



PARTicles

The newsletter of PART of Westford, MA – WB1GOF

Celebrating 40 years of public service 1975-2015

OCTOBER 2015



President's Column

- **Andy Stewart (KB1OIQ)**

Starting with our October meeting, PART will move to a new meeting location. The Cameron Senior Center is located at 20 Pleasant Street in Westford, which is 2.5 miles from our current meeting location. We will need to setup the room by moving tables and chairs, and we'll put it back as we found it after the meeting. This facility offers some flexibility that isn't available at our current meeting site, and it'll take us a few meetings to figure out how to best take advantage of those amenities. We're very thankful to the Town of Westford, who has always been very accomodating.

We were saddened to learn of the passing of our friend Old Gus (W1OG) Fallgren, who became a Silent Key on September 28, 2015, at the age of 91. Old Gus was an avid member of the hobby since he was a young boy. He was particularly fond of CW and chasing DX stations. Old Gus elmered me through one of my very first DX CW contacts at his home many years ago. He was also a member of the ARRL A-1 Operators Club. Old Gus could often be heard on the 2m WB1GOF repeater. A very notable accomplishment was the creation in the late 1950s of a QRP transistorized CW transmitter, with which he contacted Denmark and got a 339 signal report, while using only 86 mW of power. It was the first trans-Atlantic amateur radio contact with a transistorized radio. While we will all miss Old Gus, I hope we will remember his positive example as a licensed amateur, and as a great guy.

Old Gus was an elmer to many people, and it made me think about the many elmers I've been privileged to have in my relatively short time in this hobby. We also have many new members in the club, who may not have elmers, or who may not even be aware of the concept. The first reference I

found for the term "elmer" was in a QST article from the March 1971 issue. An elmer is a friend and mentor who helps and encourages us. I've heard people often speak fondly of their elmers.

I would like to encourage club members to pay special attention to our newest members, and guide them as they explore what the hobby has to offer, and the areas that interest them at this time. Something as simple as encouraging someone to participate, even if they don't really know what they are doing. For example, a person learning CW can learn a lot by logging for another operator at Field Day.

During the last couple of weeks, I've received two requests from people who need to have a ham shack cleaned out. Honestly, I've never done anything like this before, and I wouldn't know a decent tube rig from a pile of junk. I know that we have members of this club who possess the needed technical expertise and interpersonal skills to help the families of our ham radio friends during such difficult times.

I sent out a request for volunteers and many of you responded - thank you! We've started work on one shack and I plan to have us start work on the 2nd shack shortly. While I appreciate that this can be difficult for us as well, both logistically and emotionally, I know we can do this with the required professionalism, sensitivity, and respect. I sincerely believe we owe it to the families and our ham radio friends to be available to help in this way.

That's all for this month. Have a lot of fun, and 73 de Andy (KB1OIQ).

Next PART meeting: Tuesday October 20th

@1930 – Cameron Senior Center

Treasurer's Report

PART Treasury between 18-August '15 & 14-September '15 (As of 15-September '15)

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Repeater Fund</u>	<u>Checking Total</u>
Old Balance	\$ 3,014.67	\$ 3,632.80	\$ 6,647.47
Income	\$ 45.00	\$ 14.26	\$ 59.26
Expenses	\$ (54.72)	\$ 0.00	\$ (54.72)
Net	\$ (9.72)	\$ 14.26	\$ 4.54
New Balance	\$ 3,000.95	\$ 3,632.80	\$ 6,652.01

PART 2015 Membership as of 14-October '15

Individuals			Households		
(= New for 2015 + Renew for 2015)			(= New for 2015 + Renew for 2015)		
Full (\$25)*	42	(= 8 + 34)	42	(= 8 + 34)	
Senior (\$15)	43	(= 5 + 38)	43	(= 5 + 38)	
Family (\$30)*	23	(= 4 + 19)	11	(= 2 + 9)	
Student (\$15)	0	(= 0 + 0)	0	(= 0 + 0)	
Associate (\$10)	0	(= 0 + 0)	0	(= 0 + 0)	
Grand Total*	108	(= 17 + 91)	96	(= 15 + 81)	

ARRL members:* 98 / 91%

(Including ARRL Life members: 9)

NOTE: * Starred lines changed since 28-Aug '15

##To pay dues##

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

-or-

Club Meeting, Cameron Senior Center. 7:30PM, 3rd Tues.

Renew online by PayPal at: http://www.wb1gof.org/F_join/part_dues.html

Silent Key:

Gus/W1OG (Chelmsford)

Latest new PART members:

Jerry/K1GOI (Stow)

New Calls:

Bob/W1BAE (ex-KC1DZU)

Upgrade:

Mark/K1MGY (General -> Extra)

Upcoming PART Meetings/Events

October 20th 2015

- PART Meeting. 7:30 -9 p.m. NEW LOCATION: Cameron Senior Center, 20 Pleasant St.

November 7th 2015

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

November 17th 2015

- PART Meeting. 7:30 -9 p.m. LOCATION: Cameron Senior Center, 20 Pleasant St.

December 5th 2015

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

December 15th 2015

- NO PART Meeting. – Holiday Dinner (more info to follow)

January 2nd 2016

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

January 20th 2016

- PART Meeting. 7:30 -9 p.m. LOCATION: Cameron Senior Center, 20 Pleasant St.

Monthly PART Meetings and Social Events

- Every Sunday, 8 PM – PART Net on 146.955 repeater
- Every 3rd Tuesday, 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

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.gsl.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

25 Oct Hicksville NY LIMARC @LevitHall \$6@9 \$20/T Richie K2KNB 516 694 4937 W+
 31 Oct Gails Ferry CT TCARC @FireCo Darryl WA1DD 860 443 7799 A+
 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 +
 27 Feb S Burlington VT RANVT @HI x14 I89 Mitch W1SJ 802 879 6589 W+
 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 +
 19 Mar Dayville CT ECARA @StJosephCh \$3@8A \$10/T Peter K1LNK 401 603 1485 +
 20 Mar Southington CT @HS \$5@8 \$20/T John WA1JKR 860 621 8791 +
 25,26 Mar Lewiston ME AARC ME Conv @Ramada @8 Ivan N1OXA 207 784 0350
 17 Apr Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 T+
 29,30 Apr Deerfield NH NEARfest XIX @FG Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235
 14 May E Greenbush NY EGARA @FireCo \$6@8 \$6/T@6 Tom KC2FCP 518 272 1494
 15 May Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 T+
 4 June Hermon ME PSARA @8 @HS TG@6:30 Jerry K1GUP 207 848 3400
 19 June Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 T+
 17 July Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 T+
 13 Aug St Albans VT STARC @VFW \$5@8 Arn N1ARN 802 309 0666 +
 21 Aug Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 T+
 26,28 Aug Boxboro MA FEMARA NE Conv Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235 +
 28 Aug Adams MA NoBARC @BoweFld 6:30sell 7:30buy Eric KA1SUN 413 743 9975 +
 17 Sept Forestdale RI RIAFMRS @VFW \$5/Sp@8 Pete AA1PL 401 639 4484 +
 18 Sep Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 T+
 14,15 Oct Deerfield NH NEARfest XX @FG Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235
 16 Oct Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 T+



Upcoming Public Service Events

PART Pumpkin Patrol - Saturday October 31st, 2015

PART once again is 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 with 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, we should be able to accommodate that 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@WB1GOF.org) if you are interested or need more information.



Bay State Marathon Wrapup - Sunday Oct. 18th, 2015

- By Terry Stader – KA8SCP

It was a chilly start to the morning. Actually it was chilly all morning and snow flurries at the end of the race day!

11 hams assisted in this year's event. We were stationed at the Tsongas Arena (Darrel-K1EJ, Alan-W1AHM, Andy-ABoYT and Bob-W1BAE) where Med Tent 1, Triage and Family services were in the proximity of the start/finish line. At the Rourke Bridge/Brunswick parking lot (Dave-W1R and Terry-KA8SCP) was our "command/net control" operation located on the same grounds as the UCC and Field



Comm 60. We had hams at the Chelmsford/Tyngsboro town line (Charles-AA1VS with Tim-KA1AJJ's cross-band repeater) and then at the American Legion (Al-K1UJA and Richard-N1YLX).

Oh yeah, we even had Big Bird keeping an eye on the runners at the Rourke Bridge!



From eHam.net News:

Ham Radio Training:

by newindianexpress.com on October 18, 2015

VIJAYAWADA: A one-day 'Ham Radio' training camp will be conducted on Oct 25 at Regional Science Centre (APCOST), near Punnam Hotel, Bhavanipuram, here. Engineering students of any branch can apply before Oct 23, a press release from Ham Radio Training Centre said on Saturday. The wireless planning and coordination wing of the Central government will hold a Ham Radio Examination in Vijayawada for the trainees.

Hams Practice Sending Messages:

by emissourian.com on October 18, 2015

Practice may not make you perfect, but it goes a long way toward making you ready, according to Tom Usher, amateur radio operator, kd0qkk. Usher spent 25 minutes Oct. 10 assembling his 29-foot tripod and J Pole antenna at the Pacific Meramec Valley Amateur Radio Club (PMVARC) digital repeater site on Signal Hill at Mid-America Testing Laboratories in Catawissa. In perfect fall weather, Usher and other amateur hams tuned their radios to frequency 147.18 to take part in a simulated emergency test where they practiced sending and receiving messages using emergency service protocol. From New Haven, Sullivan, Pacific and Catawissa, they logged in with the Franklin County Amateur Radio Emergency Service director (FCARES) as they would do if a catastrophe crippled communications in the region. Hams could take part in this test from anywhere, but Usher saw it as an opportunity to set up his temporary station on Signal Hill. At 873 feet above sea level, the J Pole antenna reached 903 feet. He connected two radios to a power supply and a speaker to each of the radios. As a member of PMVARC and digital radio buff, he wanted to relay messages digitally, but was prepared for voice transmission in case his partner in the test was not set up for digital transmission. At 10:02 a.m., the voice of Paul Chambers, FCARES director, n0bbd, opened the exercise and announced the protocol hams were to follow.

Scouts Invited to Use Ham Radio During Jamboree:

by ozarkcountytimes.com on October 17, 2015

The Ozark, Douglas and Wright County affiliates of Amateur Radio Emergency Services will host an open house for Boy Scouts during the upcoming 58th annual Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) and Jamboree on the Internet to be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 17, at the VFW hall in Mountain Grove. The event will give Scouts an opportunity to talk with Scouting peers around the world using two-way amateur radio. The experience also lets Scouts work on their Radio Merit Badge. The annual event is designed to help connect 500,000 Scouts in 100 countries. This is the first year the local ARES from Ozark, Douglas and Wright counties have participated. The local affiliates have a QSL card for the JOTA. The free event is open to all Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Venturers, along with adult leaders, family and friends.

Hams Again to Electoral Rescue:

by thehindu.com on October 17, 2015

Tucked inside the dark forest folds of the West Ghats, the election process in the tribal panchayat of Edamalakkudy will once again see a collective of amateur radio enthusiasts chipping in. This will be a repeat of their feat in the 2010 poll. Cut off from all conventional communication systems, the Idukki District Administration will engage ham radio operators to set up a communication network to support the poll process. The station will facilitate communication between the election officials at Edamalakkudy and the district election office at Painavu. "There is no other way, wireless sets or mobile telephone are of no use there and election officials deputed to Edamalakkudy will be cut off from us otherwise," said Rajeev S, Deputy Collector (Election), Idukki. The district authorities have already roped in the HAM Emergency Communication and Disaster Management Society of Idukki. Manoj Galaxy, custodian of the organisation, said the communication network will be involved some 30 HAM operators, to be drawn from all parts of the state. "Radios operating in Very High Frequency bands will be set up in all the booths, which will communicate with the receiving antenna or repeater station at Pullupara," he explained. The repeaters would, in turn, convert the signals into transmitting frequency and send them to the equipment in the District Collectorate. Alongside the polling booths, radios will be set up in the official vehicle of the district sub-collector (election) as well as in the office of the Devikulam Block Development officer.

Cornwall gets 'K' for Kernow after bid by Poldhu Amateur Radio Club:

by westbriton.co.uk on October 17, 2015

It's 'K' for Kernow next year as radio hams are given permission to broadcast new call signs to celebrate Cornish minority status. OfCom agreed today that radio amateurs in Cornwall can add the letter 'K' for the whole of 2016, after the proposal was put forward by the club based at Poldhu's Marconi Centre. The extra letter will form part of the prefix to the callsign, which is recognised internationally as showing the area where the station is operating. Keith Matthew, secretary of the Poldhu Amateur Radio Club, said that a team of members from the club had coordinated the proposal through the Radio Society of Great Britain. He said: "The proposal has received support from many of the county's members of Parliament, Cornwall Council, and from Hayle Town Council. "We are looking ahead to increased activity on the air from Cornwall and many stations outside the county, in the UK and world wide, will wish to contact us who are using the new prefix. "This can only be good for the standing of Cornwall, nationally, and internationally. "Today is a major milestone in the history of amateur radio in Cornwall and 2016 will be a very special year."

New Product -- W3DZZ Traps:

by Richard (G3CWI) on October 16, 2015

Portable radio specialist SOTABEAMS has introduced ready-made 100 Watt traps designed for the popular W3DZZ antenna design. The traps use a toroidal inductor and silver mica capacitor for good performance coupled with small size and low weight. The components are mounted on a specially designed PCB which includes attachment points for the antenna.

Amateur Radio Newsline Report 1981 October 16 2015:

by James Pastorfield (KB7TBT) on October 16, 2015

The following is a QST. American hams prepare for a historic partnership with hams in Havana. The Pope Francis Special Event stations count tens of thousands of successful QSOs. The International Amateur Radio Union presses governments to ease restrictions on amateurs' antennas. And hams in Nepal share how they assisted after April 25's devastating earthquake. All this and more in Amateur Radio Newsline report 1981 coming your way right now.

Skagit Students Connect with Space Station:

by goskagit.com on October 16, 2015

BAY VIEW -- The excitement reverberating through Bay View School on Wednesday was impossible to miss as students, teachers and faculty prepared for an assembly unlike any other. The star of the event, Kjell Lindgren, wasn't in the gymnasium with the school's hundreds of students. He wasn't even on Earth. Lindgren is one of six astronauts living on the International Space Station about 250 miles above land.

Willistown Boy Scouts Join Global Online Ham Radio Event:

by patch.com on October 16, 2015

Are you a Boy Scout and want to take part in a worldwide meeting of fellow Scouts? You can - this weekend - using Amateur Radio, whose signals reach around the globe, to all seven continents, to tens of thousands of fellow Scouts who will be "on the air" this weekend for the 58th Annual Jamboree on the Air.

Amateur Radio Helps Promote National Park Service Centennial:

by prnewswire.com on October 16, 2015

Amateur Radio operators in the United States will transmit from some of our nation's most important natural and historic sites throughout 2016. ARRL, the National Association for Amateur Radio -- sometimes called ham radio -- will coordinate a year-long activity, called National Parks on the Air (NPOTA), in parallel with the centennial of the National Park Service (NPS). Federally licensed radio operators will transmit from as many of the 408 NPS administrative units as possible, by establishing a temporary station at an NPS unit and communicating with radio aficionados around the world. "Ham radio operators are excited to help promote the NPS Centennial. The National Park Service is one of our country's great treasures," said Sean Kutzko, an ARRL spokesman. "ARRL has been around for over 100 years, so we appreciate the significance of this historic event." For many years, hams have combined outdoor activities with radio. "Radio amateurs have been bringing small transmitters into the parks for decades," Kutzko said. In addition to being an enjoyable pastime, these temporary radio setups help amateurs maintain their skills at providing communications during natural disasters, such as hurricanes, fires, or floods. "The Federal government recognizes the value that Amateur Radio has to offer during these times," Kutzko explained, noting that ARRL has Memorandums of Agreement with such organizations as FEMA and the American Red Cross.

[Mile High Radio Club Hosts Skywarn Presentation:](#)

by idyllwildtowncrier.com on October 16, 2015

As part of a run up to what is predicted to be a strong El Niño, Mile High Radio Club hosted a presentation about Skywarn -- a Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service program. Skywarn is a volunteer program with 290,000 trained weather spotters throughout the United States. Volunteers help keep their local communities safe by providing timely and accurate reports of severe weather to the National Weather Service. At its Thursday, Oct. 8 meeting, Ed Sherman, Riverside County Skywarn Coordinator, talked about the program and how Idyllwild locals could become involved. Sherman, who has more than 40 years experience with public safety, also talked on disaster preparedness, including preparation of emergency plans and obtaining and stocking emergency kits. Although Skywarn spotters provide information for all types of weather hazards, their main responsibility is to identify and report severe local storms, with particular attention to weather caused hazards, such as flooding, as well as blocked and impassable roadways.

[Radio Quake Drill Prepares for 9.0:](#)

by hoodrivernews.com on October 16, 2015

Gary Hollister of Odell monitors the control equipment connecting radio operators around the county in Saturday's Hood River County ARES/RACES participation in a statewide communications exercise, dubbed "Quake Ex II" -- simulating amateur radio operators' response in case of a destructive 9.0 earthquake in Oregon. Inside "The Beast," the Hood River Sheriff's mobile radio truck, volunteers Don Moore, of Hood River, and Stewart Warren, of Appleton, Wash., take reports from the field. Under the drill, normal grid communication and all facilities, including the county building and hospital, had been damaged beyond use. One damage scenario was a mass chemical spill. Hood River Fire Hall became emergency operations center as ARES/RACES team simulated setting up backup emergency communications with radios, antennas, computers and generators. It was the first time an exercise was held lately linking VHF radios and long distance communications with the State of Oregon's Office of Emergency Management (OEM) via High Frequency Single Sideband voice radio and Winlink radio links from the Alternate EOC at HRFD. Shelter locations were simulated at Wy'east Middle School and later at HRVHS, where the team operated digital stations which can move email traffic over amateur radio to other internet destinations." Our job is to make things work, no matter what else -- when all else fails," said Bill Stenson of ARES/RACES. The team will present a written report on the exercise to the Hood River County Sheriff's Office. People with mobile devices can be a critical part of developing a "situation report" -- loss of life and what's damaged and where -- an accurate picture of what has happened in a severe emergency.



ARRL News

[Fox-1A \(AO-85\) Transponder to be Unavailable October 19-23](#)

The Fox-1A (AO-85) CubeSat transponder will be unavailable for general use from October 19 until October 23 while the new satellite undergoes additional commissioning and testing. The AO-85 U/V transponder has been available to users for much of the time since Fox-1A launched on October 8, and it has proved very popular.

"While this operational plan resulted in increased data for AMSAT engineeri...

[IARU Region 3 Conference Urged to Focus on Youth as the Key to Amateur Radio Growth](#)

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) **Region 3** conference has highlighted youth as a key growth area for Amateur Radio. The 16th Region 3 conference in Bali, Indonesia, wrapped up on October 16.

"A potential growth area for Amateur Radio is involving younger people as a wonderful 'for them' and 'hands-on' communications activity," said a report to the conference from the Region 3 Director...

[The K7RA Solar Update](#)

On October 15 at 2345 UTC, the Australian Space Forecast Centre issued a geomagnetic disturbance warning, which said that continued strengthening of the solar wind stream due to coronal hole effect may lead to isolated periods of minor geomagnetic storms on October 16.

Sunspot numbers during the October 8-14 reporting period were nearly the same as during the previous 7 days. Average daily sunsp...

[Hudson Amateur Radio Council Donates Nearly \\$9000 to ARRL](#)

At the recent meeting of the ARRL Executive Committee in Minneapolis, ARRL Hudson Division Director Mike Lisenco, N2YBB, representing the Hudson Amateur Radio Council (HARC), donated \$8922.93 to the ARRL Legislative Issues Advocacy **Fund**.

“HARC was formed over 50 years ago to help support expenses incurred by clubs sponsoring Division conventions,” Lisenco said. “Over the past 30 years, conventio...

[“ARRL National Parks on the Air” Event to Mark National Park Service Centennial](#)

In 2016, the National Park Service (**NPS**) will celebrate its 100th anniversary, and radio amateurs will be able to help mark the occasion with the ARRL National Parks on the Air (**NPOTA**) event. The fun begins at 0000 UTC on January 1, 2016.

“As ARRL just celebrated our own Centennial, and Amateur Radio is often enjoyed in the great outdoors, it seemed fitting to devise a program to help NPS celebr...

[ARISS Window to Submit ISS Ham Radio Contact Proposals Closes on November 1](#)

The deadline is looming for schools, educational organizations, and groups willing and able to host an Amateur Radio contact with an International Space Station crew member to submit proposals to Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (**ARISS**). The window for formal and informal **proposals** closes on November 1.

ARISS anticipates that contacts will be scheduled between July 1 and December...

[Support ARRL through the Combined Federal Campaign](#)

ARRL members who are federal employees can **support** the ARRL by participating in the Combined Federal Campaign (**CFC**). Pledges during the 2014 CFC topped \$45,000. CFC contributions support programs that are not funded by member dues. The CFC has generated nearly \$250,000 for ARRL

programs since the League became a program participant.

[ARRL Asks FCC to Clarify that Hams May Modify Non-Amateur Gear for Amateur Use](#)

The ARRL has asked the FCC to make clear that Amateur Radio licensees may modify non-amateur equipment for use on Amateur Radio frequencies. Some hams have expressed concerns that recently proposed rules would inhibit post-sale modification of Wi-Fi equipment, now sometimes altered for use

on Amateur Radio frequencies. The ARRL made its point in **comments** filed on October 8 on a *Notice of Propos...*

[ARRL On-Line Auction to Mark 10th Anniversary](#)

The ARRL On-Line Auction will celebrate its 10th anniversary when it gets under way later this month. The auction preview will open on Monday, October 19, at 1400 UTC, and bidding begins on Thursday, October 22, at 1400 UTC. The auction already has more than 260 items that will be up for bid, and new donations are still coming in.

[IARU Administrative Council Stresses Importance of Antenna Systems for Amateur Radio](#)

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Administrative Council (AC) has adopted a resolution calling on IARU member societies to encourage governments to recognize the importance of the Amateur Radio Service and of Amateur Radio antennas. The AC met for its 38th meeting on October 9 and 10 in Bali, Indonesia, in conjunction with the IARU Region 3 Conference there.

[Chesterfield Island TX3X DXpedition Hampered by High Winds, Rain Squalls](#)

With just 3 more days to go until it shuts down, poor weather has been literally putting a damper on the Perseverance DX Group's Chesterfield Island **TX3X** DXpedition. The team's 12 operators have been having a time of it, dealing with high winds and rain squalls as well as crummy propagation. Chesterfield Island is #21 on ClubLog's **DXCC Most Wanted List**.



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

[Hamnet National Communications Exercise](#)

The entries for the Hamnet National Communications Exercise are now officially closed. The exercise will take place from 12:00 on Saturday 24 October to 12:00 on Sunday 25, times being SAST

[The world listens for ANZAC 100 stations](#)

On Saturday October 24 and for 48 hours, we remember through VK100ANZAC, William Henry Kibby of Adelaide, awarded the Victoria Cross posthumously

[2015 ARRL International Humanitarian Award](#)

Nominations are open for the 2015 ARRL International Humanitarian Award

[ANZAC 100 Awards and Certificates](#)

Claims for the various awards on offer under the WIA ANZAC 100 program will be sent after the event closes

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

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the solar activity is expected to be at moderate levels

[SolderSmoke Podcast 181](#)

Episode 181 of the amateur radio podcast SolderSmoke is now available

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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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.

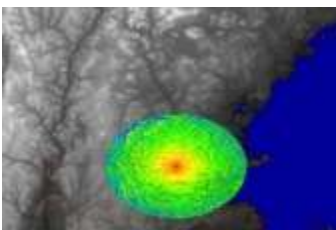
EmComm events and repeater use

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.



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This month's editor: Terry Stader – KA8SCP

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