



The newsletter of PART of Westford, MA – WB1GOF

PARTicles

OCTOBER 2014

President's Column

- *Andy Stewart (KB1OIQ)*

We had another successful Grace Race earlier this month. Please read the full article in this issue of PARTicles. Many thanks to those who volunteered!

On Halloween, PART has traditionally held an event called the Pumpkin Patrol, where volunteers observe the local neighborhoods. They communicate with each other via 2m HTs and mobile radios, and report any suspicious activity to Net Control, operating out of the Westford Police station. From there, the message is relayed to the police. Watch your email for more information about this event.

Our speaker for the October PART meeting will be Dennis (K1LGQ) Marandos. Dennis is an avid fan of all things QRP, and his talk will be about the people, places, and equipment associated with QRP. As you may know, QRP references a transmit power of 5W CW or 10W SSB. The radios, antennas, and tuners are frequently built from kits or from scratch. People will often take a small radio and a battery and go to a local park to operate outdoors. Dennis will tell us more about this aspect of our hobby.

For the November meeting, our speaker will be PART member Fred (AB1OC), who will talk about the DXLab DX'ing Suite, which is computer software for DXers. This software runs natively on various versions of the Windoze operating system. The software can be downloaded at no cost. For more information, look here: <http://www.dxlabsuite.com/>

How many of you went to NearFest? Please bring some stories to tell at the upcoming meeting. I was unable to go this year. The weather on Friday looked great, but on Saturday it was rather dismal.

PART is actively seeking volunteers to help with this year's Christmas and Holiday Party, which is held in December in lieu of the monthly meeting. It takes a lot of effort to make this event a success, so please consider helping. If you are interested, please send email to me or Hugh (N1QGE)..

Have a lot of fun!
73 de Andy KB1OIQ

<p>Next PART meeting: Tuesday October 21st @1930 – Westford Police station</p>
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Upcoming PART Meetings/Events

PART Treasury between 19-August '19 & 15-September '14 (As of 16-September '14)

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Repeater Fund</u>	<u>Checking Total</u>
Old Balance	\$ 2,550.64	\$2,581.09	\$5,124.19
Income	\$ 153.00	\$ 5.00	\$ 128.00
Expenses	\$ (72.00)	\$ 0.00	\$ (72.00)
Net	\$ 81.00	\$ 5.00	\$ 86.00
New Balance	\$ 2,631.64	\$2,586.09	\$5,217.73

PART 2014 Membership as of 30-August '14

	<u>Individuals</u>		<u>Households</u>	
	(= New for 2014 + Renew for 2014)		(= New for 2014 + Renew for 2014)	
Full (\$25)	40	(= 10 + 30)	40	(= 10 + 30)
Senior (\$15)*	37	(= 1 + 36)	37	(= 1 + 36)
Family (\$30)	29	(= 5 + 24)	13	(= 2 + 11)
Student (\$15)	1	(= 1 + 0)	1	(= 1 + 0)
Associate (\$10)	0	(= 0 + 0)	0	(= 0 + 0)
Grand Total*	107	(= 17 + 90)	91	(= 14 + 77)

ARRL members:* 95

(Including ARRL Life members: 8)

NOTE: * Starred lines changed since 10-September '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:

None

Upcoming PART Meetings/Events

October 21st, 2014

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

October 31st, 2014

- Pumpkin Patrol. 5:30 -10 p.m. Westford Police station and "on-station". 955 will be in use!

November 1st, 2014

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

November 18th, 2014

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

December 6th, 2014

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

December 16th, 2014

- No Meeting. HOLIDAY DINNER

January 3rd, 2015

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

January 20th, 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

New England Area Ham/Electronic Fleas:

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

2014

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

2015

7 Mar Chicopee MA MtTomARA @MooseLodge @8:30 S@6:30 Mary KB1ME 413 222 1990
27,28 Mar Lewiston ME AARC ME Conv @Ramada @8 Ivan N1OXA 207 784 0350
1,2 May Deerfield NH NEARfest XVII @FG Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235 R+
6 June Hermon ME PSARA @8 @HS TG@6:30 Jerry K1GUP 207 848 3400 +
21,23 Aug Boxboro MA FEMARA NE Conv Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235 A+

Flea at MIT

Sunday, 19-Oct'14

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>>

NEAR-Fest XVI

Late April/early May 2015 - Buyers \$10 for Fri+Sat <<http://www.near-fest.com:8084/nearfest/>>

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



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/>

Grace Race Report

- By Andy Stewart-KB1OIQ



The 11th annual Grace Race was held in Chelmsford on October 4th, 2014. There were approximately 100 participants in this 5 mile run / 5K walk, which is down from previous years. This event is sponsored by the Grace Community Church as a fundraiser for their work to help Kenyan orphans. This was the 4th year that PART has volunteered to provide amateur radio support for this event.

The weather was a bit cool and cloudy, with drizzle and a light breeze. The net control station was placed in the parking lot behind the church,

underneath a freestanding canopy. A portable battery powered the Yaesu FT2800, with a mobile antenna mounted onto a pizza pan. The directed net opened around 9:40 AM, with the race starting at approximately 10:00 AM. Due to the local terrain, some areas were "radio challenged", but we were prepared for it since we had previous experience with this course.

My youngest daughter Erin decided to walk the 5K distance as the last walker, to ensure that nobody else was left on the course at the end of the event. Armed with her cell phone and her wits, she complained about wearing a very unstylish orange safety vest that didn't fit well. Very early in the event, she and another walker assisted a girl who had a minor injury to her ankle.

The ham radio volunteers were stationed at the mile markers and other spots with long sight distances. Each station called net control to indicate when the runners have past, as well as when the first and last walker had past. There was also a bit of police activity on one part of the course. All of this information was relayed to the Race Director, who had eyes and ears on the entire course with our help.

Thankfully, there were no serious injuries or other issues. The event went quite smoothly, and the participants seemed to enjoy themselves.

I'd like to say thank you to the volunteers:

- Andy Stewart KB1OIQ
- Ajit Nair KU1MAR
- Dale Chayes KB1ZKD
- Dave Welsh WI1R
- David Wolfe KG1H
- Jon McCombie N1ILZ
- Peter Mudgett KB1PBA
- Richard Bradley N1YLY
- Tim Pandiscio WO1TJP

Bay State Marathon

- By Terry Stader-KA8SCP

For the 7th year, Amateur Radio was invited to be part of the race support operations in the capacity of “runner accountability”. Our responsibility is to report when a runner leaves the course, which we will report that to the Race Information table at the Tsongas circle where family and friends of the runners can locate a runner who is not where they are expected to be.

Our crews are stationed on the course in a number of locations. The Tsongas Arena circle is home to the, official race start and finish, the Information Table as well as Medical Group 1’s tent where we had 4 hams stationed. Their goal is coordinate the race operation as well as a triage



UCC trailer (provided by MEMA)



Ham Radio net control

location.

At the Brunswick Lane parking lot is where the UCC (unified command) for Fire, Police and Race officials is located. Lowell Fire department has EMS control and centralizes race communications through their Field Comm 60 unit located at this site. This is where the Amateur Radio net control station is located.

Across the street from the UCC is Medical Group 2’s tent for medical issue and a waypoint for runner transports back to the start/finish line.

On the course were two groups of Amateur Radio operators. One group at the Chelmsford/Tyngsboro town line near Top Line Granite; the other located at the American Legion in Tyngsboro. These two stations are collocated with water



Field Comm 60

stations and EMS personnel. This race has continued to grow in size every year and is now a pre-qualified for the Boston Marathon. There are two races run at this event; the

half marathon and a full marathon. 1700 runners were registered for the half marathon where 1900 were registered.

For this particular race, with the cool weather, there were not that many medical calls. Most calls were for transport only calls, those that would come off the course for one reason or another and needed a ride back to the start/finish line. Actual numbers were not available at the time this article was written but rough figures indicate that it was the highest number of calls we have handled than in the past.

This year the timing of the event put us head to head with the Head of the Charles event (no pun intended), so we did not get as many hams and what we could have used. We did get 10 able-bodied souls and I join with the IC (Incident Commander) and the CommL (Communications Leader) to say THANK YOU!

Dave Welsh W11R
Brian Mallory KB1WZU
Tim Miranda KC1AJJ
Peter Mudgett KB1PBA
Darrel Mallory K1EJ

Alan Martin W1AHM
Terry Stader KA8SCP
Charles Suprin AA1VS
Richard Bradley N1YLX
Al Grant K1UJA

Upcoming Public Service Events

PART Pumpkin Patrol - Friday October 31st, 2014

PART once again be providing the Pumpkin Patrol service to the Town of Westford. Many of you are veterans and others may be volunteering for the first time... whichever you are... thank you in advance for your help!

Pumpkin Patrol involves the use of Amateur Radio volunteers providing additional eyes and ears to the Town of Westford during the annual Trick or Treat event. Our purpose is to observe and report any potential safety concerns back to the PART Pumpkin Patrol Net Control Station which will be located at the Westford Police station. A report from one of our patrols will get handed off to the Westford PD dispatcher and addressed by the Town's public safety services. Our role is **ONLY** to report what we see and provide input to our Town's public safety departments.



We normally require 5 - 8 radio operators per "shift" that will patrol various geographical sections of town. Maps and a checklist of locations to watch will be provided when you check-in for your assignment. Check-in occurs at the Westford Police station where we record your call sign and your vehicle information. You do **NOT** need to be a resident of the Town of Westford to volunteer, but a basic familiarity to the town's geography is a plus!

We have quite a few new hams and club members this year. If warranted, a meeting prior to the event may be scheduled. This will give our new folks and veterans a chance to interact and become comfortable with the operation.

The normal time for Trick-or-Treaters is 6 PM until 8 PM. Our activities have varied over the years, but we normally will run the operation from 5:30 PM until 10:00 - 11:00 PM. If the weather is lousy, the net closure time will be adjusted accordingly. We try and accommodate every individual's schedule, we have run with 2 shifts in the past... an early and a late shift. We will accept your offer to assist at any time throughout the course of the evening.



The plans are to use the WB1GOF 2 meter repeater, 146.955 (PL 74.4), for the entire event. So all a volunteer will need is a radio capable of operating on that frequency. A vehicle will help too... but if you don't drive and want to ride shotgun with another ham, that can be accommodated as well. If you'd like to do a bike or foot patrol, please contact me and we could talk thru that kind of an operation.

Contact Terry-KA8SCP (KA8SCP@WVB1GOF.org) if you are interested or need more information.



From eHam.net News:

[Amateur Radio Operators Get Their Own Day:](#)

by kten.com on October 19, 2014

LAMAR COUNTY, TX -- Amateur Radio Operators, they help during times of need, including emergencies and severe weather; but they also like to have fun. Amateur Radio or Ham Radio - most people consider it to be their grandfather's hobby, but what people don't realize is how useful this hobby can be. "...when cell phone service fails, the internet is down, the only thing that will be left is amateur radio communications..." said David Reeder, a Fannin county amateur operator. Amateur radio is not just a day-to-day interest for some, but also used during and to prepare for emergencies. Because of its importance, the City of Paris has declared October 18th as Ham Radio Day. "Well I think it is a good opportunity for ham radio operators to have a day of recognition in the sense that they provide a very valuable service and not only enjoy but can be a benefit to any community," Paris Mayor Matt Frierson said.

[Boy Scouts: 'Jamboree On the Air':](#)

by yourerie.com on October 19, 2014

Boy Scouts: 'Jamboree On the Air':

[Ham Radio Day in Paris:](#)

by kxii.com on October 19, 2014

PARIS, TX -- Hundreds of radio enthusiasts will set up shop in Paris Saturday. People from all over the US are expected to fill the parking lot of Main Trading Company for a day the Paris Mayor has declared "HAM radio day". The free event is open to the public and will have food, live music and hundreds of people that share one thing in common, their love of radio. Organizers say they hope the event raises awareness about how useful HAM radios can be. "In the event of a disaster or emergency a HAM radio can be useful in tying families, communities, hospital and even military together," said Richard Lenoir.

[Design The Next AMSAT Satellite!](#)

by Jerry Buxton (N0JY) on October 18, 2014

At the 2014 AMSAT Space Symposium AMSAT Vice President – Engineering Jerry Buxton announced the plan for the next generation of AMSAT satellites. "The door is open for everyone, to submit their ideas. AMSAT Engineering has a long term strategy and this is the first step."

[Ham Radio Operators Were Keys to Communication After Quake:](#)

by pressbanner.com on October 18, 2014

In the wake of the Loma Prieta earthquake, Santa Cruz County residents had no real way of connecting to the outside world, as power lines were down and phone service outside the immediate community was not possible. In order to help establish contact with state and federal emergency agencies in order to coordinate relief efforts, members of the Santa Cruz Amateur Radio Club -- a group of amateur radio enthusiasts, or ham radio operators, as they're colloquially known -- came forward to help county emergency service agencies re-establish communication with Sacramento. For nearly a week after the quake, ham radio operators were on duty around the clock at relief centers and hospitals countywide, as well as the Santa Cruz County Office of Emergency Services -- then located in the basement of the Governmental Center in Santa Cruz.

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going on, and the service the hams can provide in the event of a disaster," said Main Trading Company Owner, Richard Lenoir.

Blizzard Saturday in Colorado? No, Just a Radio Test:

by gazette.com on October 18, 2014

Ham radio operators and listeners might hear about some extreme weather this Saturday as part of a test of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service, ARES, of Colorado. It's just a test, though. Pikes Peak ARES will flash back to the blizzard of October 1997 from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday for its annual Simulated Emergency Test. The service provides a communication link for emergency responders, shelters and neighborhoods because amateur radio is generally self-sufficient for power and doesn't use normal communication grids.

Service and Sacrifice: WWII Radio Man Still Connecting:

by wbir.com on October 18, 2014

Bumper stickers call for us to "live our passion" and that is what Charles Kayhart continues to do at age 103. "Well, I like to talk to people from all over the world," said the WWII veteran sitting in front of his home-built bank of ham radios. "Japan, China, any place you can think of-- some of them are veterans. We talk about where they were during the war," said Mr. Kayhart. He was already an expert in radio when he joined the United States Army Signal Corps. in World War II. Mr. Kayhart had attended training in electronics at Harvard and M.I.T. before he learned military brass wanted to send him to the Island of Iwo Jima to build a communication network in preparation for an invasion of Japan. "That flag waving on Iwo Jima, I will never forget that," said Mr. Kayhart recalling the famous flag raised by U.S. Marines on Mount Suribachi. During his service on that small island he witnessed more history in the sky, catching a glimpse of the Enola Gay B-29 as it flew over hours before it dropped the first nuclear blast on Japanese soil.

VA Plans to Build Nationwide High-Frequency Radio Network for Emergencies:

by nextgov.com on October 18, 2014

Why Ham Operators Should Consider 3D Printing:

by inside3dp.com on October 18, 2014

As a member of the ham radio community, I have always been fascinated by the maker mindset which has existed since the early days of radio. From making radio equipment from scratch, to kits and even modifying commercially available equipment, the maker movement and radio go hand in hand. The 3D printing community shares many traits with the ham radio movement. At the heart of it all is making, creating and inventing. And just like ham radio operators, those involved with 3D printing are constantly learning new technical skills that can be used in other areas of our lives.

CQ Policy Statement on Stations in Crimea Using Russian-Issued Call Signs:

by CQ Communications on October 17, 2014

Hicksville, NY - October 17, 2014) -- After considerable deliberation, CQ has determined that the best course of action regarding Crimea and CQ contests is to follow the lead of the United Nations and the United States government, both of which continue to consider Crimea to be part of Ukraine, until such time as the political situation there is resolved. Therefore, Logs will not be accepted for any CQ contest from stations in Crimea operating with Russian-issued call signs. Contacts made by others with those stations will be removed from contestants' logs without penalty. No contact or multiplier credits will be given.

Propagation Forecast Bulletin #42 de K7RA:

by W1AW Bulletin via the ARRL on October 17, 2014

Solar activity declined this week, with average daily sunspot numbers going from 98 last week to 55.1 in the week ending Wednesday, October 15. Average daily solar flux went from 131.9 to 117.4.

ARNewsline Report 1940 -- Oct. 17 2014:

by Bill Pasternak (WA6ITF) on October 17, 2014

The following is a Q-S-T. Ham radio is first responder as cyclone batters India coastline; Russian over the horizon RADAR battering the 15 meter band; United Kingdom Full license class holders get temporary access to more spectrum on 2 meters; Ham radio moon orbiter to launch on October 23rd and guess what's keeping a radio relay station in Hawaii from being repaired. Find out the details are on Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1940 coming your way right now.



[Museum of Radio and Technology Channels Memories of a Bygone Era:](#)

by charlestondaily.com on October 17, 2014

HUNTINGTON -- Touring the Museum of Radio and Technology is like stepping back in time to the beginning of radio, television, and computers. It opened in 1991 in the old Harveytown Elementary School, 1640 Florence Ave., on Huntington's West End and is touted as the largest radio museum in the nation and attracts visitors from throughout the world. However, many locals are unaware of the rooms filled with history and treasures. "We are trying to create a time capsule," said curator Geoff Bourne, who is aware of the historical significance of the collection as well as how much of it works. The Museum of Radio and Technology will present the 24th annual Fall Radio Show beginning 9 a.m. Saturday and continuing throughout the afternoon. Whoever brings in the oldest radio to display will win \$100 with the prize to be awarded at 1 p.m. Museum members are not eligible to win since the idea of the contest is to encourage visitors to enjoy the event and tour the facility. Other events on Saturday include an antique electronics auction and an electronics flea market. Also, visitors will be able to see the museum's exhibits, including more than 400 antique radios, a wide variety of television sets, a radio broadcasting station, short wave radio receivers and transmitters, military communications displays, a room devoted to the history of the computer, a ham radio station, a CB radio exhibit and much more.

[Hayle Radio Amateur Leads Way for Cornwall to Have Unique Radio Call Sign:](#)

by cornishman.co.uk on October 17, 2014

A HAYLE local radio amateur has led the way to ensuring Cornwall will have a unique radio call sign for the first time. John Farrar, along with fellow amateurs Chris Lewis and Keith Matthew, campaigned for the letter K to be added to the traditional radio call sign -- distinctly identifying those in the duchy from their counterparts across England. Radio amateurs are identified by their call signs and currently just two letters are used to denote England as a general location. But the letters do not indicate which county. Following the announcement earlier this year that Cornwall was to be granted minority status, the Poldhu Amateur Radio Club members decided Cornish radio amateurs should be put on the map. Mr Farrar said: "All the call signs in England are either G or M. It shows you are in England but doesn't show whereabouts. "We thought it might be possible to have a K for Kernow added to the call sign so anyone who uses it knows it's not just England it's Cornwall. "We put a dossier together and enlisted the support of all the MPs in Cornwall. Most of the radio amateurs in Cornwall supported it." Cornwall Council unanimously supported the plans at a meeting in September. Communications regulator Ofcom has now approved the proposal meaning Cornwall is set to become the first county in the UK with a unique sign.

ARRL News



10/17/2014 | [CQ Will Not Accept Logs from Stations in Crimea Using Russian-Issued Call Signs](#)

CQ has announced that it will no longer accept logs from stations in Crimea using Russian-issued call signs in CQ-sponsored contests.



10/17/2014 | [AMSAT Invites Ideas and Suggestions for Next-Gen Satellites](#)

AMSAT invites ideas and suggestions for next-gen CubeSats,



10/17/2014 | [Educational Entities: Apply Now for Space Station Ham Radio Contact Opportunities](#)

Educational entities are encouraged to apply now for 2015 Space Station ham radio contact opportunities. The deadline to apply is December 15.



10/17/2014 | [N6XMW Wins October QST Cover Plaque Award](#)

N6XMW wins for his Double Zepp Antenna



10/16/2014 | [Hurricane Watch Net to Activate as Gonzalo Gains Strength](#)

The Hurricane Watch Net will activate again, as Gonzalo gains strength en route to Bermuda.
[Learn More](#)



10/16/2014 | [Former ARRL Staff Member Mary Lau, N1VH, SK](#)

Former ARRL Staff Member Mary Lau, N1VH, SK.
[Learn More](#)



10/16/2014 | [ARES Volunteers Stand Ready as Tropical Storm Ana Aims for Hawaii](#)

ARES Volunteers stand ready as Tropical Storm Ana aims for Hawaii.
[Learn More](#)



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

[146 MHz NoV's now available](#)

UK Full license holders can now apply for their NoV to use 146 MHz

[Ham Radio on BBC Radio 4](#)

October 18 the BBC Radio 4 show Today featured the 90th anniversary of the first radio contact between radio amateurs in the UK and New Zealand

[NZ press report on historic anniversary](#)

The Otago Daily Times reports that New Zealand radio amateurs have marked the 90th anniversary of the first radio contact with the UK

[Ham Radio Promotional Material](#)

Amateur radio posters, booklets and other handouts have been made available on the RSGB Inspire forum

[Big sunspot produces X-flare](#)

Solar activity increased sharply on Oct. 19th when huge sunspot AR2192 unleashed an X1-class solar flare

[N7UR is named 2014 ARRL Pacific Division 'Ham Of The Year'](#)

John Bigley, N7UR, has been named as the 2014 ARRL Pacific Division 'Ham of the Year' at last weekend's Pacificon - ARRL Pacific Division Convention in Santa Clara, California

[Propagation Report from Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP](#)

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the expected solar activity will be at moderate levels with a chance of M-class solar flares

[Essex Amateur Radio Skills Night](#)

This Monday, October 20 at 7pm is the next CARS Amateur Radio Skills Night - this is a free event and everyone interested in radio is welcome

[Behind the scenes at Ham Nation show](#)

A whole bunch of the Ham Nation gang met at the TWIT studios October 8 2014 for a live Ham Nation Show. This is a video of what was happening behind the scenes

[Africa CubeSat workshop](#)

Radio amateurs are invited to attend the second annual International Africa CubeSat workshop in Cape Town

[New schedule for Amateur Radio Today](#)

From Sunday 26 October, a new schedule will come into effect for Amateur Radio Today

Obama Signs Ham Radio Executive Order

- By WBØRUR, on the scene

WASHINGTON, D.C. – President Barack Obama announced today he has signed Presidential Executive Order 11-HAMR, which deals specifically with amateur radio.

"As many of you may know, I recently [received my ham radio license](#). And you may also know that I was not pleased with the callsign assigned to me by the FCC. Rest assured, I have taken steps to rectify that problem through the vanity callsign program."

"But today, I must resolve another issue that challenges the very integrity of ham radio. Presidential Executive Order 11-HAMR, otherwise known as the "Fairness in Hamfests" directive, mandates hamfest grand prize raffle winners **MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN.**"



"Too many times I have seen the grand prize winners not in attendance when their ticket number or name was called. Too frequently, a "friend" has the ticket and collects the prize for the AWOL awardee. It is time that we put an end to this, level the playing field and end the class warfare between those who are at the hamfest and those who have left."

Ray Fergie, President of the National Radio Retransmission League, says he supports the President's position, but feels like free market forces should drive hamfest rules and regulations.

"I'm not sure we need Washington getting involved in our hamfests. If I have to leave early to beat the crowd to IHOP, Denny's or Golden Corral, then I should not have to forfeit my right to win the transceiver."

HamHijinks.com

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



Copyright WB1GOF,
Robert Schmeichel
2011



Copyright WB1GOF,
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.

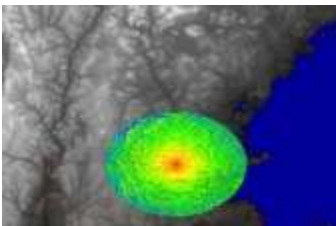
EmComm events and repeater use

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](#).

Repeater Information

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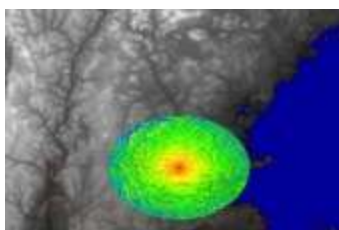
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PART Gear

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. 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

PART official mailing address is:
PART, PO Box 503, Westford, MA 01886

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