

October **PARTicles**



The newsletter of PART of Westford, MA – WB1GOF

Celebrating 40 years of public service 1975-2015

President's Column

- Andy Stewart (KB1OIQ)

At our previous club meeting, the election of officers was held. The following people were re-elected or re-appointed. Congratulations and thank you for your willingness to continue to serve PART in these various roles.

President: Andy Stewart (KB1OIQ)
Vice President: Rich Crisafuli (AB1HD)
Treasurer: Alan Martin (W1AHM)
Secretary: Rick Green (W1RAG)
Director-at-Large: Steve Rimsa (W1KBE)

I recently attended NEAR-Fest in Deerfield, NH. It was a perfect day, cool in the morning and warmer later. There was some color on the leaves. I saw quite a few people that I knew but I didn't see anybody from the club. The new layout for parking and entering was well marked. One now needs to climb a big hill to get into the flea market. Because of the new pedestrian traffic pattern at the entrance, some vendors found themselves in a more advantageous place. I managed to leave without too many items following me home.

Regarding recent changes in the club, I've received positive feedback about the new meeting start time. Folks are also happy with the work done by George (K1IG) regarding the speakers for future meetings. Many thanks to the club members who have volunteered to speak at future meetings.

We're still ironing out the details about food at the meeting, and the location of the monthly breakfast. Expect to hear a decision about breakfast very shortly.

Planning is under way for our annual Pumpkin Patrol. Each year, PART volunteers help the town of Westford by observing activity at strategic locations in town. Any suspicious activity is reported to the Net Control operator at the police station, who then reports the activity to the police. All that is needed is a 2m transceiver setup to access the 146.955 WB1GOF repeater. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Terry (KA8SCP) via email: ka8scp@wb1gof.org.

The next meeting of PART will be held at the Cameron Senior Center on Tuesday, October 17th, 2017. Our speakers are listed here: <http://www.wb1gof.org/> Club members Colin (W1DJR) and Tom (KC1ELF) will be giving talks. Colin's talk will be about "EMI Control" and Tom's talk will be about "Aircraft Tracking with ADS-B". There are more details on the PART website.

Have a lot of fun, and 73!

Andy

Treasurer's Report

PART Treasury between 18-Jul'17 and 14-Aug'17

(As of 15-Aug'17)

| | General Fund | + | Repeater Fund | = | Checking Total |
|-----------------|-----------------|---|------------------|---|-------------------|
| Old Balance | = \$3555.45 | + | \$5156.04 | = | \$8711.49 |
| Income | + \$ 130.00 | + | + \$ 20.26 | = | + \$ 150.26 |
| Expenses | - \$ 57.67 | + | - \$ 0.00 | = | - \$ 57.67 |
| Net | + \$ 72.33 | + | + \$ 20.26 | = | + \$ 92.59 |
| New Balance | = \$3627.78 | + | \$5176.30 | = | \$8804.08 |
| Acc. Receivable | + \$ 0.00 | + | + \$ 0.00 | = | + \$ 0.00 |
| Acc. Payable | - \$ 128.78 | + | - \$ 0.00 | = | - \$ 128.78 |
| Net Credit | - \$ 128.78 | + | + \$ 0.00 | = | - \$ 128.78 |
| Net Worth | = \$3499.00 | + | \$5176.30 | = | \$8675.30 |

[Note: Positive GF net, positive RF net, positive overall net; negative GF net credit, positive RF net credit, negative overall net credit/AHM]

PART 2017 Membership as of 12-Oct'17

| | Individuals (= New for 2017 + Renew for 2017) | Households (= New for 2017 + Renew for 2017) |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Full (\$25) | 36 (= 1 + 35) | [36 (= 1 + 35)] |
| Senior (\$15)* | 45 (= 2 + 43) | [45 (= 2 + 43)] |
| Family (\$30)* | 22 (= 3 + 19) | 10 (= 0 + 10) |
| Student (\$15) | 1 (= 1 + 0) | [1 (= 1 + 0)] |
| Associate (\$10) | 0 (= 0 + 0) | 0 (= 0 + 0) |
| Grand Total* | 104 (= 7 + 97) | 92 (= 4 + 88) |

ARRL members: 93
(Including ARRL Life members: 15)
* Starred lines changed since 6-Sep'17.

New Members:

Stacy/W1QW (Acton)
Mikayla/KC1IGH (Westford)
New call sign:
Gary/AB1DU -> KG1RY

##To pay dues## -or-
PART, P.O. Box 503, Westford, MA 01886-0015 Club Meeting, Cameron Senior Ctr., 7:30PM, 3rd Tuesday
Renew online by PayPal at: http://www.wb1gof.org/F_join/part_dues.html

PART's official mailing address is:

PO Box 503
Westford, MA 01886

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

PART Officers:

President: Andy (KB1OIQ) Stewart
Vice President: Rich (AB1HD) Crisafulli
Secretary: Rick (W1RAG) Green
Treasurer: Alan (W1AHM) Martin
Director-At-Large: Steve (W1KBE) Rimsa

Upcoming PART Meetings/Events

October 17th 2017

- PART Meeting. 7:30 -9:00 p.m. LOCATION: Cameron Senior Center, 20 Pleasant St., Westford MA

November 4th 2017

- PART monthly breakfast. Westford Regency. 8-10 AM (\$19/\$9; kids: \$9 – see note below)

November 21st 2017

- PART Meeting. 7:30 -9:00 p.m. LOCATION: Cameron Senior Center, 20 Pleasant St., Westford MA

December 2nd 2017

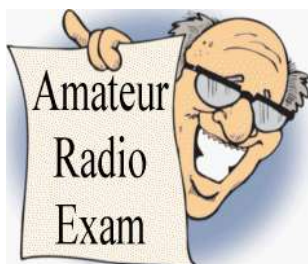
- PART monthly breakfast. Westford Regency. 8-10 AM (\$19/\$9; kids: \$9 – see note below)

December 19th 2017

- PART Holiday Dinner – NO PART Meeting. Details Soon!

Monthly PART Meetings and Social Events

- Every Sunday, 8 PM – PART Net on 146.955 repeater, Echolink Node 380799
- Every 3rd Tuesday, NEW TIME - 7:30 PM – PART Meetings at Cameron Senior Center
- Every 1st Saturday, 8 AM, Regency Inn Westford – PART Monthly Breakfast
- Every Wednesday, 6 AM, Owl Diner Lowell – Breakfast



The Billerica BARS VE team conducts VE Sessions on 2nd Thursday of every month. They are held in the church hall of The Chelmsford Bible Church, 128 Gorham St, East Chelmsford at 7pm. New license and upgrade tests. Walk-Ins, not a problem. No Reservations needed.

For more information, contact: Bruce W1LUS at 978-851-2886 [Email Bruce W1LUS](#) or Gary W1GFF at 978-453-1100 [Email Gary W1GFF](#).



This is your pre-meeting reminder to add something to your weekly shopping to bring to the next meeting. Watch your e-mail for specific needs this month.

PART member donations have been greatly appreciated in the past and we hope to continue this great community service at every meeting.

Ham Fleas/Events

Links to Massachusetts hamfest websites (partial)

Cambridge MA Flea at MIT <http://www.swapfest.us>
Boxborough MA NE ARRL Conv <http://www.boxboro.org>
Adams MA N BerkshireARC <http://www.nobarc.org/hamfest.htm>
Dartmouth MA SEMARA <http://www.semara.org/flea.htm>
Falmouth MA FARA <http://www.falara.org>
Feeding Hills MA MTARA <http://www.mtara.org>
Framingham MA FARA <http://www.fara.org> & <http://www.n1em.org>
Marlboro MA AARC <http://www.gsl.net/n1em>
Newton MA Waltham ARA Auction <http://www.wara64.org/auction>
Rockport MA CAARA <http://www.caara.net>
S Dartmouth MA SEMARA <http://www.semara.org>
Wakefield MA Photographica <http://www.phsne.org>
Westford MA NEAntiqueRC <http://www.nearc.net>
Whately MA FranklinCARC <http://www.fcarc.org/news.htm>
Worcester MA WPI ACM <http://acm.wpi.edu/swapmeet/>



New England Area Ham/Electronic Fleas:

<http://web.mit.edu/w1gsl/Public/ne-fleas>

2017

21 Oct Brookline NH NEARC Antique@EvntCr \$10@7:30 \$5@8:30 Bruce 603 772 7516 W+
21 Oct Accord NY OMARC @JrHS Keith K2UNI 845 687 9951 A+
22 Oct Meriden CT Nutmeg@Sheraton John N1GNV 203 440 4973 A+
28 Oct Gales Ferry CT TCARC @FireCo auction Darryl WA1DD 860 443 7799 W
29 Oct Hicksville NY LIMARC @LeviitHall Richard K2KNB 516 694 4937 A+
4 Nov Bourne MA FARA @UpperCC VoTech \$5@9 \$10/S@7 Ralph N1YHS 508 548 0422 F+
2 Dec Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Indoor John 860 673 0518 +

2018

20 Jan Whitman MA WARC @KoC Rt18 \$5@9AM \$15/T Chris 781 523 5010 F+
3 Feb Springfield VT CVFMA @VFW @8 B/Free \$5/T@7 Dave K1ZS 603 446 7312
24 Feb S Burlington VT RAoNV @HI I89x14 \$9@8 \$15@6 Mitch W1SJ 802 879 6589 +
10 Mar Chicopee MA MtTomARA @Castle \$5@8:30 S@6:30 Brian KC1BDF 860 478 6790
18 Mar Southington CT SARA @HS \$5@8 \$20/T@6:15 John WA1JKR 860 621 8791 +
30,31 Mar Lewiston ME AARC ME Conv @Ramada @8 Ivan N1OXA 207 784 0350
7 Ap Hampton NH PCARC @Masonic \$5@8 \$10/T@7 Mark K1RX 603 231 8965
14 Ap Newton MA PHSNE Photographica Sat Only @AmLegion @9A John 781 592 2553
4-5 May Deerfield NH NEARfest XXIII @FG Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235 +
11 Aug St Albans VT STARC @VFW Arn N1ARN 802 309 0666 +
9 Sept Ballston Spa NY SCRACES @FG \$6@7 Jim KG2H 518 703-9558 +

Near-term local fleas

New England Antique Radio Club Show and Sale Saturday, 21-Oct'17
Buyers 7:30AM:\$10.00, 8:30AM:\$5.00, 10:00AM:Free!; Children:Free!
Auction: 12:00 noon
<<http://www.nearc.net/swapmeetinfo.htm>>
Brookline Event Center, 32 Proctor Hill Rd., Brookline, NH
<<http://goo.gl/maps/2BL0L>>

Special Event Stations in New England

09/23/2017 | USS Massachusetts Birthday Celebration

Sep 23, 0930Z-1500Z, NE1PL, Fall River, MA. USNR NE1PL. 7.259. QSL. USNR c/o Rick Emord, 135 Wareham St, Middleboro, MA 02346. We are celebrating the birthday of Big Mamie the USS Massachusetts BB59. nelpl.org

10/06/2017 | Warren Fall Festival

Oct 6-Oct 9, 0000Z-2359Z, W1W, New Milford, CT. Northville Amateur Radio Association. 14.225. QSL. NARA, PO Box 354, New Milford, CT 06776. The Warren Fall Festival is a fund raiser for the Warren CT volunteer fire company. NARA volunteers to operate the special event station. www.nalra.org

10/07/2017 | Dempsey Challenge Bicycle Race

Oct 7-Oct 8, 1200Z-2300Z, N1D, Auburn, ME. Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club. 28.460 14.270 7.200. Certificate & QSL. Androscoggin ARC, W1NPP, P.O. Box 1, Auburn, ME 04212. www.w1npp.org

10/09/2017 | NAQCC 13th Anniversary Celebration

Oct 9-Oct 15, 0000Z-2359Z, N1A-N0A, Ayer, MA. North American QRP CW Club. 14.060 10.116 7.040 3.560. Certificate & QSL. John Griswold, KK1X, 34 Cambridge St., Ayer, MA 01432.

11/10/2017 | 78th Anniversary of the Coast Guard AUX

Nov 10-Nov 12, 0400Z-0359Z, W1H, Elkins, NH. KB1QXJ. 28.425 21.310 14.290 7.175. QSL. Bill, Hopwood, P.O.Box 272, Elkins, NH 03233.

11/10/2017 | U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary 78th Anniversary

Nov 10-Nov 12, 0000Z-2359Z, K1H, East Freetown, MA. US Coast Guard Auxiliary. 28.480 14.250 7.195 3.820. QSL. Paul G. Sadeck, 90 Doctor Braley Rd., East Freetown, MA 02717.

04/28/2018 | Honoring the Birthday of the Boy Scouts of America

Apr 28, 1000Z-1500Z, W1BSA, Fall River, MA. USNR NE1PL. 7,259. QSL. USNR c/o Rick Emord, 135 Wareham St, Middleboro, MA 02346. This will be our fourth year transmitting in honor of the birthday of the Boy Scouts Of America from the ward room of the USS Massachusetts. Scouts camp over night on the ship and we try to involve as many as we can.

Public Service Events

Baystate Marathon/Half Marathon in Lowell - Sunday October 22, 2017

Assistance is still needed!

The Lowell CERT Communications Team has been asked to support once again the Baystate Marathon and Half Marathon. This year the event is on Sunday, October 22nd. Our operational time period is from approximately 0700 until event completion (estimated 1400).

Our assistance has been requested by Lowell Office of Emergency Management and Lowell Fire Department. The communications team will be employing Amateur Radio to provide this communications asset. Amateur Radio will be used for 2 functions:



* Medical operations: the purpose of this net is to provide a communications link for medical requests/status to the incident command post.

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* Accountability net: the purpose of this net is to coordinate with a race public information booth the status of runners who are unable to complete the race for any issue to any one is seeking this information.

Race info may be found at <http://baystatemarathon.com/raceinfo>

Please contact Terry-KA8SCP (KA8SCP@WB1GOF.org) if you are able to assist or would like more information.

PART Pumpkin Patrol in Westford - Tuesday, October 31, 2017

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.





From eHam.net News:

International Beacon Project Upgrade:

by WIA on October 15, 2017

All five Northern California DX Foundation/IARU HF propagation beacons in IARU Region 3 covering the Asia-Pacific are being upgraded. The main part of the upgrade is the NCDXF 2.0 beacon controller, based on the Arduino platform making it easier to support and open for future enhancements. Already completing the upgrade are VK6RMB West Australia, and 4S7B Sri Lanka. Both now welcome reception reports. Walt Wilson N6XG of the NCDXF said VR2ZRE Hong Kong was also on air with a new antenna and meeting beacon performance expectations. HARTS was to install the hardware. In other progress, the JARL International Section Manager, Ken Yamamoto JA1CJP said permission has been gained for the upgrade JA2IGY, and planning was under way.

Amateurlogic Episode 109 is Released:

by peter berrett (VK3PB) on October 14, 2017

Celebrate ALTV's 12th Anniversary with us. Emile prepares for a spooky Halloween with Sonic Pi. Unveiling the new RigPi. Mike, VE3MIC updates us on recent projects.

Amateur Radio Operators in California Ready During Disasters:

by keyt.com on October 14, 2017

SANTA MARIA, Calif. -- Amateur radio operators have often been called the last line of defense during a major natural disaster like the wildfires in Northern California, and operators on the Central Coast are prepared for similar emergencies. High atop a hill overlooking Lompoc and the Santa Maria Valley, Bob Harrison, or "W6RFH" as he is known over the radio, understands his role. "We make sure our families are safe, then we go do what we need to do," said Harrison. "We volunteer to make sure that there is always a line of communication during a disaster, no matter what." Harrison is president of the Satellite Amateur Radio Club out of Vandenberg Air Force Base. The club has graced the radio waves for nearly 70 years, with club members volunteering their time and equipment during all sorts of disasters, including wildfires, earthquakes, and floods. "We can set up anywhere," said Harrison. This is what makes them so special: radio operators do not need cell service or wi-fi. Many amateur radio operators who broadcast out of their homes or through clubs run their equipment off of solar power or generators to stay completely self sufficient. If a major disaster were to strike the central coast, operators would set up at evacuation center and hospitals, helping separated families and emergency personnel communicate.

We Now Know What SOS Really Stands For:

by rd.com on October 14, 2017

"Save Our Ship!" "Save Our Souls!" "Save On Socks (at Sal's Irregular Sock Emporium)!" These are all things that "SOS," the international abbreviation for distress, does not stand for. Best known for its appearances in desert island cartoons, maritime movies, and earworms by ABBA and Rihanna, the letters SOS have been used as a code for emergency since 1905. But what does SOS stand for, actually? The answer, dear readers, is nothing -- and that's exactly why it's important. Unlike WD-40, CVS, and TASER, SOS is not even an acronym: It's a Morse code sequence, deliberately introduced by the German government in a 1905 set of radio regulations to stand out from less important telegraph transmissions. Translated to Morse code, SOS looks like this: ". . . - - - . . ." Three dots, three dashes, three dots. At a time when international ships increasingly filled the seas, and Morse code was the only instantaneous way to communicate between them, vessels needed a quick and unmistakable way to signal that trouble was afoot. At first, different nations used different codes. Britain, for example, favored CQD; as the Titanic

sunk into the ocean in April 1912, it broadcast a mix of CQD and SOS calls (the resulting confusion helped take CQD out of use for good).

Ham Radio Operators Have Butte County Emergency Role:

by chicoer.com on October 13, 2017

When the Red Cross signaled it would open an evacuation center in Oroville for the Cherokee and La Porte fires, there was a small band of volunteers that may have not been noticed. They were hauling boxes of equipment to a back room at the Church of the Nazarene. They were part of the Golden Empire Amateur Radio Society, providing communication capabilities to the Red Cross. Whenever the Red Cross establishes an evacuation center, the ham radio society sets up. It helps with communication between the Red Cross operations, centers and headquarters. GEARS is part of the American Relay League. The process was repeated in February during the Oroville Dam spillway crisis, in July with the Wall Fire, in August with the Ponderosa Fire, and now with the Cherokee and La Porte fire. Volunteers donated more than 500 hours of service during those local emergencies. "We provide emergency communications for the Red Cross. When the Red Cross opens a shelter, we set up," said Kris Koenig, who is involved in the program.

Radio Club Offers Aid for Hurricane Recovery:

by statenews.com on October 13, 2017

When Hurricane Maria struck Puerto Rico in September, it left in its wake a trail of destruction as nearly 100 percent of the island's telecommunications systems were lost. In the aftermath, citizens of the United States called upon a sometimes overlooked means of communication to aid in Puerto Rico's recovery process. This method of communication is known as amateur radio. It allows transmissions via the radio frequency spectrum specifically for individuals without commercial interest. This type of broadcasting has many purposes that can range from simple, private correspondence to assistance with emergency-related services. Amateur radio even has a place at Michigan State University in the form of the MSU Amateur Radio Club, or MSUARC. According to Reece Cole, the president of MSUARC, it's one of the oldest clubs on campus. "We've been around since 1919," said Cole.

California Firestorms Reveal Wireless Network Fragility in Emergencies:

by eweek.com on October 13, 2017

The fires that ripped through California's wine country moved with deadly speed, trapping people in their houses and in their neighborhoods. In many cases, the only warning victims received was if they happened to see the flames in the distance. Other residents were able to escape the wind-driven flames if they were able to receive phone calls from neighbors, family or friends. Emergency service authorities in Napa, Sonoma and Mendocino counties sent out warnings and evacuation orders as quickly as possible. They also sent police and fire units into threatened neighborhoods with sirens blaring and emergency lights flashing to alert residents to the danger. Unfortunately, many people out of hearing of those sirens never received evacuation orders or phone calls because the cellular networks in the devastated areas were already out of commission. Worse, the same communications infrastructure that supports cellular service also supports public safety communications in many communities. This means that local authorities and community groups are relying on ham radio operators to provide critical communications. Currently, the Sacramento Bee is reporting that ham operators are providing the only communications with hospitals in some areas.

Chiddix Student to Contact International Space Station with Ham Radio:

by wglt.org on October 12, 2017

At the end of the month, eighth-graders at Chiddix Junior High School in Normal will get a chance of a lifetime. Chiddix has been selected as one of 11 schools or educational centers across the country -- and

the only one in Illinois -- where students will be able to speak with an astronaut currently on board the International Space Station. They'll do this through a ham radio transmission. The project was the brainchild of Dhruv Rebba, a 13-year-old eighth-grader who is one of the youngest licensed ham radio operators in the country.

Reinvention of Amateur Radio:

by WIA on October 12, 2017

Lack of growth in radio amateur numbers, and how to make Amateur Radio attractive and relevant to young people, is very much on the minds of many International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) member societies, including the Wireless Institute of Australia (WIA). A common practice is for any organisation, commercial or otherwise, to reinvent itself about every 10 to 20 years. Think about this process that happens in the business world, and with community and social activities. In Australia, we introduced the Limited licence -- fondly dubbed the Z-call, after the first callsign suffix block issued -- then the Novice, and later, the Foundation licence. These responded to the need for reinvention in their eras. That time has come again, only more quickly, driven by the exponential growth in technology. A few years ago, the WIA began work with the regulator, the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA), to plan a future for Amateur Radio. Recently, the WIA consulted widely with members and non-members on the future Licence Condition Determination (LCD). A review and reform of the LCD is now expected to begin soon, to be finalised in 2018. Keeping in mind that a new LCD could remove the barriers that hamper the use of existing and future technologies, we must also broaden the scope of Amateur Radio to make it an obvious choice for today's tech-savvy young people and for future generations. It's time for current radio amateurs to more than ever think about the future, and take action to recruit technically-minded or inquisitive people interested in exploring what the dynamic and diverse activities Amateur Radio offers now, and will continue to develop in the years ahead. The recent IARU Region 1 General Conference held a workshop on 'The Future of Amateur Radio', and discussed many things that the WIA has been exploring to make the hobby more attractive and relevant to today's technology-rich society. The Region 1 workshop has provided many ideas from member societies in Europe, Africa, the Middle East and Northern Asia. Reprising the Region 1 initiative, "Attracting youth to Amateur Radio" will be the theme for the late 2018 Conference of IARU Region 3, comprising member societies across Asia and the Pacific.

DX News -- ARRL DX Bulletin #41:

by W1AW Bulletin via the ARRL on October 12, 2017

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by NT5V, 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.

Ham Radio Bridging the Gap In Wildfire-Stricken California:

by The ARRL Letter on October 12, 2017

More than a dozen wildfires in Northern California have damaged or destroyed cellular telephone and internet infrastructure in some areas, and Amateur Radio has helped to fill the communication gap. Mendocino County Sheriff Thomas Allman told news media on Tuesday, October 10, that damage to cell towers and fiber optic telephone and computer lines had left officials relying on Amateur Radio operators to communicate with area hospitals.

Vice President Visits 'Force Of 50,' RC Invites Volunteers to Extend Stay:

by The ARRL Letter on October 12, 2017

Vice President Mike Pence visited "Force of 50" volunteers and emergency responders at the Puerto Rico Emergency Operations Center (PREOC) in San Juan's Convention Center on October 6. "He gave a very

motivating speech, and our very own Gary Sessums, KC5QCN, shook his hand," volunteer Valerie Hotzfeld, NV9L, reported.

[ARRL Expresses Gratitude for Outpouring of Ham Aid Donations:](#)

by The ARRL Letter on October 12, 2017

ARRL thanks the Amateur Radio community for its generosity in support of the ARRL Ham Aid Fund, which is making it possible to provide relief and recovery communications in Puerto Rico. Overall, there have been more than 600 donations to the Ham Aid program in response to a call from ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, and nearly \$125,000 has come in from clubs and individuals. Several Amateur Radio retailers and manufacturers also have stepped up to donate needed equipment. Roderick said he was amazed at the overwhelming response, including those who answered his call to join the "Force of 50" now deployed in Puerto Rico.



ARRL News



10/15/2017 | [UTC Approvals to Use 630- and/or 2,200-Meter Bands Arriving via E-Mail](#)

E-mails have gone out to an undetermined number of US radio amateurs from the Utilities Technology Council (UTC), approving the stations' intention to use 630 meters (472-479 kHz) and/or 2,200 meters (135.7-137.8 kHz).



10/15/2017 | [Amateur Radio Facilitates Another Patient Evacuation on Puerto Rico](#)

Amateur Radio volunteers on Culebra and in Fajardo — Jeremy Dougherty, NS0S, and Matthey Gonter, AC4MG — made it possible for physicians at the two locations to communicate directly in an effort to evacuate a patient.



10/13/2017 | [ARRL Section Manager Evacuates When Fire Comes Within Two Blocks](#)

ARRL San Francisco Section Manager Bill Hillendahl, KH6GJV, says the message he stresses during the weekly Sonoma County Radio Amateurs (SCRA) ARES net is this: "When an incident occurs, take to the air and form a net. Anyone can act as net control."



10/13/2017 | [CW from Catalonia, Stanag-4285 from Turkey Make IARU Monitoring System Intruder List.](#)

An unknown station transmitted “Freedom for Catalonia” in a CW loop on September 26 (1710 UTC) at 14.001 MHz, the International Amateur Radio Union Region 1 Monitoring System said.



10/13/2017 | [ARRL 2018 Puerto Rico State Convention Cancelled](#)

The Organizing Committee for the 2018 ARRL Puerto Rico State Convention has announced the cancellation of the 2018 convention.



10/13/2017 | [Global Effort Under Way to Restore Dominica's Amateur Radio Capabilities](#)

The Yasme Foundation, Yaesu USA, the Foundation for Amateur International Radio Service (FAIRS), and individual GoFundMe donors have joined forces to restore country-wide Amateur Radio communication on Dominica.



10/13/2017 | [Puerto Rico Volunteer Aids Burn Victim, Contacts Family via Ham Radio](#)

Ham radio plays a major role in a medical emergency on the island of Culebra, Puerto Rico.



10/13/2017 | [K1JT, K9AN, and G4WJS Win the October QST Cover Plaque Award](#)

The three authors collaborated on a two-part series about WSJT-X software



The PART monthly meetings are held at the Cameron Senior Center, 20 Pleasant Street in Westford. **NOW STARTING AT 7:30 PM**

Click [here](#) for the address and information.

ARRL Bulletins

- 2017-09-26 [ARLX009](#) Past QCWA General Manager, Former ARRL Staffer Jim LaPorta, N1CC (SK)
- 2017-09-15 [ARLB018](#) FCC Opens 630- and 2200-Meter Bands; Stations Must Notify UTC Before Operating
- 2017-09-08 [ARLB017](#) Operating Procedures During Hurricane Irma
- 2017-08-18 [ARLB016](#) Revised NCVEC Form 605 Must Be Used at Exam Sessions Starting on August 21
- 2017-08-15 [ARLX008](#) Solar Eclipse QSO Party Signup So Far Has Attracted More Than 250 Eclipse Enthusiasts
- 2017-06-22 [ARLX006](#) ARRL Sacramento Valley Section Official Observer Coordinator Norm Lucas, WB6RVR (SK)
- 2017-06-19 [ARLX005](#) 2017 W1AW Field Day Bulletin Schedule
- 2017-05-24 [ARLB015](#) Spring Section Manager Election Results Announced
- 2017-05-20 [ARLB014](#) Ned Stearns, AA7A, Elected as Southwestern Division Vice Director
- 2017-05-05 [ARLB013](#) Important Notice - New MF and LF Bands are Not Yet Available to Use!
- 2017-04-27 [ARLX004](#) Armed Forces Day Crossband Military/Amateur Radio Communications Test is May 13
- 2017-04-06 [ARLB012](#) Revised Memorandum of Understanding between ARRL and FCC Still a Work in Progress
- 2017-04-05 [ARLX002](#) 30th International Marconi Day Event Set for April 22
- 2017-04-05 [ARLX003](#) Former Kansas Section Manager Orlan Cook, W0OYH, and Former Sacramento Valley Section Manager Ron Murdock, W6KJ (SK)
- 2017-03-13 [ARLB011](#) W1AW 2017 Spring/Summer Operating Schedule
- 2017-02-27 [ARLX001](#) Past ARRL Midwest Division Director Lew Gordon, K4VX (SK)
- 2017-02-24 [ARLB010](#) New Section Manager Appointed in West Virginia
- 2017-02-22 [ARLB009](#) Winter Cycle Section Manager Election Results Announced
- 2017-02-21 [ARLB007](#) FCC Invites Comments on ARRL Petition to Allocate New 5 MHz Band
- 2017-02-21 [ARLB008](#) New Section Manager Appointed in Illinois
- 2017-01-26 [ARLB006](#) Amateur Radio Parity Act Speeds to U.S. House Passage, Heads to U.S. Senate
- 2017-01-17 [ARLB005](#) New "Amateur Radio Parity Act" Bill Introduced in US House of Representatives
- 2017-01-13 [ARLB004](#) ARRL Asks FCC to Allocate New 5 MHz Band, Retain Channels and Current Power Limit
- 2017-01-12 [ARLB003](#) Illegal Drone Transmitters Could Interfere with Air Traffic Control, ARRL Complaint Asserts
- 2017-01-06 [ARLB002](#) FCC Dismisses Two Petitions from Radio Amateurs
- 2017-01-03 [ARLB001](#) W1AW 2017 Winter Operating Schedule



Latest Amateur Radio News from around the world

URL: <http://www.southgatearc.org>



[ARISS contact planned for two schools in Italy](#)

An International Space Station ARISS contact has been planned for astronaut **Paolo Nespoli IZØJPA** with Istituto Scolastico Comprensivo "Nardi", Porto San Giorgio, Italy and I.C. Michelangelo Buonarroti, Marina di Carrara, Italy



[FCC affirms huge fine in New York interference case](#)

The FCC has affirmed a huge fine of more than \$400,000 on **Jay Peralta**, a Queens, New York, man who has admitted to making unauthorized transmissions on New York City Police Department (NYPD) radio frequencies, maliciously interfering with officers' communications



[VK6ARN NewsWest](#)

In the news this week, it's our NEW HAMS edition, and if that's not enough, it's packed full of reminders and news from around the traps - along with our normal segments



[Application process for Short Term Restricted Service Licences \(SRSLs\) during May and June 2018](#)

Ofcom has just outlined the application process for SRSLs to provide a radio service between 12 May and 16 June 2018 (inclusive)



[Final touches on Kletsious this weekend](#)

The AMSATSA **Kletsious** team will be busy this weekend with the final touches on the CubeSat to get it ready to fly next Saturday on BACAR



[CQ Hou Koers](#)

CQ Hou Koers is the South African Voortrekkers' national amateur radio day and takes place on Saturday 21 October, with most Voortrekker stations active from 08:00 until 12:00 on 40 and 20 m and local repeaters

ARRL November Sweepstakes





Objective: For stations in the United States and Canada (including territories and possessions) to exchange QSO information with as many other US and Canadian stations as possible on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meter bands.

CW: First full weekend in November (**November 4-6, 2017**).

Phone: Third full weekend in November (**November 18-20, 2017**).

Contest Period: Begins 2100 UTC Saturday and runs through 0259 UTC Monday.

Ham radio contest calendar

- [ARRL Contest Calendar](#) ★★★★★ - Comprehensive ARRL contest calendar, includes rules sopbox web reports and QST results. Contest Corral include non-ARRL contests schedule for coming months.
- [DL2NBY Contest Calendar](#) ★★★★★ - This site provides dates and rules of nearly 400 Amateur Radio HF contests. Based on google calendar system, offer the possibilty to integrate calendar events in your google calendar too.
- [HB9DHG Contest calendar](#) - Yearly contest calendar with links to rules and contest results. Contest information is validated and checked.
- [HF Digital Contest Calendar](#)  - Monthly Digital Contest Calendar, this site offer a list of scheduled ham radio digital modes contests.
- [Monthly QRP contest calendar](#) - QRP Contest Calendar All contest have QRP Categories by N3EPA but no more updated since 2011.
- [RTTY Contests](#) ★★★★★ - An RTTY only contest calendar, which includes scores and rules and records of recent and upcoming RTTY contests.
- [SM3CER Contest Calendar](#) ★★★★★ - SM3CER Contest Service is one of the most up-to-date and complete contest calendar available online since the early internet era, it offers monthly constest calendar with rules links and results
- [VHF UHF Contest Calendar](#) - European VHF UHF Contest calendar by G4ZTR
- [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#) ★★★★★  - Complete listing of upcoming ham radio contests, including rule summaries of this week's contests. You can even subscribe to his email service or subscribe to rss feeds.

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>

Not sure if you are aware that there is a W. Middlesex ARES group that has been on for a few years. The station has two VHF/UHF rigs and antennas which is located at the new Stow Fire Station. It is a simplex net on the second Tuesday of the month on 147.435 MHz, 110.9 Hz tone.

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 \$19 (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

Full breakfast: \$19.00 (*new price*)

Continental breakfast: \$12.00 (*new price*)

Kid's breakfast: \$9.00



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Robert Schmeichel
2011



Copyright WB1GOF,
Robert Schmeichel
2013

CQ World Wide DX Contest

CQ WW Contest Dates

SSB: October 28-29, 2017

CW: November 25-26, 2017

Starts: 0000 UTC Saturday

Ends: 2359 UTC Sunday

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.

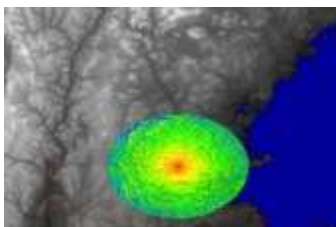
EmComm events and repeater use

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 be 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 to change to another frequency. You should use your best judgment or check with the NCS on what he feels is best.

If you have any questions, please feel free to correspond with Terry-KA8SCP. All requests for repeater use can be initiated by email to info@wb1gof.org.



Repeater propagation info is available on the PART [website](#). Check out the links to the summit information as well as coverage and plot plans maps for the WB1GOF repeaters. Complete info on the site can be found at this [URL](#).

PART Gear

The PART Quartermaster has lots of great PART-ware for sale including mugs and shirts. You can get information how you can obtain your PART-ware at the monthly club meetings.

Club members are also encouraged to obtain an official PART badge (the first one is FREE to new members). We use The Sign Man of Baton Rouge as our official supplier, and you can browse the club's design at:

<<http://thesignman.com/clubs/part.html>>. However, please place your order via the PART Membership Chairman, Hugh Maguire-N1QGE, hulin127@verizon.net so that we may benefit from bulk pricing.



EmComm

Emergency Communications – The WB1GOF 146.955 repeater is used on the first Monday of every month (except federal/state holidays) for an EmComm Net starting at 1930 local time. If you are interested in being part of the local emergency communications team in your community, feel free to contact any of the following folks:

Terry Stader – KA8SCP, MEMA Region 1 Communications Officer & Town of Westford

Bill Ohm – W1OHM, for the Town of Chelmsford

Darrel Mallory – K1EJ, North Middlesex ARES

- We need radio operators that can pass messages on to the local emergency management directors in several towns in northern Middlesex County.

Skywarn - The WB1GOF 146.955 repeater is also used for reporting significant weather events to the National Weather Service from our local spotters. You can provide valuable information even if you have not attended one of the training sessions. Listen to the Skywarn Net Control Station for reporting criteria, when you have information that qualifies, please advise him with your report.

Situational Awareness – Recently, the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency has asked the Amateur Radio community to provide situational awareness and disaster intelligence information within your local community via EmComm nets and/or Skywarn stations. Significant events such as widespread power outages can be reported and by agencies such as MEMA to evaluate the scope of a blackout for example. Initially, you should try and contact the EmComm Net Control Stations on the Westford 146.955 repeater to pass this information. More on this new program will be forthcoming.

PART Sunday Night Net – The PART Net each Sunday night is an IMPORTANT part of our regional EmComm function. With each station that checks in from the surrounding communities, we test our ability to communicate vital information to the ham radio community. Sure we announce club info but we can also communicate regional disaster news and serve as a “hub” for news of situations in our communities. The repeater is on a generator, so even if we lose 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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Like us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/wb1gof



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