



# *PARTicles*

The newsletter of PART of Westford, MA – WB1GOF

## September 2014

### President's Column

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#### - *Andy Stewart (KB1OIQ)*

This month was a bit calmer than the previous couple of months. About 3 weeks ago, I released version 16 of "Andy's Ham Radio Linux", based on Ubuntu Linux 14.04.1 LTS. It has been very well received, with over 1000 downloads in that time. Many thanks to those of you who have tried it and offered feedback.

Approximately 600 QSL cards have been mailed to people who contacted K2H during the 13 Colonies Special Event. I continue to receive a handful each week. There have been no QSL requests for Field Day QSOs.

Many thanks to all of you who offered helpful suggestions while I was debugging the CI-V port on my IC-746PRO. Rig control failed during Field Day at the SSB station, and it has been driving me nuts since I couldn't find the cause. Now, I have to deal with the repair, but at least I know why it happened.

The Grace Race is a road race sponsored by the Grace Community Church in Chelmsford to raise money for Kenyan orphans. PART has helped during the last few years with amateur radio support, and the Grace Race organizers have been very appreciative. Once again, I am looking for volunteers for this event, which will be held on Saturday, October 4th, 2014, at the Grace Community Church on Rt. 129 in Chelmsford. If you have a 2m HT and a desire to help, please contact me via email at [kb1oiq@arrl.net](mailto:kb1oiq@arrl.net). If you have never volunteered at a public service event, this is a great one in which to learn! More details will be sent out soon.

Our current club officers have accepted nominations to serve the club for another year in their respective roles. We will have the annual election at the September PART meeting. Congratulations to

Rick Green (W1RAG) for his appointment to the office of Director-at-Large for the coming year.

In addition to the elections, at the September PART meeting, Rick (W1RAG) will present his "Field Day Retrospective" slideshow. Rick has done this for several years, and it is a popular and amusing show to say the least. Otherwise known as the "Silly Slideshow", Rick shows us a side of Field Day and ourselves that isn't immediately apparent, using pictures and captions. Looking at the slides afterwards just isn't the same as being there. This will be a great time and I hope you don't miss it!

I've recently been playing with Broadband Hamnet, which is open source firmware that one loads into a Linksys WRT54GL (or similar) device. These ubiquitous wireless access points, with new firmware, are morphed into a device capable of forming a self configuring mesh network with other similar devices, allowing computers to pass data without the internet. DNS routing is automatically available between mesh nodes and computers connected to said nodes. With stock power and antennas, the use is governed by the Part 15 rules, but with additional power and gain antennas, its use moves into the Part 97 domain since wifi channels 1-6 overlap with the upper end of the ham band at 2390-2450 MHz. True line of sight is needed at these frequencies, but with that and a proper antenna, mesh nodes can easily be many miles apart. Does anybody have any ideas on how this technology could be used at Field Day, a public service event, or for emergency communications? Read here for more information: <http://www.broadband-hamnet.org>.

Have a lot of fun!  
73 de Andy KB1OIQ

<p><b>Next PART meeting: Tuesday September 16<sup>th</sup></b> @1930 – Westford Police station</p>
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## Treasurer's Report

### PART Treasury between 15-July '14 & 18-August '14 (As of 30-August '14)

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Repeater Fund</u>	<u>Checking Total</u>
Old Balance	\$ 2,543.10	\$2,581.09	\$5,124.19
Income	\$ 217.89	\$ 0.00	\$ 217.89
Expenses	\$ (210.35)	\$ 0.00	\$ (210.35)
Net	\$ 7.54	\$ 0.00	\$ 7.54
New Balance	\$ 2,550.64	\$2,581.09	\$5,131.73

### PART 2014 Membership as of 30-August '14

	Individuals (= New for 2014 + Renew for 2014)		Households (= New for 2014 + Renew for 2014)	
Full (\$25)*	40	(= 10 + 30)	40	(= 10 + 30)
Senior (\$15)*	36	(= 1 + 35)	36	(= 1 + 35)
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*	<b>106</b>	(= 15 + 89)	90	(= 13 + 76)

ARRL members:\* 92

(Including ARRL Life members: 8)

NOTE: \* Starred lines changed since 5-August '14

##To pay dues##

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

-or-

Club Meeting, Westford P.D., 7:30PM, 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday

### Latest new PART members:

Jwahar/KC1CCR (Westford)  
Victor/K1VEA (Framingham)  
Ellen/KB1NIP (Framingham)

## Upcoming PART Meetings/Events

### September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014

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

### October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014

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

### October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014

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

### November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014

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

### November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014

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

### December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014

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

### December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014

- No Meeting. HOLIDAY DINNER

## Monthly PART Meetings and Social Events

- Every Sunday, 8 PM – PART Net on 146.955 repeater
- Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 7:30 PM – PART Meetings at Westford Police station
- Every 1<sup>st</sup> 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/w1gsl/Public/ne-fleas>

#### **2014**

20 Sept Forestdale RI RIAFMRS @VFW \$5/Sp@8 Pete AA1PL 401 639 4484 T+  
20 Sept Riverview NB MAARC @Lions \$5@10 S@8 Charles VE9CEL R+  
20 Sept Alexander ME StCVARC @elSch Roger W1LH 207 454 2174 A  
21 Sept Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 F+  
27 Sept Brookline NH NEARC Antique \$5@8:30 \$10@7:30 Bruce 603 772 7516 F+  
5 Oct Queens NY HoSARC Stephen WB2KDG 718 898 5599 W+  
10,11 Oct Deerfield NH NEARfest XVI @FG Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235 +  
12 Oct Meriden CT Nutmeg @Sheraton was Wallingford John N1GNV 203 440 4973  
12 Oct Fishkill NY MtBARC @CorectionalQWL Adam KC2DAA 845 849 3666 A+  
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, 21-Sep'14 & Sunday, 19-Oct'14

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

<<http://web.mit.edu/w1mx/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/w1mx/www/swapfest/buyers-parking.pdf>>

#### **New England Antique Radio Club Auction**

Saturday, 27-Sep'14

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/2BLol>>

#### **NEAR-Fest XVI**

Friday, 10-Oct'14 and Saturday, 11-Oct'14 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/>

### WB1GOF.org

#### WB1GOF-R Echolink Node Status and more

- By Terry Stader-KA8SCP

There have been a couple of changes to the PART website in the last week or so in the repeater section. We just added the Echolink Status component so a quick look will let you know the status of the Echolink Node. Maybe down the road, we'll add the last several stations heard.

This information is available on the WB1GOF 146.955 [RepeaterBook page](#) as well.

Also added to this page in the list of links, is the link to the D-Star status page as well as the link to the D-Star registration page.

#### Westford, Prospect Hill - WB1GOF

(25-3280) Views: 206



##### REPORT UPDATE

Frequency: 146.9550-  
Tone In/Out: 74.4 / 74.4  
Location: Westford, Prospect Hill  
County: Middlesex  
State: Massachusetts  
Call: [WB1GOF](#) ✉  
Use: **OPEN**  
Op Status: On-Air  
Coverage: 35 mi radius.  
Sponsor: [PART of Westford](#)  
Features: 579', 55 watts.  
EchoLink: [380799 WB1GOF-R](#)  
**ON - IDLE**  
Commands:  
Nets: Sunday Night PART Net: 2000 local  
Web links: <http://www.wb1gof.org/>  
Last update: 2012-12-27

#### PART activities

##### WB1GOF repeaters

- Frequencies and codes
- Repeater Rules of Conduct
- Complete repeater guide
- D-Star Linking Policy
- D-Star Status
- D-Star Registration

##### PARTware

##### PART affiliations

##### Resources

##### Contact us

Echolink Status  
Node: 380799  
Call: WB1GOF-R  
Status: **ONLINE**



The WB1





## Icom announce D-STAR QSO Party for 2014

Icom has announced information for the **2014 D-STAR QSO** Party, an annual contest that promotes the Amateur (Ham) radio hobby around the world through D-STAR (Digital Smart Technologies for Amateur Radio)

## Public Service

### Another Challenge Walk

- By Mark Richard – K1MGY

I have just returned from the MS Challenge Walk, a three-day 50 mile fundraiser for the



*Bicycle team assembles in Hyannis on Friday morning for the start of the 2014 Challenge Walk*

Multiple Sclerosis Society. This year more than 500 participants walked 20 miles on Friday from Hyannis to Brewster, another 20 on Saturday from Brewster to the Coast Guard Beach in Eastham and back, and the final 10 miles on Sunday between Brewster and Dennis. After a needed BBQ lunch, we trucked off to the centre of Hyannis for the last half mile, with the MS Walkers' in the lead. One of two hams providing communications support on bicycle, I accompanied other hams, medical and bike crew as we all walked the last half mile, in trail, and in symbolic support of the many

courageous participants in this walk who do battle with such a ruthless disease.

Weather for the three day event was

made difficult by the presence of hard sunshine and high humidity on Friday and Saturday. An expected frontal passage for Saturday afternoon was of concern, but fortunately was drained of energy as it passed through Middlesex County. My mobile phone flashed messages, one of them for a Tornado warning in the WB1GOF service area, while we patrolled a sunny 20 mile course.

Our medical team was quite busy treating a preponderance of foot blisters. A few Hypotonic Hyponatremia cases were of concern, one of which I spotted and shepherded to our central medical staff for later hospital care. Remarkably, with so many participants and tough weather, the medical issues did not overwhelm systems already in place



*One of many teams participating in the Challenge Walk, where this year Orange was a predominant color*



*Friday, the first half of the 20 mile journey is along busy roadways between Hyannis to Yarmouth. Here, a group of participants are cheered on by one of the volunteers*

to manage these.

Sunday's final 10 miles was especially challenging for the bicycle and SAG teams. The entire route is by public road, many of these quite dangerous to walkers and cyclists. One of our safety team members (motor crew), stationed at a particularly tough intersection, was nearly struck by an erratic motorist – the same one that would have shaved me off the road for a few less inches, moments later.

Hopefully our urgent 911 call resulted in the driver's

removal from her vehicle where she might contemplate safer driving: from the rear seat of a police cruiser.



*Walkway to Coast Guard Beach, Eastham. Combined with the high spirits among participants and crew, this Saturday mid-day destination was icing on an already sweet cake.*

Sunday, after the last 10 miles, a BBQ, and some time to rest, everyone gathered on Main Street, Hyannis, for a walk - the last

half mile – through the town centre. Approaching the entry to the Barnstable Town Hall Green at Main Street Hyannis, I met two rather burly firefighters, reduced to an unusual display of emotion at the sight of walkers reaching the completion of this extraordinary event. One of them asked “how are you doing after three days on a bike?” I replied, “Tired. But there’s one thing I have learned in these three days: I now know what it feels like to walk”.





## Upcoming Public Service Events

### Bay State Marathon - Sunday Oct. 19, 2014

- By Terry Stader – KA8SCP

Once again, local ham radio operators will be ramping up to support the Bay State Marathon in the City of Lowell on Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup>. As we have done in the past, we will be assisting with medical operations and runner accountability from many locations on the course.

We will need about 12-15 Amateur Radio operators that have 2 meter portable radios, dual band portables might be a plus. In the past we have used simplex operations and cross-band operations from key locations to connect up to core sites and provide information as required.



Race information can be found at <http://baystatemarathon.com>



If you are interested, please contact Terry-KA8SCP via email, [ka8scp@wb1gof.org](mailto:ka8scp@wb1gof.org) to sign up or get more information.

### Grace Race - Saturday Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> 2014

- By Andy Stewart – KB1OIQ

For the last few years, PART has provided communication and course monitoring support for the Grace Race, which is a 5 mile running race and 5K walk. This event will be held in Chelmsford on Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014.



The Grace Race is sponsored by the Grace Community Church, and the goal is to raise funds to help Kenyan Orphans. This race is in its 11th year and draws about 100-200 runners.

I am looking for 6-10 volunteers to monitor various places on the race course. Each volunteer will need a 2m HT set for 146.955MHz (WB1GOF 2m FM repeater), enough batteries to last for the duration of the event, and proper clothing and shoes. This race takes place regardless of the weather. If you've never volunteered for a public service event, this is a great one with which to start.

Please contact me directly if you are interested. The event will run from approximately 9 AM to 1 PM but we'll probably be done sooner.

Here is a link containing more information about the event:

<http://www.gracerace.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/2014Poster.jpg>



From eHam.net News:

### **Students Contact Astronaut on International Space Station:**

by tristatehomepage.com on September 7, 2014

An exciting day for Evansville Day School students. They got to send their questions beyond the atmosphere. With help from the amateur radio society, students were able to contact the International Space Station and talk to one of the astronauts on board. Teachers at Evansville Day School say the kids were excited about this opportunity. 11 students were chosen to ask their own questions this morning. They came with questions about life in space. And some students were curious about other things. These Evansville Day School students are learning about space at the Evansville Museum. They had a 10 minute window to talk with an American astronaut on the International Space Station. "I asked if, what activities were difficult in microgravity that were simple in the Earth's gravity," said 6th grader Samuel McGuire. "He said that it was all difficult, and that everything was really hard to do in space." Students learned about NASA and say the astronaut told them the Earth is really small.

### **Lecture, Living History, Free Programs Highlight National WWI Museum:**

by leavenworthtimes.com on September 6, 2014

Award-winning author Christopher Clark's presentation as part of the Great War | Great Read initiative along with various free public programs are among the highlights of September activities from the National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial in Kansas City, Mo. The National World War I Museum is partnering with amateur radio operators to present WWIUSA for 31 consecutive hours from Saturday to Sunday. WWIUSA features amateur radio operators contacting other station operators around the world. Individuals are welcome to serve as a guest operator and everyone receives an amateur radio operator certificate for their participation. The National World War I Museum is partnering with the Midwest Center for Holocaust Education and the National Archives at Kansas City to host a series of eight lectures at the Museum in conjunction with the State of Deception exhibition. The next lecture in the series is Saturday and features Dr. Pearl James presenting on World War I posters and visual culture. Sharon Pucker Rivo will deliver the sixth lecture Sept. 10 about the power of film images and the Holocaust. All lectures in the series begin at 7 p.m. and are free to the public with RSVP.

### **Numbers Stations, Radio, and Their Role in the Intelligence Community:**

by highbrowmagazine.com on September 6, 2014

Many nights, Spooks turn on their shortwave radios and drift through the frequencies. On any given night, one can hear amateur radio stations broadcasting church sermons, utility traffic for aircrafts – with the right equipment, you can hear/contact the International Space Station. Yet one of the most eerie, mysterious uses of shortwave is that of the numbers stations: stations that feature ominous – sometimes robotic – voices saying seemingly random number patterns. Shortwave radio boomed in the 1920s: For decades, it was the only way to receive transmissions from far away. Numbers stations, as they are called now, have been around since World War I, though many of the most famous transmissions took place during the Cold War. These mysterious stations are all, to date, unlicensed. Some feature automated voices, others have what sound like children's voices, another with a sultry woman announcing numbers. One station – a Moscow-based broadcast during a Communist party coup – featured only the number five repeated for hours. Numbers stations and use of shortwave have declined after the Cold War, but there are still transmissions heard every day – the shortwave decline has not been as pronounced as one would expect. Part of the reason for this is that it is a secure means of one-way communication. Since the airwaves are being released out into the ether – the intended recipient is completely untrackable. Presumably, spies would carry a one-time pad, which would have the encryption code to be used (ideally)



for just one broadcast (hence one-time). This makes decryption from pedestrians and enemies nearly impossible unless that one-time pad is misused or corrupted. Almost all of the information we have on these numbers stations is due to hobbyists listening, sourcing, and sometimes attempting to decode the stations with their own radios. The communities of hobbyists are vast – and their logging can be prolific. There is the Spooks Spy Numbers Station Mailing List, the Conet Project (which compiles recordings of shortwave), the Spy Numbers Station Database, and many others. They keep track of the frequency, the time, the numbers, and sometimes record audio each time spooks hear a Numbers broadcast. These shortwave enthusiasts sometimes spend hours trying to locate the source of these broadcasts – sometimes, to no avail.

### **What Happened to Motorola?**

by Charles Belavitz (WA2ONH) on September 5, 2014

On the 18th floor of the Merchandise Mart, in a soaring two-story space underneath a vast industrial-looking stairway, a small crowd of business types, pols, and journalists gathers. They're here on this warm April day to check out the geek-chic new offices of Motorola Mobility, the mobile phone maker that spun off from then-struggling telecommunications company Motorola (now Motorola Solutions) in January 2011 and got snapped up by tech giant Google seven months later. A big, silver-haired man wearing a dark suit, a Silicon Valley-style open-neck shirt, and a high-wattage smile steps up to the podium. Rick Osterloh has been the president and COO of Motorola Mobility for all of 10 days, the fourth man to run the place since its split from the mother ship. In a few minutes, this amiable Stanford grad will launch visitors on a tour of the slick 14-acre space. They'll see images and artifacts from Motorola's storied history—the first car radios, the first handheld mobile phones, the first device to carry voice and video from the moon to the earth—interspersed with lots of glass and metal and Google-bright colors. They'll visit a game room complete with retro pinball machines, seven big labs with see-through walls, and 10 kitchens with tech themes. (In the NASA kitchen, snack bags nestle inside an Apollo space helmet.)

### **Propagation Forecast Bulletin #36 de K7RA:**

by W1AW Bulletin via the ARRL on September 5, 2014

Sunspot activity continued to weaken over the past seven days (August 28 through September 3). Average daily sunspot numbers declined from 113.4 to 85.1, and average daily solar flux went from 130.5 to 126.7. Geomagnetic activity was up recently, with average planetary A index increasing from 7.4 to 14.7, nearly double the values from the August 21 to 27 period week earlier.

### **Connecting Across Cultural Lines With Ham Radio:**

by wyso.org on September 5, 2014

Hams can convey a great deal of information in their own Hamspeak. 5-9 for example, means someone has a good radio signal, and 73 is a sign-off that means "Best Regards". When needed, hams broadcast for emergencies, natural disasters and community events. Robert Moore, also known as Bob Moore, Jr and K8EJM has been a ham since 1956. I visited Bob's ham shack, a room dedicated to amateur radio. Bob is comfortable among these black boxes with numbers, buttons and silver dials. He sits down at the mic and begins to make contact with hams in Florida, Italy and Germany before engaging in a lengthier conversation with someone in the Dominican Republic. On a wall is a bookshelf with technical manuals, on another is his radio, amplifier, and an oscillator for use in high speed Morse Code. There is a world map on which Bob has marked all the countries where he has made contacts. These contacts the world over are testaments to the appeal of this hobby and the fraternity it creates despite politics or current events. In this country though, mirroring America's history, wireless radio has had a racially segregated past. Local amateur operator, Cliff Peoples, call sign KE8QR, knows this history. "In the 40s and the 50s, the country still being very segregated and black amateurs were on the air, they still could not integrate into the system as far as amateur radio goes because white amateur operators would not talk to black

operators," says Peoples. "Blacks organized their own groups of amateur operators and the first black organization in this area was formed by 11 gentlemen from Ohio, Michigan, Indiana and Kentucky. Hence, it was called OMIK." In addition to using radio technology to find a safe haven, Bob Moore indicates that black amateurs used it as a passport. "There were people who traveled around the country, they needed safe places to stay. So the amateur radio organization had a network of places for travelers to stay especially when they were in the South."

#### **'Brightpoints' Reveal Inner Workings of Sun's Solar Cycle:**

by natureworldnews.com on September 5, 2014

The Sun's "brightpoints" serve as new markers for determining the mysterious and ever-changing solar cycle of our closest star, according to a new study, changing scientists' previous beliefs about what drives this cycle. Approximately every 11 years, the Sun undergoes a complete personality change, from quiet and calm to violently active. The height of its activity, known as the solar maximum, can be observed by numerous sunspots on its surface and solar particles shooting out into the far reaches of space. Located in the heart of the Sun, physicists have for the first time directly detected neutrinos, revealing a little about our closest star and the sources of its energy, a new study describes. Since records began, successive solar maxima have been observed as short as nine years, and as long as 14. Until now, scientists did not know how to more accurately determine the timing and cause of these solar events. Brightpoints - little bright spots in the solar atmosphere that allow us to observe the inner workings of the Sun - provide a new way to witness the magnetic fields evolve and move through our closest star. "Sunspots have been the perennial marker for understanding the mechanisms that rule the Sun's interior," Scott McIntosh, a space scientist at the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Colorado, said in a NASA news release. "Now we can see there are bright points in the solar atmosphere, which act like buoys anchored to what's going on much deeper down. They help us develop a different picture of the interior of the Sun."

#### **ARNewsline Report 1934 -- Sept 5 2014:**

by Bill Pasternak (WA6ITF) on September 5, 2014

The following is a Q-S-T. Japan's upcoming space mission to an asteroid will carry a ham radio satellite; a new study in the United States challenges the so-called broadband spectrum crunch; a DXpedition to Navassa Island will take place within the next 18 months; AMSAT North America adds an auction at its upcoming space symposium and pirate radio causing aviation safety concerns in China. All this and more on Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1934 coming your way right now.

#### **4th Annual CW Open Contest Sept. 5-6:**

by Ed Tobias (KR3E) on September 4, 2014

Are you ready for one of the most unique and fun contests on the air? If so, jump into the CW Open, organized by the CWops club...it's three-contests-in-one!

#### **DX News -- ARRL DX Bulletin #36:**

by W1AW Bulletin via the ARRL on September 4, 2014

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by K1IU, the OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX News, The Daily DX, DXNL, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.

#### **Just Ahead In Radiosport:**

by The ARRL Letter on September 4, 2014

Just Ahead In Radiosport:

### **New Amateur Radio Vanity Call Sign Fee Set At \$21.40:**

by The ARRL Letter on September 4, 2014

The FCC has adjusted very slightly downward -- to \$21.40 -- its proposed Amateur Service vanity call sign regulatory fee for Fiscal Year 2014. In a June Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM), the Commission said it intended to hike the current \$16.10 vanity fee to \$21.60 for the 10-year license term.

### **'Red Badge Day' on Sept 21 is a Chance to Rack Up Centennial QSO Points:**

by The ARRL Letter on September 4, 2014

ARRL's "Red Badgers" will be out in force on Sunday, September 21 UTC (starting the evening of Saturday, September 20, in US time zones), offering another opportunity to snag some high-value contacts to boost your ARRL Centennial QSO Party total.

### **Radio Transponder Will Accompany Japanese Asteroid Mission into Deep Space:**

by The ARRL Letter on September 4, 2014

According to a news report, the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) asteroid mission, now scheduled to launch in December, will carry the Shin'en 2 (Abyss 2) Amateur Radio satellite. A 17 kg, 50 cm diameter polyhedron, Shin'en 2, built by students at Kyushu Institute of Technology, makes extensive use of carbon-fiber reinforced plastic materials that can be bonded by heat to reduce its weight and the number of hardware fasteners. In addition to a Mode J linear transponder for Amateur Radio communication, Shin'en 2 will include CW and WSJT beacons.

### **FCC Ups the Ante In Proposing Huge Fine On CB Operator:**

by The ARRL Letter on September 4, 2014

Right on the heels of a whopping \$14,000 proposed forfeiture for a Florida CBer for failing to allow a station inspection, the FCC Enforcement Bureau is recommending a \$22,000 fine for a New York CBer.

## **ARRL News**



### **Tuskegee Airman and Congressional Gold Medal Recipient George Mitchell, K6ZE, SK**

Tuskegee Airman and Congressional Gold Medal Recipient George Mitchell, K6ZE, SK.



### **Team USA Competing in Amateur Radio Direction Finding World Championships in Kazakhstan**

Eight members of Team USA are competing in the Amateur Radio Direction Finding World Championships in Kazakhstan.



### **Fox-1 Satellites to Offer Slow-Speed Telemetry During Normal Transponder Operation**

The Fox-1 family of CubeSats will be able to transmit continuous slow-speed telemetry while the FM transponder is in use.





## [Time Again to Get Your Qs on Route 66](#)

The Route 66 On The Air event gets underway on September 6.



## [New Amateur Radio Vanity Call Sign Fee Set at \\$21.40](#)

The FCC has set the new Amateur Radio vanity call sign fee at \$21.40.



## [New QST QuickStats Poll Posted](#)

Four questions about your station computer



## [“Archie’s Ham Radio Adventure” Comic Artist Stan Goldberg is SK](#)

The comic artist who drew "Archie's Ham Radio Adventure" in the 1990s for ARRL has died.



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

## [SB6 Ultra Portable 6m Beam](#)

The SB6 is a lightweight portable beam antenna for the six metre band that has been produced in response to customer demand

## [Tuskegee Airman and Congressional Gold Medal recipient George Mitchell K6ZE is SK](#)

Lifelong amateur radio operator George T. Mitchell K6ZE of San Diego, California passed away today at the age of 94

## [BATC Convention this weekend](#)

The British Amateur Television Club Convention CAT-14 takes place September 6-7 in Basingstoke and should be streamed live

## **[Sarah Brightman to start space flight training](#)**

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Phantom of the Opera star Sarah Brightman may be the next paying passenger to ride a Russian rocket to the International Space Station

## **[Near-Earth asteroid flyby this weekend](#)**

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On Sunday, September 7th, a house-sized asteroid named '2014 RC' will fly through the Earth-Moon system approximately 40,000 km from our planet

## **[90th Anniversary of first UK-NZ contact](#)**

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The NZART have issued an update on preparations to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the first two-way radio communication between the UK and New Zealand

## **[2014 Malaysian National Field Day](#)**

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The Malaysian Amateur Radio League (MARL), will be organizing 2014 National Field Day, for 24 hours beginning from Monday, 15th September 2014, 5pm until Tuesday, 16th September 2014, 10 pm. The 16th Sept 2014 is Malaysia Day

## **[QSO Today - Lighting up the Aurora with Eric Nichols, KL7AJ](#)**

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Join Eric, 4Z1UG, in his QSO Today with Eric Nichols, KL7AJ. "AJ" is the author of over 180 ham radio articles for publications such as QST and QEX, as well as on-line publications such as eHam

## **[Governments have been ham-handed say radio amateurs](#)**

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The News Minute reports how consecutive governments have held back ham radio in India. Access to amateur radio licenses in India is bound in red-tape and archaic laws written in the pre-independence era

## **[ARISS ham radio contact with Evansville Day School, Evansville, Indiana](#)**

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An Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) school contact has been planned with participants at Evansville Day School, Evansville, Indiana on 03 September

## **[Getting Started: 2m SSB Contests](#)**

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If you have an amateur radio that can handle SSB on 2m, why not try the monthly 144 MHz contest and see how far you can get

## **[BBC reports EMF 2014 about 'Getting kids involved'](#)**

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BBC News reports on last weekend's successful Electromagnetic Field EMF 2014 event held near Bletchley, Milton Keynes

## **[BBC Monitoring Website](#)**

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BBC Monitoring have a new public-facing website for media insight and analysis

## **[Japanese asteroid mission to carry Amateur Radio](#)**

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A Japanese news report says the asteroid mission Hayabusa 2, planned to launch in December 2014 on a H-IIA rocket, will also carry the amateur radio satellite Abyss 2 (Shin'en 2)

## Radar Docu-drama on BBC TV

On September 4, BBC 2 will broadcast Castles In The Sky, a drama which tells the remarkable story of the fight to develop RADAR by Robert Watson-Watt and a team of UK scientists

## Navassa Island operation

The KP1-5 Project is pleased to announce that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has agreed to allow an amateur radio operation from Navassa National Wildlife Refuge (KP1)

## SARL Youth Net this Sunday

The South African Radio League Youth Net will be on the air every first Sunday of the month. The next net is on Sunday 7 September at 15:00 local time on 7070 kHz

## TX Factor add French subtitles

Great news for French speaking viewers of TX Factor or for those who want to watch a great show about amateur radio whilst improving their French

## White space between TV signals could save lives at sea

BBC News reports: The leftover white space between TV signals is raising the hope of saving lives at sea and providing broadband for remote communities

## Amateur radio on a smartphone - using free wifi

Many places today offer free wifi, banks, supermarkets food outlets, public libraries, trains and buses etc, you do not even have to be a customer to pick up their wifi signal on your smartphone using wifi scan

## ISWL callsigns for September

The following ISWL club callsigns will be used throughout the month of September 2014

## Footage of powerful solar flares released by Nasa

BBC News reports on the recent Solar Flares

### **Meeting Update**

*Our monthly PART meeting is coming up in a couple of days.*

*Meeting starts: 7:30 PM*

*Location: Westford Police Station*

*Address: 53 Main Street, Westford, MA 01886 <http://www.wblgof.org/DrivingDirections/directions.html>*

*Topics for this meeting include:*

- Election of officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer*
- PART - The Last 5 Years - Andy (KB1OIQ) will give a talk about the changes in the club over the last 5 years, and some vision as to where the club might go in the next couple of years.*
- Field Day Retrospective, a.k.a. the Silly Slide Show, presented by Rick (W1RAG). This fun event captures Rick's unique perspective on Field Day through photos and amusing captions.*

*In addition, there will be the usual introductions, officer reports, congratulations to newly licensed and upgraded hams, and announcements of general interest to the club.*

*I expect this will be a fun meeting and I look forward to seeing you there.*

*73,  
Andy*



### New Youth License Class Coming Soon

- *By K5KVN, on the scene*

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** — In a bold move to attract youth to the aging ham radio hobby, the FCC has announced a new license class tailored specifically to young people. Unfortunately, it means some old-timers must turn in their current callsign.

1008	03-30-2008	03-31-2008
ber	Operator Privileges	Station
156	TEXTNICIAN	PRI
THIS LICENSE IS NOT TRANSFERABLE		

The new Textnician license class.

By the end of 2015, callsigns with suffixes that match any of the most popular internet slang and texting acronyms will be reallocated to new licenses obtained by people younger than 18 years of age. These will be categorized into a new class of license called "Textnician." (Not to be confused with the already existing "Technician" license class.)

A statement from the FCC indicates the effort will attract more young people to the often antiquated hobby. "The Textnician class is simply a way for the amateur radio service to remain relevant in the age of texting and instant messaging," the agency said.

Nathaniel Beakerman, a boy scout who recently attended a radio merit badge class responded to questions via text, typing "LOL, I think it's GR8!"

The National Radio Retransmission Legion (NRRL), an association of ham radio operators, voiced support for the new initiative. "There is no reason that a man over 60 years of age should have a callsign that ends in OMG," said NRRL spokesperson Johnson Longfellow.

Examples of prefixes to be reassigned include:

- LOL
- WTF
- FTW
- WTH
- FA
- BRB
- OMG

Officials say that current license holders with the affected suffixes will be issued a new callsign ASAP.

### 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 1<sup>st</sup> Monday or every month (except when it is a holiday).
- [Skywarn and ARES Nets](#) – these nets are spontaneous when local conditions warranted.

NOTE: You can LISTEN ONLY to this repeater audio by linking to this URL:

<http://www.radioreference.com/apps/audio/?feedId=10933> (effective 2/2012)

**442.450 D-Star Nets – There are a number of nets that are regularly scheduled.**

- Sunday 8:00 PM [Ozark Mtn D-STAR Net](#) – Reflector 001C
- Tuesday 8:00 PM [New England Amateur D-STAR Net](#) – Reflector 010C
- Friday 8:00 PM CanNet D-Star Net – XRF021B

NOTE: The status of the WB1GOF D-Star repeaters can be seen at <https://wb1gof.dstargateway.org>

## Monthly PART Breakfast

Don't forget the monthly PART breakfast the 1st Saturday of each month at the Westford Regency Inn at 8 AM. The full hot & cold buffet breakfast costs about \$15 (includes tip) per person, a cheaper, lighter fare is available for adults and children. **NOTE: PLEASE let the folks who are settling the bill with the staff know whether you had a full or continental breakfast!**

## Monthly Breakfast Pricing

The full breakfast is  $\$11.95 + 18\% + 6.25\% = \$15.00$  (rounded up slightly). This price has recently changed. Here is the math for completeness and full disclosure.

*Continental breakfast: \$9.00 (same price)*

*Full breakfast: \$15.00 (new price)*

*Kid's breakfast: \$8.00*



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Robert Schmeichel  
2011



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.*

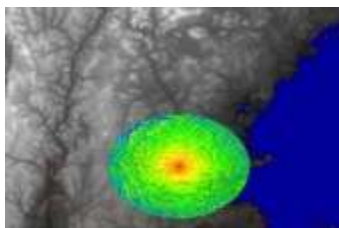
### EmComm events and repeater use

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 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 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.



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



## PART Gear

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

Club members are also encouraged to obtain an official PART badge from [The Sign Man](http://thesignman.com/clubs/part.html) (<http://thesignman.com/clubs/part.html>) PLEASE NOTE: Please check with Hugh Maguire-N1QGE, [hulin127@verizon.net](mailto: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

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

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Follow us on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/wb1](http://www.twitter.com/wb1)

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