay the toll on the way home(!). We also saw several club members at the flea market, and everybody had a good time.

Bob (W1IS) recently presided over a meeting of the Field Day department heads. There was a great deal of energy and excitement as plans were made for this popular event. We toured the site at the Concord Rod & Gun Club and decided to move the SSB station into a tent at the edge of a clearing within a short walk of the main building. This was done to a) reduce interference between stations on the same band, and b) to bring back some of the outdoor, emergency, "roughing it" aspect of Field Day. I am taking ownership of the SSB station, so if you'd like to operate it or help in any way, please contact me directly. Bob will have much more to say about Field Day at our club meeting.

I'm pleased to see many club members participating in local public service events. There have been ample opportunities to do so. It requires a desire to serve, a 2m HT, proper clothing for the day, and probably a fair amount of walking. If you've ever checked into the Sunday night net, you already have some of the on-air skills needed to participate, but if not, we're eager to teach you. Please keep your eyes open for future opportunities to help the community with our radio skills.

Last week, I gave a talk about "Linux in Your Hamshack" to the members of the Montachusett Amateur Radio Association (W1GZ repeater), who meet at the Lunenburg Public Library. There were just over 20 people in attendance, which I'm told is a huge crowd for that club. For me, this was another opportunity to extoll the virtues of Linux and related ham radio software, but also served as a practice exercise for my upcoming talk in Hartford in July (Friday 3 PM). It was great to meet the club members and engage them in lively discussion. Local clubs are always looking for talented and engaging speakers for their meetings. If you are so inclined, talk to Bo (WA1QYM), the eastern Massachusetts ARRL Club Coordinator.

I'm curious to hear stories from anybody who went to Dayton this year. If you are so inclined, please write an article for PARTicles and send it to Terry (KA8SCP).

Right after Field Day, don't forget that K2H (13 Colonies Special Event) and WRTC2014 will happen quickly, followed by the ARRL Centennial Convention in Hartford.

Our next club meeting will be on Tuesday, May 20th, at 7:30 PM. There is no guest speaker for this meeting. There will be quite a few reports about recent and future events in the club for the first half of the meeting, and the second half of the meeting will be consumed by Field Day planning.

Have a lot of fun!

73 de Andy KB1OIQ

Next PART meeting: Tuesday May 20th

@1930 – Westford Police station

Treasurer's Report

PART Treasury between 18-March '14 & 14-April '14 (As of 15-April '14)

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Repeater Fund</u>	<u>Checking Total</u>
Old Balance	\$3,756.81	\$2,376.12	\$6,132.93
Income	\$ 293.00	\$ 6.00	\$ 200.00
Expenses	\$ (316.81)	\$ 0.00	\$ (316.81)
Net	\$ 23.81	\$ 6.00	\$ 17.81
New Balance	\$3,733.00	\$2,382.12	\$6,115.12

PART 2014 Membership as of 11-May '14

	Individuals		Households	
	(= New for 2014 + Renew for 2014)		(= New for 2014 + Renew for 2014)	
Full (\$25)*	33	(= 6 + 27)	33	(= 6 + 27)
Senior (\$15)*	33	(= 0 + 33)	33	(= 0 + 33)
Family (\$30)*	21	(= 2 + 19)	10	(= 1 + 9)
Student (\$15)	1	(= 0 + 1)	1	(= 1 + 0)
Associate (\$10)	0	(= 0 + 0)	0	(= 0 + 0)
Grand Total*	88	(= 9 + 79)	77	(= 8 + 69)
ARRL members:*	79			
ARRL Life members:	8			

NOTE: * Starred lines changed since 15-April '14

##To pay dues##

PART, P.O. Box 503, Westford, MA 01886-0015

-or-

Club Meeting, Westford P.D., 7:30PM, 3rd Tuesday

Latest new PART members:

Upcoming PART Meetings/Events

May 20th, 2014

- PART Meeting. 7:30 -9 p.m. Westford Police station

June 7th, 2014

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

June 17th, 2014

- PART Meeting. 7:30 -9 p.m. Westford Police station

June 28th & 29, 2014

- Field Day. 7:30 -9 p.m. Westford Police station

July 5th, 2014

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

July 15th, 2014

- PART Meeting. 7:30 -9 p.m. Westford Police station

Monthly PART Meetings and Social Events

- Every Sunday, 8 PM – PART Net on 146.955 repeater
- Every 3rd Tuesday, 7:30 PM – PART Meetings at Westford Police station
- Every 1st Saturday, 8 AM, Regency Inn Westford – PART Monthly Breakfast
- Every Wednesday, 6 AM, Owl Diner Lowell – Breakfast

Ham Fleas/Events

New England Area Ham/Electronic Fleas:

<http://web.mit.edu/wlgs1/Public/ne-fleas>

2014

31 May Goshen CT SBARC @FG Rt63 Marc K1CTT 860 672 2659 A+
31 May Halifax NS HARC @StAndrews Jeremy VE1JHF +
1 June Bethpage NY LIMARC @Briarcliffe Dave AK1NS 516 312 8745 A+
7 June Hermon ME PSARA @8 @HS TG@6:30 Jerry K1GUP 207 848 3400 W+
7 June Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Outdoor John 860 673 0518
8 June Queens NY HoSARC Stephen WB2KDG 718 898 5599 A+
8 June Fishkill NY MtBARC @CorectionalQWL Adam KC2DAA 845 452 5196 A+
15 June Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 F+
21 June Newington CT NARL @StMarySch Quentin KB1EWM 860 383 8203 A+
18,19 July Hartford CT ARRL Nat Conv 100th Anv. W+
20 July Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 F+
9 Aug Milo ME PARC @AmLegion George WA1JMM 207 441 6112 A+
17 August Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 F+
24 Aug Adams MA NoBARC @BoweFld \$5@9 \$10S@8 Eric KA1SUN 413 743 9975 F+
6 Sept Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Outdoor John 860 673 0518
6 Sept Gander NF @MasonicLodge Ira VO1IRA R+
7 Sept Ballston Spa NY SCRACES @FG \$10@7 Darlene N2XQG 518 587 2385 W+
14 Sept Newtown CT CARA @TownHall\$5@8:30 \$10/TG \$15/T Ron AB1RJ 203 938 7007 +
20 Sept Forestdale RI RIAFMRS @VFW \$5/Sp@8 Pete AA1PL 401 639 4484 T+
20 Sept Riverview NB MAARC @Lions \$5@10 S@8 Charles VE9CEL R+
21 Sept Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 F+
27 Sept Brookline NH NEARC Antique \$5@8:30 \$10@7:30 Bruce 603 772 7516 F+
5 Oct Queens NY HoSARC Stephen WB2KDG 718 898 5599 W+
10,11 Oct Deerfield NH NEARfest XVI @FG Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235 +
12 Oct Meriden CT Nutmeg @Sheraton was Wallingford John N1GNV 203 440 4973
18,19 Oct Wakefield MA Photographica @AmericalCtr ~photo~ John 781 592 2553 +
18 Oct Longueuil PQ CRA-RS \$10/T@7 \$7@9 Martin VE2DNF 405 466 2810 R+
19 Oct Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 F
25 Oct Gales Ferry CT TCARC Auction @FireCo @10 Darryl WA1DD 860 443 7799 T
26 Oct Hicksville NY LIMARC @Levittown Hall Richie K2KNB 516 694 4937 A
8 Nov Bourne MA FARA @UpperCC VoTech \$5@9 \$10/S@7 Ralph N1YHS 508 548 0422
29 Nov Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Indoor John 860 673 0518



Area Events

USA ARDF Championships in Boston June 5 - 8

Joe Moell KØOV USA ARDF Coordinator



USA's national ARDF championships will return to the northeast this year. Radio-orientees of all skill levels will gather in Boston, Massachusetts for four days of intense competition on the first weekend of June. The events will be open to any fan of on-foot hidden transmitter hunting, with or without a ham license.

Visiting competitors from outside USA are welcome.

Classic five-transmitter competitions will take place on June 7-8, two meters on Saturday and 80 meters on Sunday. Prior to that will be the optional competitions in sprints and foxoring on June 5-6.

Organizing and hosting these championships will be Vadim Afonkin KB1RLI, one of USA's most accomplished radio-orientees. He will be assisted by members of Cambridge Sports Union. Winners of the 2014 USA championships will be under consideration for membership in ARDF Team USA, which will travel to the mountains of Kazakhstan for the 17th ARDF World Championships in September.

Registration is now open, with a deadline of May 1. Go to the Boston ARDF Web site (www.bostonardf.org) to register online and get more information. For the latest updates, subscribe to a special group mailing list for participants and others interested in these championships by sending a blank e-mail to usa2014ardf-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. Information about the sport of ARDF and ARDF Team USA is at www.homingin.com.



[You can be part of the "Ham Radio Olympics"](#)

Doug Grant, K1DG writes:

The World Radiosport Team Championship (WRTC) will be held in Massachusetts July 12-13, 2014. Like the Olympics or the Boston Marathon, this event draws the "best of the best" from around the world. Fifty-nine two-operator teams will be set up with Field-Day-style stations on 16 properties around the Route 495 corridor, from Pepperell in the north to Plymouth and Taunton in the south.

The international teams will compete to see which team can make the most contacts with the most countries and take home the gold medal. This Olympic-style world championship will be widely covered in the local, regional, and national media and provide excellent publicity for amateur radio.

The WRTC2014 organizers need volunteers to help with this once-in-a-lifetime event. The biggest need at the moment is for people to help set up and keep an eye on the stations and provide local transportation for the teams between the headquarters hotel in Westborough and the sites.

Several clubs in the area have "adopted" one or more sites. Perhaps your club would be interested in doing this as a club project. We'd be happy to send someone to your next club meeting to provide more details.

Please visit www.wrtc2014.org/volunteer to sign up and tell us how you would like to help make this exciting event a success.

Learn more about WRTC2014 at <http://www.wrtc2014.org>.

73, Doug Grant, K1DG

D-Star

D-STAR Tidbits

- Terry Stader KA8SCP

Local D-Star goings on:

- Icom's newest D-Star offering hit the US ham community in the week just before Dayton. This latest radio is the ID-5100A (US version)
- So far the reviews have been great.
- In my situation, I was able to mount it in exactly the same manner as the IC-2820 this radio is replacing. The display, which is "huge", does not "wash out" like the 2820 did in the heat and sun.
- It is capable of dual watch, which means it can actually monitor two D-Star memories side-by-side and automatically switch to the active memory location. It does NOT allow 2 simultaneous D-Star transmissions.
- Both D-Star and analog repeaters are loaded in to the DR memory positions. Because this radio has built-in GPS, you can ask the radio to find the nearest repeater, DV or analog or both. Obviously the analog repeater listing has to have lat/long stored. Repeater data comes from dstarinfo.com and repeaterbook.com and can be updated by the user.
- Cool feature... with the Bluetooth module installed, optional of course, you can actually link to the radio with an Android application and have complete remote control of the radio. The Bluetooth headset is a nice add-on too.



FUN, FOOD and FRIENDSHIP with HAM RADIO!

- *By Bob Glorioso W1IS*

Field Day is Saturday June 28th thru Sunday 29th at the same location we had last year, the Concord Rod and Gun Club on Strawberry Hill Road near the Concord Rt. 2 Rotary. Thanks to Joe, KB1SSA, and other members of PART and CRGC for obtaining this great site for us.

Field Day is the one event that encompasses more aspects of our hobby than anything else we do and requires the assistance and participation of many of our members. Last year we had 40 involved with Field Day and this year there are over 20 on the Planning and Operations Committee.

Field Day gives us a chance to test our logistics skills setting up antennas and stations in a short time, sheltering and feeding the team, and training new people. We operate many modes, CW, SSB, Digital, on HF and VHF, and communicate through Satellites. We exercise our operating skills copying and sending the FD exchange and handling formal traffic in a difficult environment that includes, background noise, QRM, QRN, and even thunder storms where we shut down and disconnect all the antennas. Those who have never operated in a contest environment can learn and get their feet wet by listening, logging and then operating.

Thanks to the spirit of PART, members have signed up to take on leadership of all the tasks we need for a successful and fun Field Day. Now it is time for you to sign up to be on the Set-Up and/or Tear Down Team and to operate, CW, SSB, and Digital or work the VHF station. There will be a sign-up sheet at the May and June meetings.

Although we did quite well last year operating QRP, we decided to go back to 100 Watts for 2014 to make it easier for new operators to make a contact. This requires that we use generators to qualify as a fully portable emergency operation free from the grid. We will use Elecraft K3 rigs on SSB and CW and all rigs will run 100 Watts. Another change this year will separate the SSB station from the main lodge by putting it in a shelter in the field southeast of the lodge keeping the antennas for the two stations further apart reducing mutual interference.

Because we are Class A, meaning we are on emergency power, our VHF and Satellite stations don't add to our simultaneous transmitter count, they're free! Once again, Alison, KB1GMX, and Bob, KB1SWZ, have agreed to honcho the VHF and Satellite stations respectively.

Tool box talks this year should be of interest to both old timers and new members who want to learn how to operate the Elecraft K3 and ICOM 7200 rigs we will be using in their different modes, CW, SSB and Digital.

As last year, we plan to take advantage of the FD Contest rules allowing us to start putting up antennas on Friday afternoon, June 27th at a time to be announced. Last year this allowed us to get all the antennas, rigs, generators operational have lunch and listen to Tool Box talks before we have to be on the air at 1400. To do this the antennas and stations must be at the ready by 1100. This requires an "all hands on deck" operation starting at 0830 hours on Saturday. Please plan to help us get set up on time.

The one area where we are uncertain this year is whether we will run two or three stations simultaneously. This decision depends on having enough operators to keep two or three stations on the air for most or all of the 24-hour period.



Those of you who attended past few years know what a great job, Charlie, W1ADL, and Rick, W1RAG, did with our meals, lunch and dinner Saturday and breakfast and lunch Sunday.

We will need more antennas this year because the SSB station will be separated from the CW and Digital stations by about 100 yards. So far the antenna list includes:

Two element full size 40 M wire beam

Two element full size 20 M wire beam

Three element Tri-Band Beam

Three element Tri-Band Wire Beam

2 – G5RVs

6 M and 2M Beams

PAR 40-20-10 end fed

In keeping with the Emergency operation that FD is all about, other than making simple FD exchange contacts, we will be sending and receiving formal traffic.

So sign up now to participate in the PART 2014 Field Day by coming to the next PART meeting or sending me an email at W1IS@arrl.net indicating if you will help set up and/or tear down, operate SSB, CW or Digital and preferred hours, or if you will just come for some other event like tool box talks, lunch and/or dinner or just to see what is going on and socialize. If you have never operated Field Day or a contest before and want to try, we will have folks to help you get started, just let me know. I look forward to seeing you all at 0830 on Saturday June 28th at the Concord Rod and Gun Club.

Member Contribution

PART Members Support Walk for Hunger

- *By Tim Miranda, KC1AJJ and Mark Richards, K1MGY*

From Tim Miranda, KC1AJJ

This is the first year I got to work the Walk For Hunger. I was stationed at checkpoint 1 on Beacon St., about 2.5 miles from the start at the Boston Common. I was paired with a Walk For Hunger coordinator who handled the bus needs, sending bus arrival/departure updates to net control and requests for additional buses as needed. Things went very smoothly, with a relatively low rate of walkers needing a bus at that early checkpoint; picked up near midday as the slower walkers and walkers with special needs reached our checkpoint and needed assistance. We were stationed across the street from the water and first aid station, with a good view of the mass of walkers coming down from the Kenmore Square area. I had the pleasure to meet some very nice walker teams. From a technical perspective, the location was a little difficult at times, with my HT suffering from line of sight problems with the repeater, making for variable signal strength. I was delighted to hear Mark K1MGY on the air reporting in issues as he roamed the course with his bike, and got to chat with him a bit when he reached our checkpoint. One of the things I'm glad I remembered to bring, as suggested by most ARES "go-kit" guides, was a whistle. Never had a need for it previously, but I ended up using it to help the coordinator stop a wheelchair bus leaving just as a disabled walker waved us down for a ride.

View from my checkpoint, early in the walk



K1MGY arrives at my check point



KC1AJJ/K1MGY “selfie”



From Mark Richards, K1MGY:

The Walk for Hunger attracts an equivalent number of participants as does the Boston Marathon. This year at least 30,000 were expected. Over a 20 mile course walkers encountered a variety of conditions, some of these difficult for handicapped and those unprepared for the length and strength needed to complete the walk. It was a partly-sunny day in the morning

which clouded in the afternoon. Combined with a strong West wind and light rain, those who dressed for a warm day were literally out in the cold.

In the past, Amateur Radio was used fully: to staff the medical tents, coordinate transportation and logistics, and for instant communications to assist in public safety and event operations. This year, hams were left to bus operations, with the addition of two walking and a bicycle unit (me) to cover a 20 mile course.

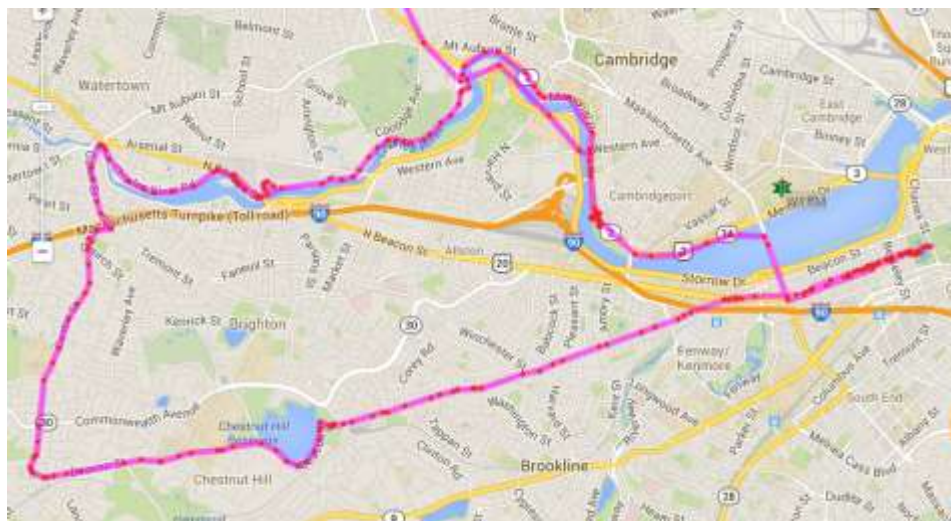
I put on a total of almost 45 miles with 8 ½ hours on the saddle. Being on the move, and able to position into areas where I expected the instant communications would be helpful, proved most fruitful. Just a few blocks from the finish a participant suffered a mild seizure. Medical attention and transport was declined by the walker and their family, but they expressed appreciation for an escort to Walk for Hunger staff who took over from there. Later, a walker was suffering cramps. I remained on scene until the issue had cleared. Later in the day several participants requested bandages and ointment for ankle pain, swollen knees, and several cases of blisters. None of these needed professional medical attention (in one case I suggested that an ankle be checked, but the participant declined). Instead, having on hand the water, bananas, bandages and ointments they failed to anticipate needing proved quite valuable. A few who were assisted credited the help with being able to complete the walk.

I met PART member Tim Miranda, KC1AJJ who was ably staffing one of the downtown checkpoints, and had the pleasure of calling the bus depot managed by PART member Tim Pandiscio, WO7JP, home for the start and finish of my shift. Two other PART members, Steve Telsey, N1BDA and Corey Hudson, KB1WIT were among the 34 hams providing communications. It was wonderful to see our membership lending their skills and energy to this event. From my vantage point, constantly tuned-in to the communications net, it seemed our combined efforts worked to great success.

Unfortunately, we had a down-side. The lack of direct communications with the medical tents was frustrating and in one case left a participant with two options: call 911 or keep walking. Being on scene gave a third option, and in the end an unnecessary high-level medical process was avoided. As a roving unit, likely to encounter medical needs on the course, instant access to the staffed medical areas is a comforting constant in many other public service events, large and small. Such a facility was sorely missed.

Next time I hope the Walk for Hunger organizers put more hams on bicycles, among the walkers, and at each of the medical tents. The value of this level of communications and direct assistance along the route is, in my experience, something that participants and other volunteers remember and appreciate.

For me, it was challenging to do the miles, and fun to meet so many people who were walking for a singularly noble purpose.



My bicycle is APRS equipped. Here's a map of my wanderings as recorded throughout the day

You Never Know Who You'll Meet

- By Alan L. Lewis K1ALL

As a regular net controller for the Intercon Net (Intercontinental Amateur Radio Traffic Net), I spend every Thursday morning from 0700-0800 listening for vessels that might need assistance and taking check-ins from other hams around the world. The purpose of the Intercon Net and its sister nets on 14.300 MHz, the Maritime Mobile Service Net (MMSN) and the Pacific Seafarers Net, is to ensure that someone is always listening for emergency traffic from anyone who might need help. The International Amateur Radio Union has declared 14.300 MHz as a Global Emergency Center of Activity and asks all amateurs to keep the frequency clear of routine traffic so that emergency calls can be heard. Being a net controller on the Intercon Net allows me to combine two of my passions – ham radio and sailing – and brings me in contact with a number of world cruisers, some of whom I get to know quite well. Among these is Jeanne Socrates (KC2IOV/MM), a 71 year old woman who recently completed a solo, non-stop circumnavigation aboard her 38 foot sailboat *Nereida*. Jeanne left British Columbia on 22 October 2012 and returned to the same harbor on 8 July 2013 having navigated the great capes.

The vast majority of a net controller's time is spent taking check-ins from other hams who regularly monitor the frequency ; many hams keep their HF radios tuned to 14.300 Mhz when not otherwise making contacts. Not surprisingly, we often talk with the same stations on a regular basis and come to regard them as distant friends who we will never actually meet. But every now and then, an opportunity arises to have a face-to-face meeting with a regular contact with whom we have been communicating for a long time. Hearing that Jeanne would be in New York to receive the Blue Water Medal from the Cruising Club of America, Rick Poole WA1RKT, a former Intercon and MMSN controller who still regularly participates on the nets, invited Jeanne to have dinner with several local hams who maintained a radio schedule with her during her world circling cruise. We all met in Londonderry, NH on April 15, 2014. As a former fulltime live-aboard, I was especially anxious to meet Jeanne and to hear from her firsthand about her incredible adventure. This circumnavigation was her third attempt to sail singlehandedly around the world; a previous attempt was successful, but could not be classed as "non-stop" because she required assistance at one point along the way following a knockdown in the Southern Ocean.



The photo shows Brad Roope W1QS (standing) and sitting L to R: Woody Beckford WW1WW, Alan Lewis K1ALL, Rick Poole WA1RT and Jeanne Socrates KC2IOV/MM.

Fortunately, Jeanne did not require physical assistance during her successful circumnavigation, but she expressed her gratitude for the many hours

of support, companionship, and message traffic that she received from the net controllers and relay stations on the 14.300 MHz nets. For those of us who work to maintain this vital communications and safety tool, it was a special treat for us to meet and dine with such an intrepid mariner. Jeanne's web site can be accessed at: www.svnereida.com.

Jeanne is now back in Mexico preparing her vessel for her next big adventure – most likely a “leisurely” sail to Australia.

Amateur Radio News



[ARRL Volunteer, DXer James H. “Jim” Abercrombie Jr, N4JA, SK](#)

An ARRL volunteer and DXer, Jim Abercrombie, N4JA, is dead at 76 as the result of a fall from his tower.



[ARISS International Partners Regroup at First In-Person Meeting since 2011](#)

The ARISS International team met in the Netherlands in April for its first in-person meeting in nearly 3 years.



[ISS Crew Members Back on Earth; Return Trips Uncertain for US Crews](#)

Three hams have returned to Earth from the ISS.



[World Telecommunications and Information Society Day is May 17](#)

Saturday, May 17, is World Telecommunications and Information Society Day.



[Petition to Expand RFID Use on 70 Centimeters Withdrawn](#)

A Petition for Rule Making that would have expanded RFID use on 70 centimeters has been withdrawn by its sponsor and dismissed by the FCC..



[IARU Member-Societies Ratify Officer Nominations](#)

Timothy Ellam, VE6SH/G4HUA, and Ole Garpestad, LA2RR, have been affirmed for new 5-year terms as IARU president and vice president respectively.



[US House Committee Expresses Support for MARS Program](#)

The MARS program has received support from the US House Armed Services Committee.



[WRTC-2014 Announces Awards Available to Stations Working WRTC Teams](#)

WRTC-2014 has announced the various awards available to stations working the WRTC teams this July.



- 15 May [Tony's 10 Metre Band Report](#)
[Getting ready for natural and man-made disasters](#)
[RAC Member Timothy S. Ellam, VE6SH – re-elected IARU President](#)
[IOTA news from the Deutscher Amateur Radio Club](#)
[Amateur Radio operators help marathon officials](#)
[Ham Radio operators train National Guardsmen](#)
[Radio amateur needs your help](#)
[LituanicaSAT-1 update May 14, 2014](#)
[2400 MHz HD Drone](#)
[Space Boffins: VR2Space and STRaND-1/2 CubeSats](#)
[RFinder - now the SOCIAL World Wide Repeater Directory!](#)
- 14 May [AmateurLogic.TV Episode 66 - Better Living Through Chemistry](#)
[W5KUB Streaming Video](#)
[New version of PZTLog](#)
[RTA in Durban](#)
[Malawi update](#)
[Telford ARS planning Isle Of Man trip](#)
[Macao operation](#)
- 13 May [New speaker announced for the AMSAT Dayton Forum](#)
[RFinder - The World Wide Repeater Directory one click connect with EchoLink!](#)
[Dayton Hamvention DX Hospitality Suite](#)
[Dayton Hamvention Card Checking](#)
[Wessex Contest Group on the Isle of Man](#)
[Essex RAYNET – Farleigh Hospice Walk For Life](#)
[40m Counties Contest](#)
[UKEICC](#)
- 12 May [TX Factor Dayton Preview Podcast](#)
[Where are the under 25's](#)
[434 MHz balloons have a role in STEM education](#)
[Mellish Reef QSL cards](#)
[From Holiday Inn to Outer Space](#)
[DXCC Country/Entity Report](#)
[Meet Joe Ham\(m\)](#)
[IOTA news from OPDX](#)
[DMR in Amateur Radio - Ofcom awfully impressed!](#)

History This Week

- Sun 11 May [Propagation Report from Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP](#)
[5 MHz Activity Weekend](#)
[Foundation Training with Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society](#)
[Icom America at Dayton Hamvention](#)
[FUNcube-1 AO-73 satellite signal test](#)
[How to reinstate a lapsed ham radio licence](#)
[Astronaut to co-host Hamvention live webstream](#)
- 10 May [Radio amateurs asked to help find geese](#)
[Younger radio hams disappearing](#)
[Past SCM, DXer, propagation forecaster Lee Wical, KH6BZF - SK](#)
[Radio hams track storms](#)
[Participation Awards for WRTC2014 announced](#)
[DX News from the ARRL](#)
[Rotary International Convention on air in June](#)
[Propagation de K7RA](#)
[IARU Region 3 directors at vital regional meeting](#)
[ZL to VK 1st CW QSO on new band](#)
- 9 May [New Ham Radio promotional videos](#)
[Ofcom Baldock shutdown illegal fishery transmissions](#)
[2014 Region 1 General Conference Papers](#)
[Radio 5 Live could send robins on the wrong flightpath](#)
[Delfi-n3Xt: 2405 MHz Downlink Test](#)
[Dave Raycroft's ICPO Bulletin](#)
[Winlog32 Forums back up](#)
[Mauritius update](#)
- 8 May [Future FUNcube missions – 2014 launch dates](#)
[Ofcom Wireless Telegraphy Register](#)
[Free Morse code course](#)
[Heard Island DXpedition update](#)
[Old QSL Collection update](#)
[IOTA news from the Deutscher Amateur Radio Club](#)
[Radio Club Cancun on-air for Rally Maya Mexico](#)
[Chelmsford Morse Classes](#)
[AMSAT at the Dayton Hamvention - Last call for volunteers](#)
- 7 May [New 472-479khz spectrum allocation for Amateur Radio in Canada](#)
[Ham radio becomes backup emergency communications option](#)
[Ham Video premiers on Space Station](#)
[Ham Radio girls turn the tables on newsman at W1AW/7](#)
[Smoke detectors prone to RF interference](#)
[Husband & wife hams in International Museum Weekends](#)
- 6 May [Tony's 10 Metre Band Report](#)
[World Radiosport Team Competition in the press](#)
[CQ-DATV 11 magazine now available](#)
[Asian Trek for Radio Ham's B-47 Party Balloon](#)
[Basics of Ham Radio Sound Card Interfaces](#)
[Fourth-Grader is Radio Active](#)
[EUDOTA 2014: Europe Day On The Air](#)
[EURAO Party - Spring 2014: CW still alive and kicking](#)

5 May [UK astronaut Tim Peake is now KG5BVI](#)
[GS6PYE/P Shiant Isles video](#)
[Revitalised VHF Squares Table on IRTS website](#)
[Eighth Annual AMSAT/TAPR Banquet reservations close May 13th](#)
[Two QB50 satellites with ham radio payloads delivered](#)
[Success for Ham Radio Club's Balloon Flight](#)
[Spring 2014 edition of The 5 MHz Newsletter now available](#)
[IOTA news from OPDX](#)
[DXCC Country/Entity Report](#)
[History This Week](#)

Sun 4 May [Propagation Report from Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP](#)
[New technique to manufacture super-capacitors cheaply](#)
[Sangster Shield Contest](#)
[KickSat Sprite deployment may not happen](#)
[Anvil Screamer: corona discharge pulses - spectrograph](#)
[Meteors from Halley's Comet](#)
[Radio hams support Indian elections](#)
[Airchat in The Register](#)

3 May [Wicklewood Windmill to go 'on air' to celebrate public opening](#)
[Radio ham launches Spud into Space for TV show](#)
[Last chance to register for free CubeSat Workshop](#)
[AMSAT-India VO-52 completes 9 years in orbit](#)
[Propagation de K7RA](#)
[DATV-Express Project - April Update](#)
[Amateur Radio World Castles Award](#)

2 May [ID-5100E D-STAR Mobile, available first week of May 2014!](#)
[Ham Nation 145: K7AGE's Magic Drawing Board](#)
[Isle of Lewis on Meteor Scatter and EME](#)
[Eight-year-old passes FCC ham radio exam](#)
[Dave Raycroft's ICPO Bulletin](#)
[DX News from the ARRL](#)

1 May [Tony's 10 Metre Band Report](#)
[K6LCS' frequency list for So California](#)
[DXpedition to the Island of Samos](#)
[Ofcom: Statement on Spectrum Sharing](#)
[Taking Amateur Radio to near the world's roof top](#)
[LituanicaSAT-1 FM transponder active May 1](#)
[Ofcom RF spectrum map](#)
[SOTABeams sponsors team of aspiring engineers](#)
[Shanes Castle Special Event Station](#)
[Radio Hams keep 'Queen Mary' wireless on the Air](#)
[IOTA news from the Deutscher Amateur Radio Club](#)



ARRL National Centennial
Convention 2014
Thursday, July 17, 2014 -
Saturday, July 19, 2014

Woman Creates Candles As Excuse To Attend Hamfests

- By WBØRUR, on the scene

WEST MOLINE, Nebraska – A Nebraska woman is offering a line of “ham radio scented” candles just in time for purchase at the [Dayton Hamvention](#).

Maudie Carlisle of rural Milford County has been producing top-selling scented votives for over 20 years, but this is her first foray into amateur radio themed products.

She sells her wares – produced in her Nebraska root cellar – at over 50 arts and crafts fairs each year under the “Carlisle’s Cornhusker Candles” brand.

“Usually, we sell floral scented candles...with names like ‘Lilac Valley Surprise’, ‘Night in a Damp Rose Garden’ and ‘I See a Bright Chrysanthemum; Let’s Pick It,’” says the gray haired grandmother, who adds that she became interested in candle making after taking a class at the local extension service office. “My husband’s been a ham radio operator for years, and he encouraged me to come up with “ham radio scented” candles so I can travel with him to hamfests,” she says.

Carlisle’s Cornhusker ham radio scented candles – stylishly designed to look good on any ham radio operating desk or fireplace mantel – will be offered in 5 intoxicating ham radio aromas:

“MY FINALS ARE ON FIRE MUSK”

“INSULATION BURNING OFF POWER LEADS”

“BITTER, BITTER COFFEE AND CIGARETTE SMOKE”

“SOMEONE NEEDS A SHOWER AND IT AIN’T ME”

“I SHOULD HAVE LOOKED FOR THE CAT BEFORE I FIRED UP THE AMPLIFIER”



Maudie says the Dayton Hamvention is her first big hamfest experience, although she has sold product at local hamfests; usually next to the lady selling doilies, the lady selling home-made jewelry and the guy selling bottles of grape juice with amazing healing properties.

Carlisle’s Candles come in both 6 inch (\$5.99) and 12 inch (\$12.99) versions.

Look for Maudie and smell her aromas at Pavilion C, Booth 149.

hamhijinks.com

Thanks Bill Principe – K1NS

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 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: \$8.00



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Robert Schmeichel
2011



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Robert Schmeichel
2013

Repeater Information

Repeater Interference

The 146.955 repeater continues to see interference to existing 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.

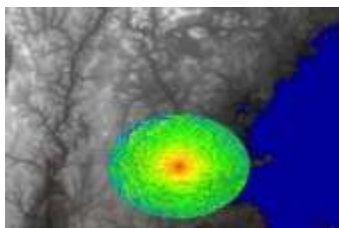
EmComm events and repeater use

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 either Hugh-N1QGE (Westford EmComm/Skywarn NCS) or Terry-KA8SCP (MEMA Region 1 Communications Officer and Skywarn NCS) . They will be more than happy to talk about these programs with you.



Repeater info is now 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 from [The Sign Man](http://thesignman.com/clubs/part.html) (<http://thesignman.com/clubs/part.html>) PLEASE NOTE: Please check with Hugh Maguire-N1QGE, hulin127@verizon.net, if you need a badge.



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
Hugh Maguire – N1QGE, for the 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. We expect to have a local Skywarn training class in 2010, more information as it becomes available. 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

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Our forum is: <http://wb1gof.net/forums/>

Contact us at: info@wb1gof.org

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