



# PARTicles

The newsletter of PART of Westford, MA – WB1GOF



*Celebrating 40 years of public service 1975-2015*

August 2015

## President's Column

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### - Andy Stewart (KB1OIQ)

The busy summer season of ham radio continues! QSL cards are still coming in for the 13 Colonies Special Event (K2H), but now it is no more than a handful per day. I estimate that just over 500 QSL cards were mailed out this year, which is the most that I can recall over the last several years.

The Boxboro Convention is coming up at the end of August, and I could use a few more volunteers for the event. This year, I am the event coordinator for the convention. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact me ASAP at kb1oiq@arrl.net.

PART will be very well represented at the convention, which has an excellent series of presentations for both Saturday and Sunday. Fred (AB1OC), George (K1IG), yours truly, John (KB1MGI), and Terry (KA8SCP) will be giving presentations, while Ernie (N1AEW) and Bob (KB1SWZ) will be representing AMSAT at their booth.

During the September PART meeting, we will have our annual election of officers. Steve (WA1KBE) has been the PART Secretary for many years, and he has chosen not to run for re-election. We thank Steve for his many years of service to the club and to the hobby. If anybody is interested in running for PART Secretary, please feel free to contact me to inquire about the responsibilities of the office, and Alan (K1ALL) to get your name on the ballot.

A recent article in CQ magazine has inspired me to build my "rig in a bucket" project. I built a PVC rectangular frame that fits into a 5 gallon bucket. On that frame, I put a shelf that holds a 9Ahr battery and a QRP transceiver. Everything except the AH-703 antenna fits in the bucket. For the

antenna, I used a cardboard mailing tube. This is all designed to go easily from the car to a picnic table, and seems to work pretty well. Once I started unpacking it, I was on the air within 10 minutes. Remind me and I'll bring it to a future PART meeting.

Stay tuned for more news about the "Field Day Retrospective", otherwise known as the "silly slide show". This amusing slide show is a popular PART event that should be happening soon. It chronicles what "really" happened at Field Day from a very different perspective.

At the August PART meeting, our speaker will be Fred (AB1OC). Fred will be discussing HF mobile operation. His past presentations have been excellent and this one promises more of the same. Arrive early to guarantee a good seat!

The vast majority of the time, our weekly PART net occurs without any problems whatsoever. Once in a great while, things go awry. On those rare occasions, I'm happy to see that the club members and net controllers hang together to help out. For example, one week, due to a scheduling mix-up, there was no net controller operator. Someone jumped in at the last minute and ran the net. On another occasion, the net controller was experiencing issues with his radio, and was assisted on the air to rectify the situation. In both cases, the net ultimately took place and ran smoothly thereafter. My thanks to those who help in these uncommon situations. Also, many thanks also to Rich (AB1HD) for his continued great work in maintaining the schedule and net script.

Have a lot of fun!

73 de Andy KB1OIQ

**Next PART meeting: Tuesday August 18<sup>th</sup>**

@1930 – Westford Police station

## Treasurer's Report

### PART Treasury between 16-June '15 & 20-July '15 (As of 15-July '15)

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Repeater Fund</u>	<u>Checking Total</u>
Old Balance	\$ 3,862.82	\$ 3,451.57	\$ 7,334.39
Income	\$ 220.00	\$ 140.97	\$ 360.97
Expenses	\$ ( 947.71)	\$ 0.00	\$ ( 947.71)
Net	\$ ( 727.71)	\$ 140.97	\$ ( 586.74)
New Balance	\$ 3,135.11	\$ 3,612.54	\$ 6,747.39

### PART 2015 Membership as of 6-August '15

	<u>Individuals</u>		<u>Households</u>	
	(= New for 2015 + Renew for 2015)		(= New for 2015 + Renew for 2015)	
Full (\$25)	43	(= 9 + 34)	43	(= 9 + 34)
Senior (\$15)	42	(= 4 + 38)	38	(= 4 + 38)
Family (\$30)	19	(= 2 + 17)	9	(= 1 + 8)
Student (\$15)	0	(= 0 + 0)	0	(= 0 + 0)
Associate (\$10)	0	(= 0 + 0)	0	(= 0 + 0)
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>(= 11 + 83)</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>(= 10 + 74)</b>

Latest new PART members:

No new PART members this cycle

ARRL members: 93 / 89%

(Including ARRL Life members: 8)

NOTE: No initiations/renewals in the past month.

##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

Renew online by PayPal at: [http://www.wb1gof.org/F\\_join/part\\_dues.html](http://www.wb1gof.org/F_join/part_dues.html)

### PayPal Status Report

Dues

Last year (CY2014), one PART member renewed via PayPal (before the infrastructure was created).

So far year to date (CY2015), we've processed 9 member-years via PayPal. (Six payments for this year, two in advance for 2016, and one year's worth in arrears for 2014).

Repeater Fund

Annual Repeater Fund Donations

Year	Cash/Check	PayPal
	(Num:Total)	
2006	2: \$ 97.00	
2007	3: \$ 17.00	
2008	4: \$ 120.00	
2009	9: \$ 297.00	
2010	32:\$1565.01	7:\$387.15
2011	30:\$ 455.00	3:\$203.01
2012	35:\$ 901.37	6:\$507.97
2013	19:\$ 347.00	3:\$ 71.92
2014	32:\$ 663.25	4:\$ 71.61
2015	19:\$ 580.00	10:\$201.48

## Upcoming PART Meetings/Events

### September 5<sup>th</sup> 2015

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

### September 15<sup>th</sup> 2015

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

### October 3<sup>rd</sup> 2015

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

### October 20<sup>th</sup> 2015

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

### November 7<sup>th</sup> 2015

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

### November 17<sup>th</sup> 2015

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

### December 5<sup>th</sup> 2015

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

### December 15<sup>th</sup> 2015

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

## 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

### Flea at MIT

20 September, 18 October 2015

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

<<http://web.mit.edu/wimx/www/swapfest/swapfest-2015.04.pdf>> )

Parking Lot & Garage on Albany St. Cambridge, at Portland St.

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

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

### New England Convention

Friday, 21-Aug'15, Saturday, 22-Aug'15 and Sunday, 23-Aug'15

\$15.00 (Covers Fri/Sat/Sun)

<<http://www.boxboro.org/>>

Holiday Inn

242 Adams Pl., Boxboro, MA

<<http://www.boxboro.org/directions.html>>

### Links to hamfest websites (partial)

Boxborough MA	NE ARRL Conv	<a href="http://www.boxboro.org">http://www.boxboro.org</a>
Adams MA	N BerkshireARC	<a href="http://www.nobarc.org/hamfest.htm">http://www.nobarc.org/hamfest.htm</a>
Dartmouth MA	SEMARA	<a href="http://www.semara.org/flea.htm">http://www.semara.org/flea.htm</a>
Falmouth MA	FARA	<a href="http://www.falara.org">http://www.falara.org</a>
Feeding Hills MA	MTARA	<a href="http://www.mtara.org">http://www.mtara.org</a>
Framingham MA	FARA	<a href="http://www.fara.org">http://www.fara.org</a>
Marlboro MA	AARC	<a href="http://www.gsl.net/n1em/2015FleaFlier.pdf">http://www.gsl.net/n1em/2015FleaFlier.pdf</a>
Newton MA	Waltham ARA Auction	<a href="http://www.wara64.org/auction">http://www.wara64.org/auction</a>

Rockport MA	CAARA	<a href="http://www.caara.net">http://www.caara.net</a>
S Dartmouth MA	SEMARA	<a href="http://www.semara.org">http://www.semara.org</a>
Wakefield MA	Photographica	<a href="http://www.phsne.org">http://www.phsne.org</a>
Westford MA	NEAntiqueRC	<a href="http://www.nearc.net">http://www.nearc.net</a>
Whately MA	FranklinCARC	<a href="http://www.fcarc.org/news.htm">http://www.fcarc.org/news.htm</a>
Worcester MA	WPI ACM	<a href="http://acm.wpi.edu/swapmeet">http://acm.wpi.edu/swapmeet</a>

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

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

### **2015**

21, 23 Aug Boxboro MA FEMARA NE Conv Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235 A  
 30 Aug Adams MA NoBARC @BoweFld 6:30sell 7:30buy Eric KA1SUN 413 743 9975  
 5 Sept Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Outdoor John 860 673 0518 +  
 12 Sept Windsor ME AARA @8 @FG Rt32 Bill K1NIT W+  
 13 Sept Ballston Spa NY SCRACES @FG \$10@7 Darlene N2XQG 518 587 2385  
 13 Sept Newtown CT CARA @TownHall\$5@8:30 Ron AB1RJ 203 938 7007  
 19 Sept Forestdale RI RIAFMRS @VFW \$5/Sp@8 Pete AA1PL 401 639 4484  
 19 Sept Fishkill NY MtBARC @QWL DnStCorr Adam KC2DAA 845 849 3666 A+  
 19 Sept Alexander ME SCVARC \$5@8 @ElSch Perro WA4KEO W+  
 20 Sept Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 F  
 26 Sep Brookline,NH NEARC Antique \$5@8:30 \$10@7:30 Bruce 603 772 7516 W+  
 16, 17 Oct Deerfield NH NEARfest XVIII @FG Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235 +  
 17 Oct Longueuil PQ CRARivSud \$7@9 \$10/T@6 Noel VE2BR 450 691 2009 R  
 17, 18 Oct Wakefield MA Photographica @AmericalCtr ~photo~ John 781 592 2553  
 18 Oct Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 F  
 18 Oct Meriden CT Nutmeg @Sheraton John N1GNV 203 440 4973 A+  
 18 Oct Queens NY HOSARC @HoS Stephen WB2KDG 718 898 5599 +  
 25 Oct Hicksville NY LIMARC @LevitHall \$6@9 \$20/T Richie K2KNB 516 694 4937 W+  
 31 Oct Gails Ferry CT TCARC @FireCo Darryl WA1DD 860 443 7799 A+  
 14 Nov Bourne MA FARA @UpperCC VoTech \$5@9 \$10/S@7 Ralph N1YHS 508 548 0422 +  
 5 Dec Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Indoor John 860 673 0518 +

### **2016**

6 Feb Springfield VT CVFMA.org @VFW @8-12 Steve N1QDT 802 885 8110 +  
 27 Feb S Burlington VT RANVT @HI x14 I89 Mitch W1SJ 802 879 6589 W+  
 5 Mar Chicopee MA MtTomARA @MooseLodge @8:30 S@6:30 Mary KB1ME 413 222 1990 +  
 6 Mar Westford MA Radio @Regency Antique Bruce 603 772 7516 +  
 12 Mar Dayville CT ECARA @StJosephCh \$3@8A \$10/T Peter K1LNX 401 603 1485 +  
 25,26 Mar Lewiston ME AARC ME Conv @Ramada @8 Ivan N1OXA 207 784 0350 +  
 29,30 Apr Deerfield NH NEARfest XIX @FG Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235  
 14 May E Greenbush NY EGARA @FireCo \$6@8 \$6/T@6 Tom KC2FCP 518 272 1494 +  
 4 June Hermon ME PSARA @8 @HS TG@6:30 Jerry K1GUP 207 848 3400 +  
 14,15 Oct Deerfield NH NEARfest XX @FG Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235



**CAN YOU BELIEVE IT, PART IS  
40 YEARS OLD THIS YEAR!**

### ARRL Eastern Massachusetts Section News



- *Tim Walsh – K1TW*

Are you ready for Boxboro! 2015? This month the focus of attention is on the ARRL New England Division Convention in Boxborough, MA from August 21-23.

The Boxboro convention is less than two weeks away and the website is constantly updated. <<http://www.boxboro.org>>. Recent updates include a sign up schedule to operate the Convention special event station, W1A, and update-to-date information on the convention program and prizes.

#### *BOXBORO VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED*

Volunteers are still needed to staff the ARRL New England Convention in Boxboro, MA on August 21-23. There are volunteer opportunities for Saturday and Sunday. Assignments are made in 2-hour shifts, and include a free lunch to show appreciation for your efforts. If interested, please contact the Boxboro Volunteer Coordinator, Andy (KB1OIQ) Stewart, at [kb1oiq@arrl.net](mailto:kb1oiq@arrl.net).

#### *EMA STAFF NEWS*

Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC) - Marek, KB1NCG, our newly appointed EMA Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC) wasted no time reaching out to the EMA staff to begin communicating his vision and ascertain the status and activities of our Field appointees.

Official Observer (OO) Program - Ed, K1EP, handles Official Observer Coordination for the EMA section. ARRL reports the OO program has been in existence for more than 85 years? Information about this ARRL activity and the OO qualification process may be found at <<http://www.arrl.org/official-observer-1>>.

Section Traffic Manager (STM) - Marcia Forde, KW1U, EMA Section Traffic Manager hosted the Traffic Handlers picnic on August 2 in Concord, MA.

The EMA July 2015 BPL and PSHR report from KW1U:

- BPL: None this month
- PSHR: KW1U, KC1CIC, N1IQI, N1TF, N1LKJ.

The Brass Pounders League (BPL) is awarded to Traffic Handlers who report a total of 500 or more points or a sum of 100 or more origination and delivery points for any calendar month

The Public Service Honor Roll (PSHR) recognition is awarded to those who operators who are active in many aspects of public service. This includes net operations, traffic handling, emergency operations and public service communication support.

#### *COURSES*

TECH-IN-A-DAY, August 22, 2015, 9 AM – 5 PM The Cape Ann Amateur Radio Association is holding a free Technician study course at the Boxboro 2015 convention. Registration and full details are at <<http://www.boxboro.org/techcourse/>>

#### *FLEA MARKETS*

August 16, Cambridge MA Flea at MIT, Third Sunday April thru October

August 22-23, Boxboro Convention (Saturday and Sunday) <<http://www.boxboro.org>>

### *SPECIAL EVENTS ON THE AIR*

August 21-23: W1A special event at the Boxboro Convention W1B NE QRP Club's special event at the Boxboro Convention

### *CLUB AND OTHER NEWS*

Copies of the Massachusetts Senate and Governor's Field Day proclamations are now on the EMA web site at <<http://ema.arrl.org/node/2108>>.

"The South Shore Hospital Amateur Radio Club has been asked to once again provide communications for the Run to the Rock Road Race. This large event will be held this year on September 12, 2015. We are seeking volunteers for this 4 1/2 hour morning event (7:30 am to noon). The Race will continue to use three race courses as it has in the past which encompasses a large geographic area of Plymouth. We need approximately 35-40 licensed amateur radio volunteers to effectively cover the courses and stations. For complete information on the event, please visit: <<http://www.runtotherock.webs.com>>."

From Henry Brown, K1WCC. The Falmouth Amateur Radio Club purchased a new Elecraft K3S for the club and it was in use during Field Day at the SSB station during the tent collapse but came away unscathed, as did all of their gear (except for a couple of tents).

The Cape Ann Amateur Radio Association (CAARA/W1GLO) and the North Shore Radio Association (NSRA) have been cooperating in providing radio communications along the routes of over 16 events that impact Greater Cape Ann (Gloucester, Ipswich, Rockport, Essex and Manchester) this year and may grow to over 20 events before year's end. These include road races, cycling, aquatic (boating and swimming) races, and many local parades and other public events as part of our public service obligations as members of ARRL. In addition we are working with the Community Emergency Response Team and other emergency services to provide trained radio operators that can be available in the event of severe weather or other major area disasters. We also participate in drills and exercises to prepare for such emergencies. Hank McCarl, President, CAARA

The MMRA will be holding a general membership meeting at the Boxboro convention, Sunday August 23 at 11AM. Members, former members, and non-members alike are all invited to attend the meeting, which will feature a virtual walkthrough of several of the MMRA repeater sites.

### *SILENT KEYS*

The Billerica Amateur Radio Society reports the passing of Stan White, N1TT on July 19, 2015. Stan for many years was a member of the Boxboro Convention committee and Flea Market chairman.

### *LOOKING AHEAD*

With September just around the corner, amateur radio activities in the Eastern Massachusetts section usually pick up. If you have interesting news to communicate or are interested in applying for an ARRL Field appointment, please let me know. My deadline is the 1st of each month.

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ARRL Eastern Massachusetts Section  
Section Manager: Thomas D Walsh, K1TW  
[k1tw@arrl.org](mailto:k1tw@arrl.org)





From eHam.net News:

### [Amateur Radio Newslines Report 1968 July 17 2015:](#)

by James Pastorfield (KB7TBT) on July 19, 2015

The following is a QST. Dayton Hamvention releases attendance figures and the news is good. A Canadian ham operated remotely from the U.S. on Field Day. Will satellites return to 29 MHz? The newest CubeSat from England's Surrey Space Center. The Courage Kenny Handiham Program for disabled radio amateurs prepares for radio camp in August. All this and an update on our Young Ham of the Year Award in Amateur Radio Newslines report number 1968 coming your way right now.

### [Group Goes On the Air Waves:](#)

by theboltonnews.co.uk on July 19, 2015

FOR many of our younger readers this image will probably look like something from a history book. However, our older readers will be familiar with this "old technology" and in 1980 the equipment was being used by members of Bolton and District Amateur Radio Society. The society -- which was affiliated to the Radio Society of Great Britain -- started in the 1920s when a group of wireless enthusiasts formed a club to pursue the, then, newly authorised hobby of amateur radio. Today radio has a much more high tech look and would be taking place in a studio rather than someone's living room as appears to be happening here. Of course this particular equipment would be cutting edge for the 1980s, no doubt.

### [Weak Solar Activity Puzzles Scientists:](#)

by voanews.com on July 19, 2015

At almost regular intervals, our sun displays phenomena benignly called sunspots. Actually, they are violent storms. Space scientists closely observe this activity, because it may have adverse effects on communications, navigation and even power grids. But the diminishing intensity of the last two solar cycles leaves them puzzled. When gigantic electromagnetic storms occur on the sun, we see them eight minutes later, which is how long it takes the light to reach Earth. It takes the first charged particles ejected by the storms 20 to 30 minutes to arrive. They are dangerous to humans, so if the storm is intense, astronauts aboard the International Space Station are advised to move into specially protected areas. After a day or two comes the biggest part of the storm, the coronal mass ejection. "That is billions of tons of solar material that's blown away from the sun," said Alex Young of NASA's Heliophysics Science Division. "It's traveling millions of kilometers an hour, but that is relatively slow." Several government agencies, as well as the U.S. Air Force, observe the space weather, as they call it, 24 hours a day. NASA does it in order to protect its astronauts and the sensitive electronics of its spacecraft, but also because many questions about our star still need to be answered. One of them is why the sunspots follow a roughly 11-year cycle, from low to high activity. "Also, sometimes the intensity is higher and sometimes it is lower," Young said. "The current solar cycle that we are in is much lower than the previous one."

### [5 Huge X-class Solar Flares, in a Row!](#)

by Tomas, NW7US on July 18, 2015

One of the largest sunspot regions during this Sunspot Cycle 24, and one of the biggest in several decades, gave us quite a show, back in October 2014.

### [AFCCE Fields the Field Day:](#)

by radioworld.com on July 18, 2015

Association of Federal Communications Consulting Engineers members who also happen to be amateur radio operators didn't have to choose between their professional society's annual meeting and their hobby's annual outdoor activity, Field Day. The organization planned and deployed a Field Day station at the Historic Inns of Annapolis for members to operate during the annual meeting held June 26–29. Hams in attendance were delighted. AFCCE President David Snavelly, W5ZC, noted that the Field Day scheduling conflict couldn't be avoided this year. "We actually do try to avoid Field Day," Snavelly commented, "but this year the way everything fell on the calendar -- Father's Day, various graduations, industry meetings -- we had to schedule the annual meeting on Field Day. We knew that would disappoint our hams who look forward to Field Day all year. "So we brought Field Day to the annual meeting." Field Day is an annual activity whereby amateur operators take the last weekend in June to test their emergency preparedness, operating their radio equipment from campgrounds and other portable locations on

emergency power to prove out its readiness in times of emergency. For many the weekend provides an excuse for a campout and some relaxation time.

### **Propagation Forecast Bulletin #29 de K7RA:**

by W1AW Bulletin via the ARRL on July 17, 2015

Average daily sunspot numbers dropped from 109.1 on July 2 to 8 to 73.7 in the past week, July 9 to 15. Average daily solar flux dropped from 123.2 to 114.8 over the same two periods. Geomagnetic indices were more active, with average daily planetary A index increasing from 10 to 13.7, and average mid-latitude A index going from 8.9 to 12.3.

### **Norfolk Schoolchildren Will Be Able to Speak to Astronaut at Space Station:**

by edp24.co.uk on July 17, 2015

But a select group of Norfolk schoolchildren will do more than just that as they are given a remarkable chance to speak live to an astronaut at the International Space Station (ISS). Youngsters from Norwich School, City of Norwich School, Reepham High School and the University of East Anglia will be able to link up with British astronaut Tim Peake when he visits the ISS. Major Peake, who retired from the British Army as a major in 2009, will become the first Briton ever to visit the ISS in December. He will spend six months living in space and local schools have the chance to host a direct link-up with the ISS. Mark Venables, head of physics at Norwich School, said: "We're very excited about it. Hearing on the day that Nasa flies by Pluto, the timing couldn't be better. "The contacts themselves are pretty brief, around 20 minutes, so we all have to be organised and flexible if there are unforeseen changes." There will only be a 10-minute window, when the ISS will be over the UK, where an amateur radio contact can be established with Major Peake. Students will then be able to ask him questions about his life and work on board the ISS.

### **The Maunder Minimum is Back! (Maybe. And We Probably Won't Notice):**

by arstechnica.com on July 17, 2015

A new ice age is not actually coming. But you wouldn't know that based on headlines from places like The Telegraph. The "reasoning" behind the headlines is that a new study suggests the Sun is headed for a severe low in its activity, and the last time that happened coincided with a cold period called the Little Ice Age. Ergo, another one is on the way. Pretty much every aspect of this reasoning is wrong. To understand why, we have to understand sunspots. Sunspots are the product of magnetic activity inside the Sun, and they appear as darker, cooler areas on the star's surface. You might think that they would cause less light to reach Earth, but the areas around the sunspot brighten up, more than compensating for the dark areas. As a result, there's a simple relationship: the more sunspots, the more solar output reaches Earth. Normally, sunspots come and go with the 11-year long solar cycle - more during peak activity, less during the Sun's quieter times. But superimposed on that cycle are longer-term trends in activity that we don't understand very well. For example, solar activity has been trending downward since the 1980s, and it's not entirely clear why. But it's still much more active than it was during a roughly 70-year period around 1700, when the Sun experienced what's called the Maunder Minimum, with very few sunspots visible the entire time. That period happened to coincide with the Little Ice Age, which saw global temperatures dip and glaciers advance, with Europe experiencing notably colder weather. The lack of solar activity provided a nice explanation for this, so the two were assumed to be connected.

### **Lazar, Siddall, Join CQ as Contributing Editors:**

by CQ Communications on July 16, 2015

Two longtime hams will be joining CQ magazine's staff of contributing editors, CQ Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU, announced today. Dennis Lazar, W4DNN, has been named interim QRP Editor, effective with the August issue; while David Siddall, K3ZJ, takes over as Contest Editor as of the September issue.

### **DX News -- ARRL DX Bulletin #28:**

by W1AW Bulletin via the ARRL on July 16, 2015

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

### **Just Ahead in Radiosport:**

by The ARRL Letter on July 16, 2015

Just Ahead in Radiosport:



### [ARRL Board of Directors to Meet July 17-18:](#)

by The ARRL Letter on July 16, 2015

The ARRL Board of Directors will hold its second meeting of 2015 Friday and Saturday, July 17-18, in Windsor, Connecticut. Much of the League's governance work is done by committees between Board meetings. At this meeting, as usual, the Board will receive reports and consider recommendations from its committees.

### [ARISS Initiates Fundraising Effort, Offers 'Challenge Coin' Keepsake:](#)

by The ARRL Letter on July 16, 2015

The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program has kicked off a fundraising program, and it's offering an ARISS Challenge Coin as a token of appreciation to those who contribute at a certain level. ARISS relies on resource support from NASA, ARRL, AMSAT, and individual donors and volunteers to ensure day-to-day operation of its programs and to pay for spaceflight equipment certification. In light of budget cutbacks at NASA over the past 2 years, the funding needed to cover operational expenses down the road has become more uncertain, however, and ARISS leadership initiated the fundraising effort with the goal of securing greater financial stability.

### [Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015 Politicians Do Listen ARRL President Says:](#)

by The ARRL Letter on July 16, 2015

ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, said in the July ARRL Legislative Update Newsletter that Washington politicians are paying attention to League members who have contacted lawmakers to urge their cosponsorship of the Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015.

### [IARU Member-Societies Conducting Second Kosovo Vote; Burundi Admitted:](#)

by The ARRL Letter on July 16, 2015

International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) member-societies are taking a second vote on whether to admit Kosovo's national Amateur Radio association, Shoqata e Radio Amatoreve te Kosoves (SHRAK) to IARU membership.



## ARRL News

### [Rockwell Collins to End Mechanical Filter Production](#)

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August 13, 2015 - As more and more communications equipment designs have adopted digital signal processing techniques, **Rockwell Collins** has announced that it will stop manufacturing its renowned mechanical filters. It did not provide a specific date.

“Over the past several years, we have seen a dramatic reduction in demand for narrowband analog filters,” the company **said** on its website. “Due to this and other eco...”

### [Committee Asks for August UHF Contest Suggestions](#)

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August 12, 2015

### [Texas Club Donates \\$1000 to Support Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015 Campaign](#)

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August 12, 2015 - The Temple (Texas) Amateur Radio Club (**TARC**) has again generously supported the ARRL's advocacy efforts, this year donating \$1000 to the Legislative Issues Advocacy Fund in support of the **Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015**. In the past, the Texas club has donated to the Spectrum Defense Fund, but this time it asked specifically to put its gift toward the Parity Act campaign.

## [WA3TFS Wins August QST Cover Plaque Award](#)

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August 11, 2015 - The winner of the August 2015 QST Cover Plaque award is Jim Forkin, WA3TFS, for his article “**WA3TFS Audio Notch Filter and Clipper.**”

The *QST* Cover Plaque Award -- given to the author or authors of the most popular article in each issue -- is determined by a vote of ARRL members on the **QST Cover Plaque Poll web page**. Cast a ballot for your favorite article in the September issue today.

## [World-Circling Danish Radio Amateur-Cyclist Now in the US](#)

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August 11, 2015

## [ARRL Teachers Institutes Chalk Up Another Successful Summer](#)

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August 11, 2015 - Educators from several states expanded their electronic horizons this summer in three ARRL **Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology** sessions. The 2015 ARRL Education & Technology Program (**ETP**) offered two introductory (TI-1) and one advanced (TI-2) Teachers Institute sessions this summer.

“I am the only teacher in my building who teaches Ohm’s Law and basic electricity, along with breadboard ci...

## [ARRL Logs Received Page Showing all 2015 Entries to Date](#)

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August 11, 2015 - The ARRL “**Logs Received**” page now contains all 2015 ARRL Field Day entries received to date (scroll to bottom of page). This includes entries submitted via e-mail, web applet, or on paper. The deadline to submit Field Day entries has past.

The ARRL Contest Branch requests that Field Day participants review the **list** and contact ARRL Contest Branch Manager **Matt Wilhelm**, W1MSW, (860-594-0232) no la...

## [Antarctica ANZAC 100 Activation Postponed](#)

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August 10, 2015 - The planned activation of VIOANZAC over the weekend from Casey Base in the Australian Antarctic Territory has been postponed because of a fierce storm. The operation has been rescheduled for the August 29-30 weekend, weather permitting. The VIOANZAC activation will be part of the Wireless Institute of Australia ANZAC 100 program to mark the 100th anniversary of the famous World War I Battle at ...

## [SPROUT Satellite Sponsors Seek Telemetry Reports](#)

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August 10, 2015 - Students at Nihon University in Japan are requesting the assistance of radio amateurs in collecting telemetry reports from the **SPROUT** (SPace Research On Unique Technology) satellite, which has deployed its inflatable membrane structure. SPROUT was launched on May 24, 2014, from Tanegashima Space Center in Japan.

According to the SPROUT team, a goal of the nanosatellite project will be to validay...

## [Katrina 10th Anniversary Mississippi Memorial Event Set](#)

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August 10, 2015 - A **special event** operation from August 26 through September 2 will commemorate the 10th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina and the more than 230 people who lost their lives as a result of Katrina along the Mississippi Gulf Coast and points north.

“Many lost everything they owned and many lost their lives,” said Larry Morgan, AG5Z, who is spearheading the event. “We also want to honor the hundreds o...

## [IARU Raises Satellite Frequency-Coordination Concerns](#)

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August 08, 2015

## [The September Edition of Digital QST is Now Available](#)

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August 07, 2015 - **September QST is our annual Public Service issue. Click here to start reading!**

- Build a multifunction “Go Box.”
- Try FSQ, the new digital mode that’s ideal for public service.
- Make your power supply PowerPole compatible.
- Build a portable 2-meter Yagi antenna that deploys in less than 5 minutes.

...and much more!

**Enjoy Content You Won’t Find in the Print Edition...**

--See a video demonstration of...



***The ARRL New England Convention  
at the Holiday Inn in Boxborough,  
Massachusetts***

**August 21 - 23,**

**2015**

**TICKETS NOW ON SALE!**   [Purchase Tickets](#)

## [An important step forward for the SARL and Amateur Radio](#)

The recently constituted SARL Antenna Defense Fund Initiative sub-committee met this week with the deputy chairman of the South African Local Government Association, Councilor MphoNawa, at the Council Chambers of the West Rand District Municipality. Councilor Nawa is also the Executive Mayor of the West Rand District Municipality

## [New, fast JT9 Meteor Scatter modes](#)

Joe Taylor K1JT has published some information about the new 'Fast JT9' submodes for Meteor Scatter communication on 28 and 50 MHz

## [Foul weather forecast delays launch of Japanese cargo ship to Space Station](#)

The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) has pushed the launch of its H-II Transport Vehicle (HTV)-5 to the International Space Station to 8:35 a.m. EDT on Monday, August 17. NASA Television will carry live coverage of the event beginning at 7:45 a.m.

## [£6 billion plan for new 999 radios 'puts lives at risk'](#)

A £6 billion project to replace radios used by the 999 services with a system that uses the 4G mobile phone network has been condemned as 'reckless' and 'short-sighted' amid fears it could put lives at risk

## [The Trouble with Space Junk](#)

The BBC's Horizon programme reveals the scale of the problem of space junk. In 2014, the International Space Station had to move three times to avoid lethal chunks of space debris

## [RSGB letter in PC Pro Magazine](#)

RSGB President John Gould G3WKL highlights Amateur Satellites, FUNcube and the RSGB Youth Committee in a letter which appears on page 30 of the October issue of PC Pro Magazine, in the shops now

## [Radio hams form safety net for Ridge Run](#)

The Gallatin Valley Ham Radio Club have been providing race communications in nearly every one of the race's 31 years

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

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the solar activity is expected to remain at low levels

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

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

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

*Kid's breakfast: \$9.00 (new price effective March 2015)*



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Robert Schmeichel  
2011



Copyright WB1GOF,  
Robert Schmeichel  
2013



## Repeater Information

### Repeater Interference

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



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

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

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

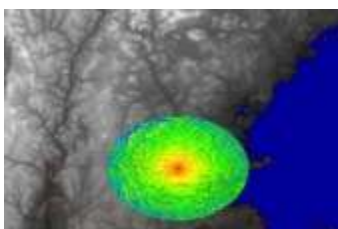
### EmComm events and repeater use

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

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

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

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



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

## PART Gear

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

Club members are also encouraged to obtain an official PART badge from [The Sign Man](http://thesignman.com/clubs/part.html) (<http://thesignman.com/clubs/part.html>) PLEASE NOTE: Please check with Hugh Maguire-N1QGE, [hulin127@verizon.net](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. You can provide valuable information even if you have not attended one of the training sessions. Listen to the Skywarn Net Control Station for reporting criteria, when you have information that qualifies, please advise him with your report.

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

**PART Sunday Night Net** – The PART Net each Sunday night is an IMPORTANT part of our regional EmComm function. With each station that checks in from the surrounding communities, we test our ability to communicate vital information to the ham radio community. Sure we announce club info but we can also communicate regional disaster news and serve as a “hub” for news of situations in our communities. The repeater is on a generator, so even if we loose power in the region, an HT with a supply of batteries will reconnect you to other local hams.



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This month's editor: Terry Stader – KA8SCP

PART official mailing address is:  
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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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