



# PARTicles

The newsletter of PART of Westford, MA – WB1GOF

## September 2013

### President's Column

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

There has been a lot of fox hunting activity lately, and many people have been participating. John (KB1MGI) and Andy (KB1OIQ) have been hiding low power radio transmitters in various public places for the last couple of weeks, challenging people to find them. If you've never participated, you should give it a try! Amateur radio fox hunting is much like geocaching, except that an amateur radio receiver is used instead of a GPS. There are similarities to orienteering as well. With fairly inexpensive equipment, and the use of a couple of simple techniques, one can participate in the fun. Feel free to send email to John or me if you are interested in more details. I hope folks will share their fox hunting stories in PARTicles.

The nominations have closed for the PART election of officers. Alan (K1ALL), our election chairman, reports that the following people have been nominated: President: Andy (KB1OIQ), Vice President: Rich (AB1HD), Treasurer: Alan (W1AHM), and Secretary: Steve (WA1KBE). Recently, the voting board members appointed Rick (W1RAG) to serve as our Director-at-Large for the coming year. Many thanks to all of you for your past and future service to the club!

The Grace Community church in Chelmsford will once again be hosting the Grace Race on Saturday, October 5, 2013. PART will be providing radio support for this event as we have done for the past couple of years. This event is the perfect opportunity for newly minted hams to learn about public service. If you have a 2m HT programmed for the WB1GOF 146.955 MHz repeater, and a willingness to help, you have everything you need to participate. If you are interested, please contact Andy (KB1OIQ) via email: kb1oiq@arrl.net.

NEAR-Fest is coming soon! On Friday, October 11th, and Saturday, October 12th, in Deerfield, NH, the semiannual ham radio flea market will occur, rain or shine. Bring your cash, your shopping list, and a couple of tote bags. Carpool with a local ham, who will keep you company and help you lug those heavy items

back to the car! Most of the activity happens on Friday, so this is a great excuse to take a day off from work. If you can imagine it, you will find it here!

On Halloween, there is another public service event called the Pumpkin Patrol, which PART has run for at least 20 years (maybe more!). This is another event well suited for hams with relatively little public service experience. PART members serve as the eyes and ears of the local police, observing sections of Westford and reporting any suspicious activities back to the police department. This activity is in need of a chairman, ideally one with event experience and knowledge of the town of Westford. If interested, please contact Andy (KB1OIQ) via email: kb1oiq@arrl.net.

Recently, I received a package from the W1 Incoming QSL bureau. For those who send QSL cards to foreign lands, "the bureau" is a relatively inexpensive way to get QSL cards to their destinations. Upon opening the package, I discovered many QSL cards for our K1P special event (Patriots' Day) from 2011 and 2012. Nobody said the bureau was fast, but it is cheap! I filled out K1P cards and sent them back via the bureau the next day, so 20 hams in far away places will be happy to (someday!) receive their K1P cards. It was also a pleasure to receive about a dozen QSL cards requests for my home station (KB1OIQ). The most distant was for a CW contact 5000 miles away in Asiatic Russia. While I appreciate that online systems like eQSL and LoTW are more expedient and far less expensive, I find a certain gratification to receiving QSL cards in the mail. Many cards are of very high quality, containing original designs or photos from that ham's local area. It can be a lot of fun collecting QSL cards. I personally use all of the above services both for the club and my own personal QSLs, considered by many to be the "final courtesy".

Attendance at club meetings continues to be high - between 35 and 50 people regularly attend! If you would like to give a talk to the PART club, or if you see a great talk at another club, send me an email, so we can continue our tradition of quality presentations at each monthly meeting. 73 de Andy KB1OIQ

**Next PART meeting: Tuesday Sept 17th**

@1930 – Westford Police station

## Treasurer's Report

### PART Treasury between 16-July '13 & 19-August '13 (As of 20- August '13)

	General Fund	Repeater Fund	Checking Total
Old Balance	2820.53	2397.82	5218.35
Income	123.00	1.00	124.00
Expenses	-101.01	0.00	-101.01
Net	21.99	1.00	22.99
New Balance	2842.52	2398.82	5241.34

### PART 2013 Membership as of 3-Septmeber '13

	Individuals (= New for 2013 + Renew for 2013)	Households (= New for 2013 + Renew for 2013)
Full (\$25)*	40 (= 10 + 30)	40 (= 10 + 30)
Senior (\$15)*	36 (= 3 + 33)	36 (= 3 + 33)
Family (\$30)*	21 (= 4 + 17)	10 (= 2 + 8)
Student (\$15)	0 (= 0 + 0)	0 (= 0 + 0)
Associate (\$10)	0 (= 0 + 0)	0 (= 0 + 0)
Grand Total*	97 (= 17 + 80)	86 (= 15 + 71)

ARRL members\*: 88

ARRL Life members\*: 9

NOTE: \* Starred lines changed since 30-July '13

##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:

Glenn/N1IEC (Chelmsford)  
Tim/KE6BLJ (Chelmsford)  
James/KB1ZPR (Ayer)  
Karen/KB1ZPT (Ayer)  
Tim/KC1AJJ (North Chelmsford)

### Upcoming PART Meetings/Events

#### September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013

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

#### October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013

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

#### October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013

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

#### October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013

- Pumpkin Patrol 6:00 -10 p.m. Westford Police station

#### November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013

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

#### November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2013

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

#### December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013

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

#### December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2013

- NO PART Meeting, Holiday Buffet instead. 6:00 -9 p.m. Yangtze River 584 King Street (Route 110) Littleton

### Monthly PART 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

**New England Area Ham/Electronic Fleas:**

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

**2013**

- 15 Sept Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F+
- 21 Sept Forestdale RI RIAFMRS @VFW \$5/Sp@8 Rick K1KYI 401 864 9611 +
- 21 Sept Manchester CT PVRA @MarcusComm George AB1GL 860 716 3367 A+
- 21 Sept Alexander ME StCVARC @EISch Roger W1LH 207 454 2174 A+
- 28 Sept Brookline NH NEARC Antique \$10@7:30 \$4@8:30 Bruce 603 772 7516 F
- 11,12 Oct Deerfield NH NEARFest XIV @FG Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235 T+
- 13 Oct Meriden CT Nutmeg @Sheraton was Wallingford John N1GNV 203 440 4973 +
- 13 Oct Queens NY HoSARC \*\* NEW DATE \*\* Stephen WB2KDG 718 898 5599 A+
- 19,20 Oct Wakefield MA Photographica @AmericalCtr ~photo~ John 781 592 2553
- 19 Oct Longueuil PQ CRAR-S \$7@9 \$10/T@6 Martin VE2DNF 450 466 2810 R+
- 20 Oct Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F+
- 26 Oct Gales Ferry CT TCARC Auction @FireCo @10 Darryl WA1DD 860 443 7799 +
- 27 Oct Hicksville NY LIMARC @LevitHall Richard K2KNB 516 694 4937 +
- 2 Nov Londonderry NH IRS \$3@8 \$15/T Chris KB1QVM 603 434 6137 F+
- 9 Nov Bourne MA FARA @UpperCC VoTech \$5@9 \$10/S@7 Ralph N1YHS 508 548 0422 +
- 30 Nov Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Indoor John 860 673 0518 +

**2014**

- 22 Feb S Burlington VT HAM-CON @HI I89x14 \$8@8 \$15@6 Mitch W1SJ 802 879 6589
- 22 Mar Dayville CT ECARA 8A @StJosephCh Paul KE1LI 860 928 5147
- 28,29 Mar Lewiston ME AARC ME Conv @Ramada @8 Ivan N1OXA 207 784 0350
- 27 Ap Middletown NY OCARA @CommCtr \$7@9 \$12Sell Neil AC2O 914 490 2001 F
- 2,3 May Deerfield NH NEARfest XV @FG Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235 R+

July 17-20, 2014 -- Hartford, Connecticut



**In the News**

- [ARRL Centennial Convention \(PDF\)](#)
- [ARRL Plans Centennial Celebration in Hartford in 2014](#)

More information coming soon.



PART  
PUMPKIN  
PATROL –  
OCTOBER 31

## 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 Port B node (442.450) is connected to [REF010C](#) Mon – Fri from 10:00 am until 3:30 pm. CHANGE!! - The Port C node (145.330) is connected to [XRF038A](#) Mon – Fri from 07:00 am until 11:00 pm. Users can LISTEN ONLY to D-Star Reflector 10C by linking to this URL: <http://www.radioreference.com/apps/audio/?feedId=5031>

## 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 **\*\*CHANGED\*\***

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  
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## Special Series – Chasing Foxes

### Fox Hunting Story

- *Andy Stewart-KB1OIQ*

One recent weekend, I had my 3 children in the car, headed for my favorite coffee shop in Chelmsford Center. John (KB1MGI) had hidden a fox somewhere, and I was listening on the fox frequency of 146.565 MHz. Much to my surprise, we received the signal, growing stronger as we approached Chelmsford Center. It was the fox! My daughters were very excited and helped me chase the fox after breakfast. We were led part way down the Bruce Freeman rail trail, toward a path into the woods. It was both interesting and amusing to hear the fox transmissions in stereo from the radios of other fox hunters that we couldn't yet see. We crossed a brook and encountered several other fox hunters from the club. Eventually, I found the fox, followed quickly by Bob (KB1SWZ). We signed the log book and quickly vacated the area so other fox hunters wouldn't see us. I then proceeded down the path; leading at least one other fox hunter

temporarily astray as I pretended the fox was in another direction. Rule #1: never believe another fox hunter's clues! Kimberly (KB1PZG) and her sister Erin found the fox, too.

On another occasion, Geoffrey (KB1USE) and his sister Erin joined me for a fox hunting trip, with the fox hidden in the Lime Quarry conservation area. We easily heard the signal while driving down Route 110 in Chelmsford. While searching, some hecklers were found sitting on a rock on a high place within eyesight of the fox. We also found Bob (W1FDR) searching with just his HT and a rubber duck antenna - yes, it CAN be done, and he has successfully found the fox many times. We eventually found the fox and signed the log book; noticing about 6 people had already found the fox.

Things I've learned from the recent fox hunts: a) 2m signal reflect off of all sorts of objects, leading to conflicting data which may lead you astray, b) get to a hill to maximize your line of sight to the fox, which often allows you to hear the fox from a greater distance, c) when close, use your eyes and look carefully - you may not know how it looks, but you will know when you find it, even if the fox is hidden underneath branches and pine needles.

## My First Fox Hunt Ever

- *Tim Miranda-KC1AJJ*

I wanted to pass along a story of my recent first fox hunt ever, which happened by accident.

Living in Chelmsford, my 6 year old daughter and I like to go for talks walks in the fall at the trails at the Lime quarry off 110.

Since I saw John's email about the Fox on the air, figured I'd tune my Baofeng HT into that frequency and set the squelch to 1, plugged into my mag mount, just to see if the Fox was somewhere along our route, although we weren't planning to hunt.

As we drove from North Chelmsford down rt 4 towards Chelmsford center, I heard some static and some code passing over 495, and my daughter got excited, saying "is that the beeping box??"

As we hit 110 out of the center towards the quarry, started to hear the tune and morse clearly.

When we pulled into our usual parking lot and saw the antenna farm and yagis, figured it was likely in the woods somewhere where we were headed anyway!

Not really knowing what to do as a 3 week old Tech licensee, but having heard chatter on the repeater earlier in the week about using an HT for hunts, at the trail head we started walking up the left hand trail, so I took the rubber ducky off and tried to use my body to block signal, spinning 360 degrees. It actually seemed to work, blanking out same side each time. As we circled around the left of the big hill, the blanking out seemed to center towards the top of it.

So we hiked up to the top using a smaller trail, where the signal started staying clear on almost all sides, except it seemed to hint towards the center of the hill we were on. But we couldn't reach that area from our position without going back down and around.

My daughter then voiced concern that the woods were full of bears. My arguments against that fear were easily refuted by her knowledge of fairy tales, so we had to abort the adhoc mission and head back to parking lot before we were able to find it.

Disregarding the mythical bears, she tells me she had a great time trying to find the fox, which "isn't actually a fox, dad. Duh."

Thanks so much to John KB1MGI for providing a great experience!

## Why Hunting for an Ammo Box in the Woods Can Be Great Fun!

- *Bob Ravenstein-W1FDR*

I have been a ham for over 50 years and heard about "fox hunting" from time to time but never tried it. I was always "too busy" now I am mad that I wasted all that time being "too busy". Fox hunting consists of a volunteer Elmer hiding a weather tight Ammo box with a 2 meter transmitter and a small vertical whip antenna tuned to 146.565 (the national fox hunting frequency) which sends out a CW beacon in intervals usually of 1 minute on and 1 minute off. The object is to track down and find this fox. There are many techniques and lots of equipment to buy...but wait we are hams and we are cheap! I use my mobile rig in the car with a good S meter the locate the general area of the fox then I jump out of the car with my hand held unit and using body shielding or pointing the hand held in various directions to find the peak/nulls and moving toward the max signal strength. When I get close it tends to overload the hand held so I remove the antenna and using my finger for an antenna and changing the frequency to 146.570,575,580 as I approach the fox, I watch for max S meter and max audio. I then find the fox. Remember I am a ham and I am cheap: I use my head and not my wallet to find that little critter.



Having started doing this over the past several weeks, I have meet the most interesting people as they are curious as to what I am doing and then want to share who they are. For example Andy KB1OIQ hid his fox at Crooked Spring Area and I meet the father/son who volunteered to make the dam at crooked spring. That was 15-20 minutes invested in learning a lot about the area. John KB1MGI has been most gracious of his time and talent in hiding his fox around the area and again learning about parks and conversation lands that I challenge you that you had no idea even existed. Stop wasting your "too busy" valuable time and learn how little you know about RF and QRP and land around you!



Find the Fox.

## PART Special Events – Holiday Dinner

Are you a new PART member? Are you planning ahead?

.... Here is a Head's UP! Save the date .....

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Members and a spouse / guest are invited to:  
The PART winter holiday Dinner

December 17 2013

Cocktail Hour Begins at 6:01pm

Buffet Dinner from 7:00 – 7:59 pm

Activity from 8:00pm to 9:14pm

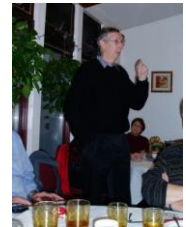
*\$20.00 per person Cash only at the door for buffet - Cash Bar*

Yangtze River Restaurant

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<http://www.yangtzeriverlitleton.com/>

584 King Street (Route 110) Littleton, MA 01460 Phone: (978)  
486-0500



Yes ..... this is the third Tuesday of the month. This dinner party takes the place of our regular December club meeting.

### Southgate Amateur Radio News

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- 8 September [Propagation Report from Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP](#)  
[National Preparatory Working Group for WRC 15 to advise Government](#)  
[UK funeral interrupted by RF](#)  
[Radio Talk 2013](#)  
[County opens new Emergency Operations Center](#)  
[Inflatable antenna could give CubeSats greater reach](#)  
[On The Air: Portuguese Navy Museum celebrates its 150th year](#)  
[Broughton Island](#)  
[2013 AMSAT Symposium tours announced](#)
- 7 September [Propagation de K7RA](#)  
[HamRadioNow: Young Ham of the Year 2013](#)  
[19th IARU Region 1 ARDF Championships](#)  
[Photographs needed for NZART promotional material](#)  
[Reciprocal licensing – Japan and New Zealand](#)  
[ISS ham radio contact with Indian school](#)  
[PR4AmateurRadio Expo](#)  
[National Parks on the Air](#)  
[Need a QSL Manager?](#)  
[Greek lighthouse activation](#)
- 6 September [Monday September 9, ARISS contact scheduled with Swiss school](#)  
[AmateurLogic.TV - IC-7000 vs IC-7100 Special](#)  
[Mid Ulster Amateur Radio Club AGM](#)  
[Ham radio operators lobby Poway council for changes](#)  
[Live streaming of UKHAS Conference Saturday](#)  
[Are UK amateur radio licences really on the increase?](#)  
[Dave Raycroft's ICPO Bulletin](#)  
[DX News from the ARRL](#)  
[Amateur Radio World Castles Award](#)  
[Rare novelty lights add fun to global event](#)
- 5 September [Tony's 10 Metre Band Report](#)  
[Radio hams to say 'HI' to Juno on 10m](#)  
[TV white spaces: Approach to coexistence](#)  
[IOTA news from the Deutscher Amateur Radio Club](#)  
[Route 66 special event stations](#)  
[Etherkit releases CRX1: A new 40 meter receiver kit](#)  
[Thames Amateur Radio Group in the press](#)  
[Space Station Slow Scan TV active](#)  
[FUNcube-1 is in its Pod](#)
- 4 September [Upcoming ARISS contact with Mill Springs Academy, Alpharetta, GA](#)  
[Fresnel invented the lighthouse lens](#)  
[Faraday transformed](#)  
[ON3NMR/P from the geographical centre of Wallonia](#)



[434.5 MHz Solar Balloons still in the air](#)  
[IARU Region 3 Directors Meeting August 2013](#)  
[Eastern Botswana](#)  
[Soyuz landing coverage set for NASA Television](#)  
[US Amateur Radio exams at Gwalior, Hamfest India-2013](#)  
[Summer 2013 edition of The 5 MHz Newsletter now available](#)  
[Radio amateurs in 'The Catalan Way'](#)

- 3 September [Amateur Radio Licence Courses at the Wakefield & District Radio Society](#)  
[EURO poll: calling Canada and Australia](#)  
[NZ Ham Radio Licence update](#)  
[North Cork Radio Group's Rally and Foxhunt](#)  
[Kerry UHF repeater upgrade](#)  
[CQ from a haunted house](#)  
[3B9, Rodriguez Island](#)  
[DXCC News](#)  
[HP0, Panama IOTA Tour](#)  
[California QSO Party](#)  
[US Space Fence shut down](#)  
[Intermediate Course in Nottingham](#)
- 2 September [Andreas Mogensen set for Soyuz mission to Space Station in 2015](#)  
[Long duration 434.5 MHz balloon launched](#)  
[ACMA video Spectrum 101](#)  
[101 year-old radio ham W4EHF SK](#)  
[Ham radio club at bacon festival](#)  
[SOTA now active in VK2](#)  
[IOTA news from OPDX](#)  
[DXCC Country/Entity Report](#)  
[History This Week](#)
- 1 September [West Tyrone ARC BBQ](#)  
[Propagation Report from Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP](#)  
[SARL RTA comes to Durban next](#)  
[When all else fails: Ham Radio](#)  
[HamRadioNow: QRP](#)  
[Rodriguez Island DXpedition](#)  
[Grenada update](#)  
[Radio ham sets up cellphone repair business](#)  
[Work All Ron, N8RO](#)  
[Bulgarian special event station](#)

## **AMATEUR RADIO NEWS (various sources)**

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### **Tower Gets Good Reception from Board:**

by muscatinejournal.com on September 8, 2013

MUSCATINE, Iowa -- A 50-foot tower that will help a Muscatine ham radio enthusiast connect with even more people around the world won approval from city planners Tuesday. The Muscatine Zoning Board of Adjustment approved by a 3-1 count Bob Weatherman's request to erect a 50-foot radio tower at his residence, 408 Chestnut St. Board member Jim Edgmond cast the dissenting vote, saying he didn't believe the tower "goes well" in a

residential area. Larry Wolf was absent. Chairman Allen Harvey joined fellow board members Jane Reischauer and Rochelle Conway in support of Weatherman's proposal. In approving Weatherman's request, the board included the stipulation that he construct a fence around the tower to prevent people from climbing it. Weatherman said he would honor the requirement. "I hadn't given that a thought," he said, "but I will build a fence around it." Weatherman's proposed tower is 15 feet higher than allowed in the city's R-5 residential district. Weatherman told the board that a 50-foot tower will allow him to operate his ham radio without interference from obstacles, including a neighbor's tree. He said he didn't know about the city's tower height requirement when he began purchasing the tower, antenna and a rotor to turn the antenna.

### **[Amateur Radio on the International Space Station:](#)**

by wdio.com on September 7, 2013

Saturday, September 7, The Duluth Children's Museum will host a great event bringing local kids and astronauts together. A few selected kids will be able to communicate and ask questions directly to an astronaut aboard the International Space Station. Doors open Saturday at 9:30 a.m. And close strictly at 9:45 a.m. Admittance is free and the public is welcome to come listen in. The 10 minute live forum will bounce between the museum's participants and astronauts as the astronauts orbit 250 miles above Earth. Staff has been preparing for the rare event for months. It will allow us to make contact with an astronaut currently aboard the International Space Station via amateur radio. The event is made possible through Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS), a cooperative venture among NASA and other international space agencies that coordinate scheduled, radio contacts between astronauts aboard the ISS and educational organizations. Anticipation has been brewing among the Duluth Children's Museum's members as throughout the last several weeks space station history and mission control have been the emphasis of the museum's newsletters, bulletins, and announcements. Also, staff across varying content areas have incorporated lessons regarding space, astronomy, NASA, and the ISS into their programs.

### **[Propagation Forecast Bulletin #36 de K7RA:](#)**

by W1AW Bulletin via the ARRL on September 6, 2013

Conditions were quieter again this week. Average daily sunspot numbers declined from 77 to 69, and average daily solar flux was off by 9.5 points to 106.9, when compared to the previous seven days, August 22-28.

### **[Hams 'Reach Out And Touch Someone' Around the Globe:](#)**

by rrobserver.com on September 6, 2013

When Larry Elkin of Rio Rancho was going to college in New York, he picked up a radio transmission astronaut John Glenn sent from orbit around Earth. Now Elkin is president of the High Desert Amateur Radio Club of New Mexico Inc., a local group that aims to educate people about amateur radio operation and is available to help with emergency communication. "Our club is multi-faceted," Elkin said. "Emergency communications is one branch of amateur radio. What it does is fill the gap where there is no reliable cell phone or radio communication." For instance, search and rescue teams may use amateur radios to communicate in remote areas. Some High Desert Amateur Radio Club (HDARC) members participate in search and rescue. Also, the club might be asked to operate at the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta. There, Elkin said amateur radio operators, or hams, may intercept distress calls regular emergency communications people don't hear. They would relay that information to first responders. Hams also monitor emergency communication during disasters so they can step in if they notice problems.

### **[Pascagoula Plans Reactivation of Round Island Lighthouse, Benefit Concert:](#)**

by gulfive.com on September 6, 2013

PASCAGOULA, Mississippi -- The city of Pascagoula and the Jackson County Amateur Radio Association are planning the Reactivation of the Round Island Lighthouse on Oct. 18-20. A concert featuring Pascagoula native Les Kerr will also be held Oct. 18 to raise money for the lighthouse restoration project. Amateur radio operators will establish a base of communications at the Round Island Lighthouse starting at 6 p.m. on Oct. 17 to broadcast an announcement of the relocation of the lighthouse to amateur radio operators throughout the world. "The last time the Round Island Lighthouse was activated by amateur radio was in 2004 prior to its relocation to the mainland," says Dan Miller of the JCARA. Visitors are invited to come out and view the temporary radio station throughout the weekend. Amateur radio operators collect QSL cards to confirm receipt of their transmission. QSL means "do you confirm receipt of my transmission?" A QSL card from a lighthouse is a coveted prize. "This event will promote public awareness of lighthouses and their need for preservation and restoration, and at the same time promote amateur radio and foster international goodwill," said Community and Economic Development Director Jen Dearman.

### **[Groups to Honor Veterans, Emergency Workers and 9/11 Victims:](#)**

by valleynewsonline.com on September 6, 2013

Oswego County Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (RACES) will join with the Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 486 and the Civil Air Patrol to pay tribute to America's heroes. On Sept. 8, Oswego County RACES will set up its Mobile Communication Center trailer at the EAA 486 hanger, Oswego County Airport, 2326 county Route 176, Volney, to pay tribute to veterans, 9/11 victims and emergency workers. This memorial event is sponsored by the CAP's FR Sussey Composite Squadron. RACES is a volunteer organization of amateur radio operators who are licensed by the Federal Communications Commission. Created in 1952 to serve in civil defense emergencies, RACES provides essential communications and warning links to supplement state and local government operations during emergencies.

### **[ARNewsline Report 1882 -- Sept 6 2013:](#)**

by Bill Pasternak (WA6ITF) on September 6, 2013

The following is a Q-S-T. A trans-Pacific emergency communications test is deemed a success; a ham radio satellite band at 5 Gigahertz could be in jeopardy in Europe; registration is now open for the Western Hemisphere's biggest transmitter hunting event; a ham flies a Presidential Medal to the International Space Station and some very unexpected words at the wrong time from on high. Find out the details on Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1882 coming your way right now.

### **[DX News -- ARRL DX Bulletin #36:](#)**

by W1AW Bulletin via the ARRL on September 5, 2013

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by NC1L, SV4FFL, 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.

### **[This Week in Radiosport:](#)**

by The ARRL Letter on September 5, 2013

This Week in Radiosport:

### **[North Carolina to Host 2013 US Direction Finding Competition:](#)**

by The ARRL Letter on September 5, 2013

The Uwharrie Mountains of North Carolina will provide the locale for the 13th USA Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) Championships of on-foot hidden transmitter hunting. Fans of this international sport, also known as "foxtailing" or "radio-orienteeing," are making travels plans now. Backwoods Orienteering Klub (BOK) will host the event, which will be held October 8-13.

### **[ARES-RACES Volunteers Conclude Rim Fire Activation:](#)**

by The ARRL Letter on September 5, 2013

Amateur Radio volunteers supporting the Red Cross and local government in the wake of the gigantic Rim Fire, in and near California's Yosemite National Park and the Stanislaus National Forest, have stood down after 16 days on duty.

### **[EuroBasket 2013 Award Slovenia Offered:](#)**

by The ARRL Letter on September 5, 2013

To mark the occasion of the EuroBasket 2013 basketball competition 2013 in Slovenia September 4-22, ZRS, the Association of Radio Amateurs of Slovenia, is offering an award to all radio amateurs and SWLs for contacting/monitoring S5 special event stations with three-digit prefix and EB suffixes (eg S513EB, S541EB) and stations from the 24 countries fielding EuroBasket teams, between August 1 and September 22, 2013. All bands and modes may be used, but cross-mode, cross-band, repeater or VoIP contacts are invalid.

### **[TAPR/ARRL Digital Communications Conference's Wide-Ranging Forum Schedule:](#)**

by The ARRL Letter on September 5, 2013

A preliminary schedule has been posted for the 32nd annual TAPR/ARRL Digital Communications Conference in Seattle later this month. Among the forum topics: "Raspberry Pi Applications in Digital Communications: A Mobile Xastir-Based APRS Station," "High Performance BPSK31: Ideas for a New Generation," "Narrowband IP over Amateur Radio Networks (NIPARnets): Next-Generation Networking for Amateur Radio," and "Noise Power Ratio (NPR) Testing of HF Receivers."

## [AMSAT Space Symposium 2013 Set for November:](#)

by The ARRL Letter on September 5, 2013

The 2013 AMSAT Space Symposium will take place in Houston, Texas, November 1-3 at the Marriott Hobby Airport Hotel.

## [US 'Space Fence' Shut Down:](#)

by The ARRL Letter on September 5, 2013

The Air Force Space Surveillance System (AFSSS) -- the "Space Fence" -- used to detect objects in orbit, was turned off September 1. Three transmitter sites operate on 216.983, 216.97, and 216.99 MHz, and there are six receiving stations. Some Amateur Radio meteor scatter enthusiasts enjoyed monitoring the VHF transmissions for indications of activity.

## Near-term local fleas,

from <http://web.mit.edu/wlgs1/Public/ne-fleas>

### Flea at MIT

Sunday, 15-Sept & 20 Oct 2013

Buyers \$5.00, 9:00AM-2:00PM (\$1.00 discount with flyer:

<http://web.mit.edu/wlms/www/swapfest/swapfest-2013.04.pdf> ) Parking Lot&Garage on Albany St. Cambridge, at Portland St.

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



### NEAR-fest

Friday, 11-Oct'13 and Saturday, 12-Oct'13 Buyers \$10 for Fri+Sat <http://near-fest.com/index.php> Deerfield Fairgrounds, 43 Stage Rd. (Rt. 43), Deerfield, NH  
<http://goo.gl/maps/gdFDT>

## Repeater Information

### Repeater Interference

The 146.955 repeater continues to see interference to existing conversations as well as at random quiet times throughout the day and night. The repeater interference committee needs your help in collecting data. If you hear any type of interference, please report the following info to "**repeater**" at "**wb1gof.org**":



- Time: When did the event happen?
- Observing location: Where were you? Were you mobile?
- Frequency: Input only (146.355 MHz)
- What you heard: Voices, tones, kerchunking or whatever.
- Signal strength: Either by ear (noisy, quiet or full quiet) or S meter
- Radio: To get an idea of the reporter's radio situation.

\* Most important - what direction: How did you determine direction? This is the most essential piece of information. Even if it's an estimate as in "Roughly east" or "from the Northeast" it's useful. NEVER EVER reply or direct any thing to the sick person causing the interference. Because some of us have answered this person, he knows we are aware of him and that is what keeps him doing it. Also since you are communicating with a non IDing station you are operating just as illegally as he is. YOU ARE BROADCASTING! NEVER TALK ABOUT INTERFERENCE on air. NEVER

*If you are interested in assisting in helping us identify the sources of interference, contact Terry-KA8SCP.*

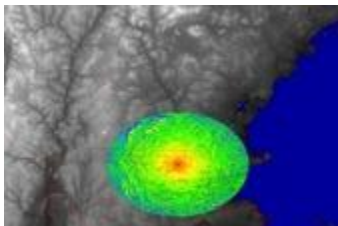
### EmComm events and repeater use

Most everyone knows that the 146.955 repeater is used during times of emergency situations, drills and exercises. Skywarn and the monthly EmComm drills are the normal events.

So what does this mean to those that are just looking for regular QSOs with other users? It means that if you are in a regular QSO and there is a significant weather situation that has been getting press/air-time lately, you can expect that if severe weather develops in our area, the folks from Taunton-WX1BOX may interrupt a QSO and ask anyone on frequency what may be happening weather wise. The BOX operator will probably ask for specific information, hail, wind damage, property damage from lightning or wind, etc. Please give him the information he needs or tell him that you've not heard of any such activity. You don't need to tell him it is sunny in Nashua!

There may come a time when an unexpected emergency situation arises. These will significant events that may affect life and property. This is where EmComm activity may step in. Usually an NCS will interrupt a QSO and announce the situation and ask for a QSO to cease or to be "aware" of the possibility of priority calls/traffic. Please make sure you leave breaks between transmissions so stations with traffic can get in between QSOs. If there is enough traffic, it may be necessary for your existing/interrupted QSO QSY to another frequency. You should use your best judgment or check with the NCS on what he feels is best.

If you have any questions, please feel free to correspond with either Hugh-N1QGE (Westford EmComm/Skywarn NCS) or Terry-KA8SCP (MEMA Region 1 Communications Officer and Skywarn NCS) . They will be more than happy to talk about these programs with you.



**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  
Hugh Maguire – N1QGE, for the Town of Westford  
Bill Ohm – W1OHM, for the Town of Chelmsford

- 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 website is: <http://wb1gof.org>  
Our forum is: <http://wb1gof.net/forums/>  
Contact us at: [info@wb1gof.org](mailto:info@wb1gof.org)

Follow us on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/wb1gof](http://www.twitter.com/wb1gof)  
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