



PARTicles

The newsletter of PART of Westford, MA – WB1GOF

Celebrating 40 years of public service 1975-2015

May 2015

President's Column

- Andy Stewart (KB1OIQ)

I recently came into possession of two McElroy straight keys, one chrome, and the other bakelite. I purchased the chrome key at the FARA flea market recently, and the other was a generous gift from a local ham. I have had both keys on the air, but to me, something was missing. I commissioned a local woodworker to make me wooden bases for these keys, one out of bloodwood, and the other out of cherry. I just received them and I think they came out great. I will bring the keys to the next PART meeting for people to see.

I have noticed that more people are checking-in to the Sunday night net using battery power of various types. Some have battery powered HTs, others with solar charged batteries, and a few more are using car batteries while mobile. I think this net is a great opportunity to test the emergency capabilities of your ham station if you are so inclined. During a future net, I wonder if we can exceed 70% of our checkins with people using nothing but emergency power (batteries, mobile, portable, or generator). During a recent net, we had 43% (12/28) of the checkins identifying themselves as using some form of emergency power, so we're not too far away!

We have a lot of energy focussed on our Field Day activities, and it is great to see! Recently, we had a very successful meeting of the Field Day leads at the Concord Rod & Gun club. Our Field Day Chairman, George (K1IG), will have a lot more to say about Field Day at our upcoming PART meeting on Tuesday, May 19th, at 7:30 PM. We will also continue the discussion about measuring the accuracy of

your rig's frequency readout with Bob (W1IS) leading that discussion.

Shortly after Field Day, the 13 Colonies Special Event will take place near the Independence Day holiday, specifically June 30th - July 5th, 2015. I have volunteered once again to be the QSL manager for K2H, the station representing Massachusetts. For more information, please look here: <http://www.13colonies.info/>

I went to NearFest with Steve (WA1KBE) on Friday of that weekend, and the weather was great! We didn't buy huge items, nor did we spend large amounts of cash, but we had a great time looking over the bargains and chatting with our fellow hams. I mostly needed lots of small connectors and adapters, which I found in abundance. A generous club member found a bunch of automotive fuse holders which were given to me afterwards - thanks! They will definitely be put to good use. I needed several for the Broadband-Hamnet gear that I will be deploying at Field Day. Please bring your NearFest stories to the next PART meeting to share with the group.

The Westford Apple Blossom Parade was held on Saturday, May 16th with decent weather. PART had several people volunteer at this event, as we have done for the past several years. Many thanks to the volunteers! I noticed that I could see (and certainly hear!) the Saturday evening fireworks from my relatively new QTH. That's OK - I like fireworks! :-)

Have a lot of fun!

73 de Andy KB1OIQ

Next PART meeting: Tuesday May 19th

@1930 – Westford Police station

Treasurer's Report

PART Treasury between 17-March '15 & 20-April '15 (As of 21-April '15)

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Repeater Fund</u>	<u>Checking Total</u>
Old Balance	\$ 3,908.46	\$ 2,998.58	\$ 6,907.04
Income	\$ 245.00	\$ 189.51	\$ 434.51
Expenses	\$ (270.35)	\$ 0.00	\$ (270.35)
Net	\$ 25.35	\$ 189.51	\$ 164.16
New Balance	\$ 3,883.11	\$ 3,108.09	\$ 7,071.20

PART 2015 Membership as of 5-May '15

	<u>Individuals</u> (= New for 2015 + Renew for 2015)		<u>Households</u> (= New for 2015 + Renew for 2015)	
Full (\$25)*	33	(= 5 + 28)	33	(= 5 + 28)
Senior (\$15)*	36	(= 1 + 35)	36	(= 1 + 35)
Family (\$30)	19	(= 2 + 17)	9	(= 1 + 8)
Student (\$15)	0	(= 0 + 0)	0	(= 0 + 0)
Associate (\$10)	0	(= 0 + 0)	0	(= 0 + 0)
Grand Total*	88	(= 8 + 80)	78	(= 7 + 71)
ARRL members:*	72			
(Including ARRL Life members:*	8)			

Latest new PART members:

Wayne/Kb1WXR (Derry NH)
George/W1KAZ (Acton)
Lee/KB1ELE (Groton)
Olof/W1OCJ (Concord MA)

NOTE: * Starred lines changed since 3-April '15

##To pay dues##
PART, P.O. Box 503, Westford, MA 01886-0015

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

Your Call EXPIRED?

How to avoid losing your license...

The USA Callsign database contains about 750,000 listings and at any given moment, approximately 30,000 of these callsigns are expired! Over 1,000 old callsigns are returned to the unused pool each month! <http://www.qrz.com/expired/>



Upcoming PART Meetings/Events

May 19th 2015

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

June 6th 2015

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

June 16th 2015

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

June 27th & 28th 2015

- PART Field Day - Concord Rod and Gun Club, 74 Strawberry Hill Rd, Concord MA

July 4th 2015

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

July 21st 2015

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

August 1st 2015

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

August 18th 2015

- 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

Flea at MIT

Sunday, 21 June '15

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

<<http://web.mit.edu/wimx/www/swapfest/swapfest-2014.04.pdf>>)

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

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

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

Links to hamfest websites (partial)

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
Marlboro MA	AARC	http://www.qsl.net/n1em/2015FleaFlier.pdf
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>

2015

30 May Goshen CT SoBARC @FG \$5@8 Stan W2VID 518 398 7003 W+
31 May Fishkill NY MtBARC \$5@8 \$5@7 @QWL DnSTCorr Adam KC2DAA 845 849 3666 W+
31 May Sorel-Tracy PQ STARC \$8@7 \$15/T@6 Luc VE2DEW 450 743 8676 R+
31 May Queens NY HOSARC @HoS Stephen WB2KDG 718 898 5599 +
6 June Hermon ME PSARA @8 @HS TG@6:30 Jerry K1GUP 207 848 3400
6 June Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Outdoor John 860 673 0518 +
7 June Bethpage NY LIMARC @Briarcliffe Richie K2KNB 516 694 4937 A+
20 June Newington CT NARL @StMary \$5@8 \$15S@6 Quintin KB1EWM 860 383 8203 F+
21 June Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 F
19 July Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 F
8 Aug Milo ME PARC @Kiwanis George WA1JMM 207 441 6112 A+
16 Aug Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 F
21,23 Aug Boxboro MA FEMARA NE Conv Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235 A
30 Aug Adams MA NoBARC @BoweFld 6:30sell 7:30buy Eric KA1SUN 413 743 9975
5 Sept Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Outdoor John 860 673 0518 +
13 Sept Ballston Spa NY SCRACES @FG \$10@7 Darlene N2XQG 518 587 2385
13 Sept Newtown CT CARA @TownHall\$5@8:30 Ron AB1RJ 203 938 7007
19 Sept Forestdale RI RIAFMRS @VFW \$5/Sp@8 Pete AA1PL 401 639 4484
20 Sept Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 F
26 Sep Brookline,NH NEARC Antique \$5@8:30 \$10@7:30 Bruce 603 772 7516 W+
16,17 Oct Deerfield NH NEARfest XVIII @FG Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235 +
17,18 Oct Wakefield MA Photographica @AmericallCtr ~photo~ John 781 592 2553
18 Oct Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 F
18 Oct Meriden CT Nutmeg @Sheraton John N1GNV 203 440 4973 A+
18 Oct Queens NY HOSARC @HoS Stephen WB2KDG 718 898 5599 +
25 Oct Hicksville NY LIMARC @LevitHall \$6@9 \$20/T Richie K2KNB 516 694 4937 W+
14 Nov Bourne MA FARA @UpperCC VoTech \$5@9 \$10/S@7 Ralph N1YHS 508 548 0422 +
5 Dec Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Indoor John 860 673 0518 +

2016

6 Feb Springfield VT CVFMA.org @VFW @8-12 Steve N1QDT 802 885 8110 +
5 Mar Chicopee MA MtTomARA @MooseLodge @8:30 S@6:30 Mary KB1ME 413 222 1990 +
6 Mar Westford MA Radio @Regency Antique Bruce 603 772 7516 +
12 Mar Dayville CT ECARA @StJosephCh \$3@8A \$10/T Peter K1LNx 401 603 1485 +
25,26 Mar Lewiston ME AARC ME Conv @Ramada @8 Ivan N1OXA 207 784 0350 +
29,30 Apr Deerfield NH NEARfest XIX @FG Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235
14,15 Oct Deerfield NH NEARfest XX @FG Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235



**CAN YOU BELIEVE IT, PART IS
40 YEARS OLD THIS YEAR!**



Our Field Day preparations continue, and this should be a great event. We'll conduct our operations at the Concord Rod & Gun Club (R&GC), 74 Strawberry Hill Road in Concord during the last weekend in June — mark your calendars.

The schedule is:

Friday, June 26: Site prep and antenna construction will start at 4:00 PM and continue until dark. We'll need lots of volunteers.

Saturday, June 27: Station assembly will start at about 8:00 AM. In the morning we'll have time for tool talks and lunch. Operations begin at 2:00 PM and continue for 24 hours.

Sunday, June 28: Station disassembly starts at 2:00 PM.

Special events include:

- A Get-On-The-Air (GOTA) station for new hams, prospective hams, and those with limited HF experience. Bring your family and friends to try ham radio operations — no license is required, and we'll have Elmers there to assist.
- Fox hunting with several foxes on the R&GC grounds. We'll have experienced hunters to train and assist.
- Truly memorable cooking!
- Satellite operations — see if you can contact stations hundreds of miles away with only a handie-talkie, or maybe even talk to the International Space Station.

We have one major need right now: a station lead for the digital (PSK, RTTY, etc.) station. If you're interested, send me an email at K1IG@arrl.net and we can talk.

At the next PART meeting on Tuesday, May 19, I'll make a short presentation on Field Day preparations. Bring your comments, questions, and suggestions.

The History of the Car Radio

Seems like cars have always had radios, but they didn't. Here's the true story:

One evening, in 1929, two young men named William Lear and Elmer Wavering drove their girlfriends to a lookout point high above the Mississippi River town of Quincy, Illinois, to watch the sunset. It was a romantic night to be sure, but one of the women observed that it would be even nicer if they could listen to music in the car.

Lear and Wavering liked the idea. Both men had tinkered with radios (Lear had served as a radio operator in the U.S. Navy during World War I) and it wasn't long before they were taking apart a home radio and trying to get it to work in a car. But it wasn't as easy as it sounds:

Automobiles have ignition switches, generators, spark plugs, and other electrical equipment that generate noisy static interference, making it nearly impossible to listen to the radio when the engine was running.

One by one, Lear and Wavering identified and eliminated each source of electrical interference. When they finally got their radio to work, they took it to a radio convention in Chicago. There they met Paul Galvin, owner of Galvin Manufacturing Corporation. He made a product called a "battery eliminator" a device that allowed battery-powered radios to run on household AC current. But as more homes were wired for electricity, more radio manufacturers made AC-powered radios.

Galvin needed a new product to manufacture. When he met Lear and Wavering at the radio convention, he found it. He believed that mass-produced, affordable car radios had the potential to become a huge business.

Lear and Wavering set up shop in Galvin's factory, and when they perfected their first radio, they installed it in his Studebaker. Then Galvin went to a local banker to apply for a loan. Thinking it might sweeten the deal, he had his men install a radio in the banker's Packard. Good idea, but it didn't work - Half an hour after the installation, the banker's Packard caught on fire. (They didn't get the loan.)

Galvin didn't give up. He drove his Studebaker nearly 800 miles to Atlantic City to show off the radio at the 1930 Radio Manufacturers Association convention. Too broke to afford a booth, he parked the car outside the convention hall and cranked up the radio so that passing conventioners could hear it. That idea worked -- He got enough orders to put the radio into production.



This reproduction of Motorola's first car radio, 1930's model 5T71, included (left to right) a radio receiver, tuning control and speaker.

WHAT'S IN A NAME

That first production model was called the 5T71. Galvin decided he needed to come up with something a little catchier. In those days many companies in the phonograph and radio businesses used the suffix "ola" for their names - Radiola, Columbiola, and Victrola were three of the biggest. Galvin decided to do the same thing, and since his radio was intended for use in a motor vehicle, he decided to call it the Motorola.

But even with the name change, the radio still had problems:

When Motorola went on sale in 1930, it cost about \$110 uninstalled, at a time when you could buy a brand-new car for \$650, and the country was sliding into the Great Depression. (By that measure, a radio for a new car would cost about \$3,000 today.) In 1930, it took two men several days to put in a car radio. The dashboard had to be taken apart so that the receiver and a single speaker could be installed, and the ceiling had to be cut open to install the antenna. These early

radios ran on their own batteries, not on the car battery, so holes had to be cut into the floorboard to accommodate them. The installation manual had eight complete diagrams and 28 pages of instructions.

HIT THE ROAD

Selling complicated car radios that cost 20 percent of the price of a brand-new car wouldn't have been easy in the best of times, let alone during the Great Depression. Galvin lost money in 1930 and struggled for a couple of years after that. But things picked up in 1933 when Ford began offering Motorola's pre-installed at the factory. In 1934 they got another boost when Galvin struck a deal with B.F. Goodrich tire company to sell and install them in its chain of tire stores. By then the price of the radio, installation included, had dropped to \$55. The Motorola car radio was off and running. (The name of the company would be officially changed from Galvin Manufacturing to "Motorola" in 1947.)

In the meantime, Galvin continued to develop new uses for car radios. In 1936, the same year that it introduced push-button tuning, it also introduced the Motorola Police Cruiser, a standard car radio that was factory preset to a single frequency to pick up police broadcasts.

In 1940 he developed the first handheld two-way radio, the "Handie-Talkie" for the U. S. Army.

A lot of the communications technologies that we take for granted today were born in Motorola labs in the years that followed World War II.

In 1947 they came out with the first television to sell under \$200.

In 1956 the company introduced the world's first pager;

in 1969 it supplied the radio and television equipment that was used to televise Neil Armstrong's first steps on the Moon.

In 1973 it invented the world's first handheld cellular phone. Today Motorola is one of the largest cell phone manufacturers in the world.

And it all started with the car radio.

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO The two men who installed the first radio in Paul Galvin's car, Elmer Wavering and William Lear, ended up taking very different paths in life.

Wavering stayed with Motorola. In the 1950's he helped change the automobile experience again when he developed the first automotive alternator, replacing inefficient and unreliable generators. The invention lead to such luxuries as power windows, power seats, and, eventually, air-conditioning.

Lear also continued inventing. He holds more than 150 patents. Remember eight-track tape players? Lear invented that. But what he's really famous for are his contributions to the field of aviation. He invented radio direction finders for planes, aided in the invention of the autopilot, designed the first fully automatic aircraft landing system, and in 1963 introduced his most famous invention of all, the Lear Jet, the world's first mass-produced, affordable business jet. (Not bad for a guy who dropped out of school after the eighth grade.) Sometimes it is fun to find out how some of the many things that we take for granted actually came into being!

And it all started with a woman's suggestion!



A Motorola car radio installation diagram (circa 1930) showed batteries, spark plug suppressors and the antenna, in addition to the radio components.



The ARRL New England Convention at the Holiday Inn in Boxborough, Massachusetts

August 21 - 23, 2015

TICKETS NOW ON SALE! [Purchase Tickets](#)



**Friday Evening DXCC Dinner
with Keynote Speaker Jeff Jolie, NM1Y**



**Saturday Evening Banquet with
Keynote Speaker Gordon West,
WB6NOA**

Amateur Radio News



From eHam.net News:

[Newtown Resident On Development Team for Newest Boy Scout Merit Badge:](#)

by newtownbee.com on May 17, 2015

Emoticons, Braille, and Morse code are among the various forms of language featured in the Boy Scouts of America's newest merit badge, Signs, Signals, and Codes. Introduced in February by Boy Scouts of America (BSA), the badge is the 135th addition to the merit badge program. Whether Scouts are hiking a trail, signaling for help in an emergency, or texting their friends, some form of communication is involved. Newtown resident Catherine Summ, a Boy Scout Troop 270 committee member who has been involved with local troop for about a decade, recently shared some of her expertise in a specialized communications field to help create the latest merit badge introduced by the national organization. Ms Summer was selected in 2013 to be part of the ten-person Development Team for the new badge. The badge merges the use of technology, including text messages and emojis, with plenty of tradition. Scouts are also introduced, while earning this badge, to emergency signaling, Morse code, American Sign Language, Braille, trail signs, sports officiating hand signals, traffic signs, and what Ms Summ describes as "a lot of nonverbal communication."

[QSO Today Episode 41 -- John Langridge, KB5NJD:](#)

by Eric Guth (WA6IGR) on May 16, 2015

For John Langridge, KB5NJD, amateur radio is a way of life, like the martial arts. He demonstrates that our amateur radio license privileges give us the real world opportunities to explore the science of radio. He does this now in the 630 meter band with an experimental license. John takes us on his amateur radio journey and shares with Eric,

4Z1UG, the discoveries he has made along with way on this QSO Today. He urges us to get out of our comfort zone to really experience the thrill of our hobby.

ARNewsline Report 1965 -- May 15 2015:

by Bill Pasternak (WA6ITF) on May 16, 2015

The following is a QST. Amateur radio responds as another killer earthquake hits Nepal; Radio France International heard spluttering on 40 meters; Thailand's military to keep 50 to 54 MHz; Ham radio numbers fall and rise in Germany and a look back at the history of the Dayton Hamvention. All this and more on Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1965 coming your way right now.

Communication and Logistics: Using Radios at Cellcom Green Bay Marathon:

by wbay.com on May 16, 2015

Cellcom Green Bay Marathon coordinators work closely with hundreds of volunteers to host Green Bay's biggest annual marathon, but Sunday's logistics will come down to about 50 people carrying radios. A new station set-up this year assists ham radio and communication volunteers to make the race safer -- with the drink and medical stations separate from one another to create more frequent stops in case of an emergency. "Logistically, it's a hard race to cover! We have 26.2 miles heading one direction, 13.1 miles heading another direction," said medical coordinator Tom Krahn. "This year, we are using two-way talk radios through Baycom which provide city-wide course-wide coverage, so we can handle communications back and forth," he said. Radios are more reliable than cell phones at the marathon, because they rely heavily a signal that could be sparse in large crowds all using one tower. Therefore, when a runner needs a medical van or ambulance, Green bay's amateur radio volunteers and communication crews intervene, contacting Green Bay Metropolitan Fire Department for dispatch. The amateur radio club "Green Bay Mike and Key" is run by David Catalano, who has volunteered at the Cellcom Green Bay Marathon for three years -- also donating his time and experience to storm watching and other races, such as the Oshkosh Marathon last month. "We'll be behind the laptop, we'll see what's going on," he said about his post at the marathons. "We'll be able to observe them on our laptop screens because we have the tracking devices on them [the medical vans]. We can see where the nearest one is and be able to dispatch them to the nearest medical tent." "We're essentially almost replacing the 9-1-1 system, so all those emergencies come through those radios," said Krahn.

Hamvention Boosts Hara Arena:

by wdtm.com on May 16, 2015

TROTWOOD, Ohio (WDTN) -- The 64th annual Hamvention isn't just for amateur radio fans. The event has all sorts of electronics and more than 100 flea market vendors in the Hara Arena parking lot. Thousands are expected to walk through the doors this weekend into a the worlds largest amateur radio event. "Dayton is a mecca in communications throughout the world, you'll find computers, radio gear and all types of electronic gadgets" said Michael Kalter, Hamvention spokesperson. Hamvention organizers anticipate a \$15,000,000 economic impact this year on our region. "It means a great deal not only to Dayton, to Trotwood, to the region well beyond the borders, we have 25,000 people visit us from all over the world" said Karen Wampler, Hara Arena marketing director. The event is one that Hara Arena relies on. Hara's Director of Marketing Karen Wampler says it is tough for the complex to compete with venues like the Nutter Center, but they're keeping a positive attitude. "Hamvention is a spring staple for the Miami Valley what people don't know is its the largest amateur radio gathering in the world, its international in scope and I think people underestimate that" said Wampler.

Online Morse Code QSO App Idea:

by (N0AQX) on May 15, 2015

Disclaimer: This is an idea for an app -- it doesn't exist on any platform (yet) as far as I know. If there is an app like this available please let me know in the comments so I can download it and start using it.

CQ Announces 2015 Hall of Fame Inductees:

by CQ Communications on May 15, 2015

(Dayton, OH - May 15, 2015) -- CQ magazine today announced its 2015 Hall of Fame inductees, adding two members each to the CQ DX and Contest Halls of Fame, as well as nine new members of the CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame. The CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame honors those individuals, whether licensed hams or not, who have made significant contributions to amateur radio; and those amateurs who have made significant contributions either to amateur radio, to their professional careers or to some other aspect of life on our planet. The 2015 inductees (listed alphabetically) are:

Ham Radio Class Being Offered During Hamvention:

by daytondailynews.com on May 15, 2015

Dayton will once again be visited by thousands of Ham Radio enthusiasts from all over the world May 15 to 17 during Hamvention at Hara Arena. Anyone interested in joining the ranks of Ham Radio operators is invited to take a licensing class being offered from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 16 at Hara during Hamvention. The exam for the license will be given right at the conclusion of the class. Students must enroll ahead of time because there is required reading.

VOA Museum Recognizes Volunteer of the Year:

by radioworld.com on May 15, 2015

Voice of America Museum Director Jack Dominic has announced Barbara Jennings as the organization's volunteer of the year. "Besides being a constant, reliable volunteer, Barb is a joy to work with," said Dominic. "She is deeply interested in the history of greater Cincinnati and continually learning more about Cincinnati's role in preserving democracy during World War II and the Cold War. She is always smiling and genuinely interested in everyone she meets." Jennings worked for 35 years as a clinical microbiologist in labs in the Cincinnati area, collaborating with infection control nurses at hospitals. She also taught microbiology to medical technology and pharmacy students, as well as pathology and infectious disease residents.

Astrophysicists Prepare Weather Forecasts Beyond Our Solar System:

by phys.org on May 15, 2015

"Cloudy for the morning, turning to clear with scorching heat in the afternoon." While this might describe a typical late-summer day in many places on Earth, it may also apply to planets outside our solar system, according to a new study by an international team of astrophysicists from the University of Toronto, York University and Queen's University Belfast. Using sensitive observations from the Kepler space telescope, the researchers have uncovered evidence of daily weather cycles on six extra-solar planets seen to exhibit different phases. Such phase variations occur as different portions of these planets reflect light from their stars, similar to the way our own moon cycles through different phases.

Volunteers Search for Reassurance in Transition to DEM:

by edmondsbeacon.villagesoup.com on May 15, 2015

As Emergency Service Coordinating Agency (ESCA) continues to move toward dissolution, ESCA volunteers look to see what will become of their tight-knit and effective community. "We don't want to be separated or put to the side somewhere, and that's what we're afraid is going to happen," ESCA volunteer and Edmonds resident Bill Westlake said. He refers to the ESCA volunteer base as a family. While ESCA's Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) programs are known to be active, provide regular opportunities for skill development and have been awarded the Government Award of Excellence for outstanding service, the processes of volunteering and training at the Department of Emergency Management (DEM), which many cities are transitioning to, remain unclear. Police Chief Al Compaan and ESCA board representative for Edmonds said that ESCA is working with DEM to see what kind of volunteer base they can support. Currently, a roster with updated names, training experience and expertise is being created by ESCA in order to see how volunteers can be utilized through DEM. "Nobody is interested in losing volunteers," Compaan said. "Ideally, we'll maintain them all." Compaan explained that lengthy discussion with DEM has taken place surrounding the role of volunteers, but without the roster, the number of ESCA volunteers and the amount of training they have to offer were unclear, making the conversation best to postpone. The role of volunteers is a priority in the transition toward DEM, Compaan said, and he expects development and answers in the coming weeks. At ESCA, the volunteer base is fundamental to the function of the organization, which has four staff members and 75 to 80 volunteers, according to Vickie Fontaine, the emergency management program coordinator for ESCA. Volunteers are generally recruited from the CERT training courses within communities, which provide citizens with practical information to prepare themselves for disasters. After attending a course, community members often choose to get involved further, continuing to enhance their training, providing training for others in future sessions and assisting cities during times of disaster. Volunteers in the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (RACES) program through ESCA are often stationed at a city's Emergency Operations Center, testing radio operations regularly and offering communication services during emergencies.

DX News -- ARRL DX Bulletin #19:

by W1AW Bulletin via the ARRL on May 14, 2015

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by CS5CRE, CX3AL, N8PR, QRZ DX, the OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX News, The Daily DX, DXNL, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.

[Just Ahead In Radiosport:](#)

by The ARRL Letter on May 14, 2015

Just Ahead In Radiosport:

[Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015: 55 Cosponsors -- And Climbing:](#)

by The ARRL Letter on May 14, 2015

The Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015 -- also known as H.R.1301 -- has attracted 55 cosponsors as of May 14. The bill, introduced earlier this year in the US House by Rep Adam Kinzinger (R-IL), would direct the FCC to extend its rules relating to reasonable accommodation of Amateur Service communications to private land-use restrictions. This weekend's Dayton Hamvention will offer an opportunity for ARRL to meet with individual radio amateurs and encourage them to seek their House member's support.

ARRL News



05/17/2015 | [Dayton Hamvention 2015: Day 3 – Deep Discounts, a Few Showers, Winding Down](#)

Another Hamvention® is in the history books.

[Learn More](#)



05/16/2015 | [Dayton Hamvention 2015: Day 2 – Aisle-Jamming Attendance, ARRL Member Forum](#)

Large crowds are jamming the aisles in the Hara Arena complex for Day 2 of Dayton Hamvention® 2015.

[Learn More](#)



05/15/2015 | [Dayton Hamvention 2015: Day 1 – Big Crowd, Some Rain, Satellite News](#)

The word on the first day of Dayton Hamvention is that the venue is “extremely crowded for a Friday.

[Learn More](#)



05/15/2015 | [The K7RA Solar Update](#)

This week our quiet sun came alive, and the visible solar disc now is crowded with sunspots.

[Learn More](#)



05/15/2015 | [CQ Names 2015 Hall of Fame Inductees](#)

CQ magazine has announced its 2015 Hall of Fame inductees, adding two members apiece to the CQ DX and Contest Halls of Fame, as well as nine new members to the CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame.

[Learn More](#)



05/14/2015 | [ARRL Recognizing Amateur Radio Service to Scouting Award Winners with Certificate](#)

The League now awards its “Amateur Radio Service to Scouting Award” certificate to recognize active Scouting leaders who make significant contributions to providing Scouts with a memorable and valuable Amateur Radio experience.

[Learn More](#)



05/14/2015 | [WX4NHC at National Hurricane Center to Conduct Annual Station Test on May 30](#)

Amateur Radio station WX4NHC at the National Hurricane Center in Miami will conduct its annual station test on May 30, 1400 until 2200 UTC.

[Learn More](#)



05/14/2015 | [In Brief: A Four-Way Rainscatter Roundable on 10 GHz, a New Satellite with a FUNcube Transponder, and more!](#)

A look at some Amateur Radio news items from all over.

[Learn More](#)



Latest Amateur Radio News from around the world
URL: <http://www.southgatearc.org>

- Sun 17 May [Propagation Report from Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP](#)
- [SolderSmoke Podcast 176](#)
- [New NASA Deputy Administrator is a Radio Ham](#)
- [OZ7IGY - 5,7 GHz beacon now on Next Generation Beacons platform](#)
- [QSO Today EP 41 John Langridge - KB5NJD - 630 meters](#)
- [Nepal shakes while recovery continues](#)

- 16 May [Heard Island DXpedition](#)
- [Opera 2 meter Tropo North Med](#)

[Camb-Hams to operate from Isle of Mull](#)
[Propagation de K7RA](#)
[Fox-1 Sept launch and 5-10 GHz GEO Sat](#)
[Amateur Radio World Castles Award](#)
[RSGB AGM pictures released](#)

- 15 May [Dave Raycroft's ICPO Bulletin](#)
[DX News from the ARRL](#)
[Essex RAYNET Walk for Life 2015](#)
[GX6ZME/P weekend portable on 50MHz](#)
[Radio Skills Night this Monday](#)
[Iowa CubeSat students get ham radio licenses](#)
[CQ announces 2015 Hall of Fame inductees](#)
- 14 May [Tony's 10 Metre Band Report](#)
[First all CW 73 on 73 Award](#)
[Sarah Brightman – Space Flight Postponed](#)
[Nepal Earthquake](#)
[Nepal earthquake disaster recovery continues](#)
[Powerpole Crimping Tool](#)
[Three months to the Lighthouse Weekend](#)
[ANZAC commemoration in VK and ZL continues](#)
[TMØ8CRD – Fort de La Ferté](#)
[AO150ITU: 150th anniversary of ITU](#)
- 13 May [IOTA news from the Deutscher Amateur Radio Club](#)
[RAC Planning Meeting](#)
[Report of the CPM to WRC-15](#)
[A radio with no analog parts ?](#)
[Contribution of Colin Wilson CT7ACG in Nepal Emergency Net](#)
[Live web stream from the Dayton Hamvention](#)
[New Sussex Electronics and Radio Fair on track for a successful day](#)
- 12 May [IRTS Counties Contest](#)
[New Nepal Earthquake May 12](#)
[Hamvention 2015: Lots of big prizes this year](#)
[Bouvet Island 2016 DXpedition](#)
[New Secretary of State for DCMS](#)
[Successful contacts for Samantha Cristoforetti IZØUDF](#)
[Ham Radio Foundation Training Slides update](#)
- 11 May [IOTA News from OPDX](#)
[DXCC Country/Entity Report](#)
[Da Nang City DXpedition](#)
[RFinder - Now works with Facebook!](#)
[UK students launch CubeSat](#)
[Hobby in ham radio turns into a lifetime skill](#)
[IARUMS newsletter now available](#)
[RSGB Train The Trainers in Norwich](#)
[Press coverage for WW2 radio display](#)
['The Pirate Days of Radio Caroline' - presentation](#)

[West Tyrone Amateur Radio Club](#)
[History This Week](#)

- Sun 10 May [Propagation Report from Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP](#)
[A day they will long remember](#)
[Transatlantic beacon reception on 144 MHz](#)
[Free Reduced Bandwidth TV Magazine](#)
[Amateur Radio Roundtable - Nepal](#)
[April RSGB Board Proceedings](#)
[Nepal Earthquake - Update May 9](#)
[AMSAT at Dayton Hamvention 2015](#)
- 9 May [2015 NZART AGM & Conference](#)
[Hams demonstrate Digital Amateur Radio](#)
[Propagation de K7RA](#)
[UK ham radio licence statistics](#)
[REP Ham Fair in Lisbon, Portugal](#)
[GB6GEO](#)
[A recap of the 2015 Winter SWL Fest](#)
- 8 May [Operating Portable with the Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society](#)
[VE70DAY for VE Day](#)
[ARPOC & EURAO Spring QSO Party](#)
[EUDOTA 2015: Europe Day On The Air](#)
[Reduced Bandwidth TV](#)
[DX News from the ARRL](#)
[Dave Raycroft's ICPO Bulletin](#)
- 7 May [Nepal Earthquake - update](#)
[34th Lough Erne Rally, Sun. 10 May](#)
[GB6COD HMS Collingwood Open Day special event station](#)
[Foundation Course Registration](#)
[Tony's 10 Metre Band Report](#)
[Extreme DX satellite contact between UK and Texas](#)
[SQ70VD Scout Victory Day Station](#)
- 6 May [Double ARISS contact for schools in Italy](#)
[TX Factor Episode 8](#)
[How to build a 10 meter dipole](#)
[Radio and the Smartphone revolution](#)
[Former WWI listening post that played a crucial role in Battle of Jutland goes on the market](#)
[IRTS Contest Rules](#)
[Icom America to provide webcast of Youth Forum event at Dayton Hamvention](#)
[A licence for 144 and Above](#)
[X2-class solar flare causes radio blackout](#)
[New SA 2m beacon](#)
[Marshall Islands DXpedition](#)
- 5 May [Disaster Communication Group calls for release of radio gear](#)
[GX0MWT on-air for RMS Lusitania centenary](#)
[QSO Today EP40 Joe Moells K0OV](#)

[Youngest radio ham in Gujarat state](#)
[Ham radios help distress families reunite](#)
[Is ham radio still a gateway to electrical engineering ?](#)
[Taking a close look at shortwave broadcasting in the 2015 'A' season](#)

4 May [IOTA News from OPDX](#)
[DXCC Country/Entity Report](#)
[March RSGB Board Proceedings](#)
[Caister radio hams celebrate Marconi](#)
[Nepal Earthquake - Update May 3](#)
[Ham Video transmitter now transmitting](#)
[Sri Lankan 6m beacon back on air](#)
[NZ to phase-out 25 kHz Land Mobile Radio \(LMR\) channels](#)
[SARC Communicator](#)
[History This Week](#)

Sun 3 May [Nepal report #7](#)
[Nepal Earthquake - Update May 2](#)
[UKHAS Conference 2015 - Saturday August 22](#)
[New Section Manager appointed in North Texas](#)
[SERF - Eastbourne Rally Special Event Station GB6SRF](#)
[Surfing the airwaves of the original social network](#)
[J43VHF AEOLUS-2way](#)
[RadCom Plus launched](#)
[Herman Smit ZS6EMI - SK](#)
[Propagation Report from Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP](#)
[International Marconi Day on ICQ Podcast](#)

2 May [CQ-DATV 23 free download](#)
[Nepal: Role of Mumbai Radio Hams](#)
[Ham Radio: The unseen eyes and ears of emergency services](#)
[Nepal Earthquake - Update May 1](#)
[Propagation de K7RA](#)
[Visiting VK meets TRAC](#)
[Chelmsford Talk: Operating Portable](#)
[Another FUNcube transponder!](#)

1 May [Amateur Radio Resources and Downloads](#)
[Political Relations Committee – Vice Chair](#)
[TV interview of Radio Ham in Nepal](#)
[Official ML&S New Store Launch Party](#)
[70 MHz access for German Radio Hams](#)
[Dave Raycroft's ICPO Bulletin](#)
[DX News from the ARRL](#)
[Double ARISS contact for schools in South Africa and Italy](#)
[Nepal Earthquake: Frequency now 14300 kHz](#)

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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2011



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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.

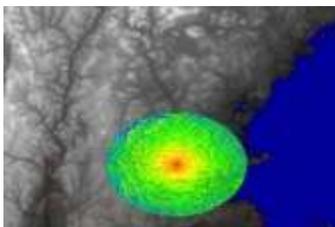
EmComm events and repeater use

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 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 & 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.



PARTicles © 2015, a publication of PART of Westford, MA – WB1GOF

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/>
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