

MARCH *PARTicles*



The newsletter of PART of Westford, MA – WB1GOF

Celebrating 40 years of public service 1975-2015

President's Column

- Andy Stewart (KB1OIQ)

The new location for the monthly club breakfast seems to be a big hit! We had 15 people in attendance at Paul's Diner in Westford. The food and service were great, and one bill for the group was not a problem. Be sure to bring cash, as this makes life much easier for the treasurer. I was very pleased to see so many people, and everybody seemed to have a great time. I look forward to maintaining or even increasing the attendance level at future club breakfasts.

The club kit building activity was also a



success! We had 4 kit builders and several elmers, as well as some others who came to learn about kit building and the club in general. The Cricket 80a was the kit that we built, and it is a QRP CW transceiver for the 80m band. It is crystal bound to 3.579 MHz. Three kits were built and work great. One elmer didn't have a chance to build her kit, since she was busy helping others. Many thanks to the elmers: Steve (W1KBE), and Allison (KB1GMX). The kit builders were: Rich (AB1HD), Wayne

(AG1A), and Tim (WoTJP). Alan (W1AHM) was working on a kit of his own. Andy (KB1OIQ) was demonstrating his 80m fox transmitter which uses the Cricket 80a. Others in attendance included Dave (WI1R), Bo



(WA1QYM), Kailas (KA1LAS), Balu (KC1IMI), and Tom (KC1ELF).

The PART Board of Directors is preliminarily pondering whether the club should be incorporated as a non-profit entity. There are pros and cons to consider in the realm of taxes and legal protection for the club and its officers. There is a lot of collective experience in our hobby, since many ham radio clubs are incorporated. We will keep you informed as we delve into this issue.

Battery powered HTs, mobile rigs, and ham radio stations prove to be quite useful, especially during power outages like what we recently experienced. These days, many people have generators, used with either a transfer switch, or a collection of extension cords and power strips. Alternate power sources allow us

stay warm and keep food fresh, but also enable us to help with emergency communications. Many of us report weather related information to SkyWarn, which is part of the National Weather Service. Amateur radio also allows us to check on our ham friends to see how they're faring during such an event. In addition to a rechargeable battery pack for your HT, be sure you have one that accepts commonly available AA batteries.

After my announcement about springtime 80m fox hunting, one well known intrepid fox hunter could not wait for spring. He showed up on my doorstep one day last week, unquestionably eager to get a jump on the competition. I put the 80m fox transmitter on the driveway and watched as this fox hunter tested his equipment. At least one other person in PART has purchased an ARDF receiver for the 80m band. We will be having a lot of fun once spring arrives!

Propagation hasn't been so great lately, and in the winter months, many of us spend the time working on radio projects in our shacks.

Steve (W1KBE) and I have been working to resurrect a Guild Spice Chest radio from 1955 that we found at Savers in Nashua. This is a tube based AM radio receiver housed in a wooden spice cabinet. Steve walked me through the capacitor replacement, and when we powered it up, we heard crackles and static, and thought we briefly heard a station. Since then, Steve has done quite a bit more work, and had it working briefly. As of this writing, the radio is very close to being operational. I plan to cleanup the wooden cabinet, and I'll bring it to the Show 'n Tell meeting in April.

Lastly, my work on the uBITX QRP kit radio from India continues. I have the voice synthesis working well, and the keypad is enabled. My goal is to determine if this set of modifications makes the rig useful to visually impaired hams. I found a local ham who is willing to test my breadboarded rig, and we'll be getting together soon.

Have a lot of fun, and 73!



Above 2 photo's from Paul's Diner on 3/3/2018

Next PART meeting – 7:30 PM March 20th 2018
Cameron Senior Center
20 Pleasant St., Westford

Upcoming PART Meetings/Events

Mar 20th 2018

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

Apr 7th 2018

- PART monthly breakfast. Paul's Diner. 8-10 AM

Apr 17th 2018

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

May 4th 5th 2018

- NEARfest, Deerfield Fairgrounds

May 5th 2018

- PART monthly breakfast. Paul's Diner. 8-10 AM

May 22nd 2018

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

Jun 2nd 2018

- PART monthly breakfast. Paul's Diner. 8-10 AM

Jun 19th 2018

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

Jun 23rd & 24th 2018

- PART Field Day 2018

Monthly PART Meetings and Social Events

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

Treasurer's Report

PART Treasury between 16-Jan'18 and 19-Feb'18

(As of 20-Feb'18)

	General Fund	+	Repeater Fund	=	Checking Total
Old Balance	= \$4157.90	+	\$5374.34	=	\$ 9532.24
Income	+\$1695.00	+	+\$ 75.68	=	+\$ 1770.68
Expenses	-\$ 62.33	+	-\$ 0.00	=	-\$ 62.33
Net	+\$1632.67	+	+\$ 75.68	=	+\$ 1708.35
New Balance	= \$5790.57	+	\$5450.02	=	\$11240.59
Acc. Receivable	+\$ 0.00	+	+\$ 0.00	=	+\$ 0.00
Acc. Payable	-\$ 121.03	+	-\$ 0.00	=	-\$ 121.03
Net Credit	-\$ 121.03	+	-\$ 0.00	=	-\$ 121.03
Net Worth	= \$5669.54	+	\$5450.02	=	\$11119.56

##To pay dues##
PART, P.O. Box 503, Westford, MA 01886-0015

-or-
Club Meeting, Cameron Senior Ctr., 7:00PM, 3rd Tuesday
Renew online by PayPal at: http://www.wb1gof.org/F_join/part_dues.html

PART 2018 Membership as of 6-Mar'18

Individuals (= New for 2018 + Renew for 2018)		Households (= New for 2018 + Renew for 2018)	
Full (\$25)*	23 (= 2 + 21)	[23 (= 2 + 21)]	
Senior (\$15)*	31 (= 3 + 28)	[31 (= 3 + 28)]	
Family (\$30)*	16 (= 0 + 16)	7 (= 0 + 7)	
Student (\$15)	0 (= 0 + 0)	[0 (= 0 + 0)]	
Associate (\$10)	0 (= 0 + 0)	0 (= 0 + 0)	
Grand Total*	70 (= 5 + 65)	61 (= 5 + 56)	

ARRL members:* 61
(Including ARRL Life members:* 11)

Starred lines changed since 16-Feb'18.

No new PART members this month.

PART members in good standing for 2018

AA1HO	AA1O	AA1VS	AB1HD	AB1OC	AB1QB	AC1DJ
AG1A	K1ARG	K1CL	K1IG	K1NS	K1OPE	K1OTA
K1SRW	K1VNV	K3XL	KA1KK	KA1VF	KA8SCP	KB1EDE
KB1GMX	KB1ILO	KB1LSH	KB1NIQ	KB1OIQ	KB1QAT	KC1ACV
KC1AJJ	KC1ELF	KC1FAC	KC1FGH	KC1FGI	KC1GAT	KC1GJJ
KC9BLP	KE8UW	N1AEW	N1BE	N1BKR	N1CEO	N1DAM
N1ECC	N1HY	N1IEC	N1NCO	N1QGE	N1RXV	N1XOI
NE1RD	W1AHM	W1BP	W1CCE	W1FDR	W1FRR	W1GXH
W1IS	W1KAZ	W1KBE	W1LKS	W1LTN	W1MGA	W1QW
W1RAG	W1RS	WA1EJW	WA1QYM	WB1HBE	WI1R	WN1FVQ

Total: 70 individuals

PART's official mailing address is:

PO Box 503
Westford, MA 01886

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

PART Officers:

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

Ham Fleas/Events

Links to Massachusetts hamfest websites (partial)

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



New England Area Ham/Electronic Fleas:

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

2018

30,31 Mar Lewiston ME AARC ME Conv @Ramada @8 Ivan N1OXA 207 784 0350
 7 Ap Hampton NH PCARC @Masonic \$5@8 \$10/T@7 Mark K1RX 603 231 8965
 8 April Framingham MA FARA 9AM@KeefeHS \$25/T Andy KC1DMM at 508 310 5913 +
 14 Ap Newton MA PHSNE Photographica Sat Only @AmLegion @9A John 781 592 2553
 15 April Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 F+
 21 Apr Gales Ferry CT RASON @FireCo auction Tom WA2RYV 860 464 6555 A+
 22 April Manchester CT NEWS EVHF/UHF @Baymont 8AM Mark K1MAP 413 777 9828 +
 29 April Thompson CT ECARA @ Raceway \$3 \$10/sp Jon KA1MPG 508 943 4467 F+
 29 April Middletown NY OCARC @ CommCtr Bruce K2ULZ 845 391 3620 A+
 4-5 May Deerfield NH NEARfest XXIII @FG Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235
 12 May E Greenbush NY EGARA FireCo Tom KC2FCP 518 272 1494 A+
 19 May Goshen CT SBARC @FG \$5@8 \$10/T Stan W2VID 518 369 2863 F+
 20 May Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 F+
 2 June Brookline NH NEARC antique 603 772 7516 F+
 3 June Fishkill MtBARC @DwnStCorr Adam KC2DAA 845 849 3666 A+
 17 June Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 F+
 15 July Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 F+
 11 Aug St Albans VT STARC @VFW Arn N1ARN 802 309 0666
 19 August Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 F+
 19 Aug Adams MA NoBARC @FG B\$5@7 S\$10@6:30 Eric KA1SUN 413 743 9975 F+
 8,10 Sept Boxboro MA FEMARA NE Conv Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235 A+
 9 Sept Ballston Spa NY SCRACES @FG \$6@7 Jim KG2H 518 703-9558 +
 12-13 Oct Deerfield NH NEARfest XXIV @FG Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235 +
 16 September Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 F+
 6 October Brookline NH NEARC antique 603 772 7516 +
 21 October Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 F+
 27 Oct Gales Ferry CT TCARC @FireCo auction Tom WA2RYV 860 464 6555 +
 3 Nov Bourne MA FARA @UpperCC VoTech \$5@9 \$10/S@7 Ralph N1YHS 508 548 0422 +



Near-term local fleas

Framingham ARA Flea

Sunday, 8-Apr'18

Buyers \$5.00, 9:00AM-1:00PM

<<http://www.wlfy.org/2018FleaFlyerKeefe3.pdf>>

Keefe Vo-Tech

750 Winter St., Framingham, MA

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

Flea at MIT

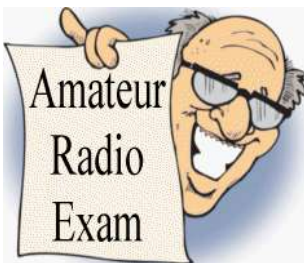
Sunday, 15-Apr'18

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

<<http://web.mit.edu/wlmx/www/swapfest/swapfest-2018.04.pdf>>)

Garage on Albany St. Cambridge, at Portland St.; Albany St. triangle lot

<<http://goo.gl/maps/KpTQO>> <<http://web.mit.edu/wlmx/www/swapfest/buyers-parking.pdf>>



The Billerica BARS VE team conducts VE Sessions on 2nd Thursday of every month. They are held in the church hall of The Chelmsford Bible Church, 128 Gorham St, East Chelmsford at 7pm. New license and upgrade tests. Walk-Ins, not a problem. No Reservations needed. For more information, contact: Gary W1GFF at 978-453-1100 Email Gary W1GFF

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

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



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

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

Upcoming PART Club Meetings

March 20, 2018:

- Terry, KA8SCP, will hold a Repeater Roundtable, to discuss with PART members the status of the PART repeater constellation and give a D-Star demonstration. Bill, K1NS, will lead a discussion of the Sunday night PART net; we're looking for inputs on how to make the net more relevant and fun.

April 17, 2018:

- Show and Tell. Bring in that project you've been working on all winter and tell the club about it! Notify George (K1IG@arrl.net) if you've got something to talk about or show, and he'll put you on the schedule.

May 15, 2018

- There will be a presentation on "ARES and Emergency Communication" by Steve Schwarm, W3EVE. We expect to be visited by several members of Eastern Massachusetts ARES organizations.

June 19, 2018

- The topic is Field Day!

Amateur Radio News



From eHam.net News:

[Australia Hosts International Spectrum Meeting:](#)

by WIA on March 18, 2018

In preparation for the World Radio Conference in 2019 (WRC-19) there are a number of preparatory meetings that are undertaken. One of these in the Asia Pacific Region is the Asia Pacific Telecommunity (APT) Preparatory Group. This is the third of five regional summits in the lead-up to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) WRC. The Australian Government is hosting this meeting in Perth from 12 - 16 March 2018 and is expected to attract more than 350 radiocommunication leaders from over 25 Asia-Pacific countries.

[New Exhibition at Bletchley Park:](#)

by RSGB on March 18, 2018

Opening on 24 March 2018, a new, permanent exhibition at Bletchley Park will tell the story of the Bombe machines that helped break the Enigma code in the actual location that housed the machines.

630M Group Playing WSQ2 in VK and ZL:

by WIA on March 17, 2018

Recently the 630metre group has been very active on a new mode called WSQ2. This mode was developed by Murray Greenman ZL1BPU/ZL1EE and Con Wassilieff ZL2AFP/ZL2EE. After these two experienced some frustration with the weak signal non-QSO WSPR mode and slow QSO modes like Jason, they decided to create their own that was fast enough for QSO functionality. Enter WSQ or Weak Signal QSO mode – it uses Incremental Frequency Keying (IFK), making it moderately drift-proof and easy to tune. It has no error correction and even though it's baud rate is slower than Jason each symbol carries more information. It is equivalent of typing about 5 wpm.

Scanner Group Hopes to Equip Citizen Patrols with Radios:

by mailtribune.com on March 17, 2018

The moderator of a Facebook group focused on local crime is seeking donations from its members to outfit a volunteer neighborhood watch program with radios. Jackson County Scanner Group administrator and co-owner Ryan Mallory is seeking about \$4,000 from donors for radio equipment that will be used by the Scanner Group's Citizens Patrol, a group of screened volunteers. Citizens Patrol members are already on the streets keeping tabs on their own neighborhoods and 73 crime-ridden areas, then relaying suspicious activity to police. "Watch and report -- that's all we do," Mallory said. Currently the 150 invitation-only patrol volunteers are "working by cellphone," Mallory said, collaborating with a combination of Facebook messages and a smartphone GPS app. Mallory said he'd like to move to a radio system similar to what trucking companies use, citing volunteer safety. "We need to keep our eyes up," Mallory said. "We don't want people tempted to use their phone while they're driving." Volunteers uncomfortable or unable to patrol who "have great minds that want to participate" could take notes as dispatchers, he added. Toward that end, Mallory plans to install a radio repeater on a volunteer's property on Manor Hill, with the help of a team that includes three ham radio operators, a former electronics engineer, metal fabricators and database experts.

Mysterious Anomaly: the Sun Without a Single Stain for 37 Days:

by bobrtimes.com on March 17, 2018

The scientists noted that for thirty-seven days in the Sun no spots. The last time this occurred in 2009. This year is likely to be significant because the solar minimum has already exceeded two times the standard duration. How many more bodies will not activity? As a rule, at the end of one solar cycle lasts for eleven years, the activity of the main star is reduced to a minimum, but in our case this period was delayed. Most likely, the anomaly is related to the weakening of the solar wind and its magnetic field.

AmateurLogic.TV Episode 115 is Here:

by peter berrett (VK3PB) on March 16, 2018

AmateurLogic.TV Episode 115 is now available for download. Tommy, George and Emile visit the 2018 Acadiana Hamfest in Rayne, LA. Good food, good friends and good times in South Louisiana. We visit with vendors and attendees to find out what makes this event so special. Emile teaches Tommy and George the proper way to eat Crawfish.

John Moyle Memorial Field Day:

by WIA on March 16, 2018

Denis VK4AE, WIA coordinator for the John Moyle Memorial Field Day 2018 reminds us that next weekend is the Field Day -Saturday the 17th to Sunday 18th March, 2018, the duration of the contest will be from UTC 0100 Saturday to 0059 on Sunday. The aim of the field day contest is to encourage familiarisation with portable operation and to provide training for operations in emergency situations. During the contest the field (portable) stations appreciate the support from home stations. However, in order to make the whole event a lot fairer, those field (portable) stations actually take part in effectively a

March 2018

separate event to home stations. In this way home stations are not given an unfair advantage, when compared the portable stations that do not have the advantages of a permanent antenna installation, mains power and the comfort of operating from their own home QTH. Home stations are single operator stations and Club Stations operating from their club premises are not operating portable. Last year we had a number of club stations wanting to claim portable operation from the clubrooms as it was likely to be raining during the contest and they were not keen to actually operate portable. In addition, there were club stations who felt that operating in the local caravan park using mains power was also 'portable' operation. Of course, none of these club stations were operated according to the rules or to the spirit of the contest. No matter how you plan to take part in the contest, after the activity is all over and the radio equipment has been packed away, there is one task that must be completed by all stations. They must submit their log for the contest for the validation of those contacts for the other stations.

RAYNET Active in Extreme Weather:

by RSGB on March 16, 2018

RAYNET groups around the country were activated during the heavy snowfall last weekend. Cardiff and District RAYNET were called in to assist with the transportation of key personnel, such as community care workers, as well as assisting stranded motorists to reach safety. Lothian and Fife RAYNET groups provided a communications net for the local 4x4 response group, passing over 800 messages during their 65 hours of continuous operation. Glasgow and Clyde RAYNET assisted Scotserve, a voluntary medical response group, who were transferring staff to and from the children's hospital in Glasgow, by giving them updates on local road conditions.

DX News -- ARRL DX Bulletin #12:

by W1AW Bulletin via the ARRL on March 15, 2018

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by KK9A, ON4EI, W2TT, The Daily DX, the OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX News, 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 March 15, 2018

Just Ahead In Radiosport:

ARRL To Shine Spotlight on Public Service Communications at Hamvention 2018

by The ARRL Letter on March 15, 2018

Hamvention 2018 is May 18-20 at the Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center in Xenia, Ohio. The largest annual Amateur Radio gathering in the US, this year's event has been sanctioned as the 2018 ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention. The theme for this year's Hamvention is "Amateur Radio...Serving the Community." ARRL has responded in that spirit, and four ARRL-sponsored forums -- to include many guest presenters -- will comprise a Public Service Communications track on Friday and Saturday of Hamvention.

Why ARRL is Recommending Enhanced HF Privileges for Technicians:

by The ARRL Letter on March 15, 2018

ARRL has asked the FCC to expand HF privileges for the entry-level Technician license to include limited phone privileges on 75, 40, and 15 meters, plus RTTY and digital mode privileges on 80, 40, and 15 meters, where Technicians already have CW privileges. ARRL believes the additional digital privileges will attract younger people to Amateur Radio.



ARRL News



03/16/2018 | [International Space Station Astronauts Calling “CQ Students”](#)

The deadline is April 30 for US schools, museums, science centers, and community youth organizations (working individually or together) to submit proposals to host an Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) contact.

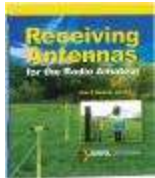
[Learn More](#)



03/16/2018 | [Results of the 2017 ARRL November Sweepstakes CW Now Available](#)

The ARRL November SS CW results are now available.

[Learn More](#)



03/16/2018 | [New Book: Receiving Antennas for the Radio Amateur is Now Shipping!](#)

Increase your station's receive performance with new book Receiving Antennas for the Radio Amateur.

[Learn More](#)



03/16/2018 | [ARRL to Shine Spotlight on Public Service Communications at Hamvention 2018](#)

The theme for this year's Hamvention is “Amateur Radio...Serving the Community.” ARRL has responded in that spirit.

[Learn More](#)



03/16/2018 | [The K7RA Solar Update](#)

The sun remains mostly spotless

[Learn More](#)



03/16/2018 | [Deadline Approaching to Submit Nominations for Five ARRL Awards](#)

The deadline is approaching soon to submit nominations for five ARRL awards.

[Learn More](#)



03/15/2018 | [Tennessee Middle School Students Will Send a CubeSat into Space](#)

NASA has informed Robertsville Middle School in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, that its “RamSat” 2U CubeSat proposal has been accepted for participation in NASA’s CubeSat Launch Initiative (CSLI).

[Learn More](#)



03/15/2018 | [ARRL Seeks EC-001 Mentors!](#)

ARRL has an immediate need for new EC-001 course mentors who are willing to start once approved.

[Learn More](#)



03/15/2018 | [The Doctor Will See You Now!](#)

The Doctor opens the mailbag for the newest (March 15) episode of the “ARRL The Doctor is In” podcast.

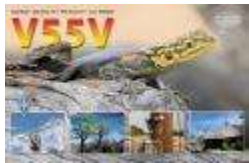
[Learn More](#)



03/14/2018 | [Chinese Lunar-Orbit Amateur Radio Payload Could Launch this Spring](#)

China’s twin-launch Chang’e 4 mission to the far side of the moon will place a pair of microsatellites in lunar orbit this spring.

[Learn More](#)



03/14/2018 | [V55V, Big Signal out of Namibia, to Go Silent](#)

Martin Walter, V51W, near Omaruru, Namibia, has spent the past 2 decades improving his V55V station, but it will be shutting down.

[Learn More](#)



03/14/2018 | [Z60A Activity to Mark Kosovo's New DXCC Status Logs Nearly 100,000 Contacts](#)

The celebratory Z60A activity logged nearly 100,000 contacts before shutting down.

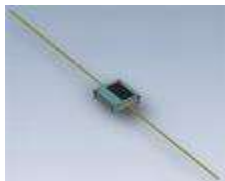
[Learn More](#)



03/14/2018 | [Past Louisiana Section Manager Jim Molan, KD5IGG, SK](#)

Past ARRL Louisiana Section Manager Jim Molan, KD5IGG, of Bunkie, Louisiana, died on March 8.

[Learn More](#)



03/13/2018 | [Launch of "SpaceBEEs" Unauthorized, FCC Tells California Technology Developer](#)

When AMSAT's AO-92 (Fox-1D) satellite launched on January 12 from India on Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) C40, some tiny 0.25 U CubSats called SpaceBEEs went into space on

[Learn More](#)



03/13/2018 | [The AmazonSmile Triple Donation Promotion Now Under Way](#)

Triple your impact! Until March 31, Amazon is tripling the donation rate on your first smile.amazon.com purchase.

[Learn More](#)



03/12/2018 | [Digital QST App Update Coming by March 13](#)

The digital QST app will be upgraded by Tuesday, March 13, to feature a new build from our digital publishing partner.

[Learn More](#)

ARRL Bulletins

- 2018-03-15 [ARLX005](#) Past Louisiana Section Manager Jim Molan, KD5IGG, SK
- 2018-03-12 [ARLB008](#) W1AW 2018 Spring/Summer Operating Schedule
- 2018-03-12 [ARLB009](#) South Texas SM Stepping Aside; New South Texas SM Appointed
- 2018-03-01 [ARLB007](#) ARRL Requests Expanded HF Privileges for Technician Licensees
- 2018-02-23 [ARLX004](#) IARU Region 3 Disaster Communications Committee Chair Jim Linton, VK3PC (SK)
- 2018-02-21 [ARLB006](#) Louisiana Elects New Section Manager
- 2018-01-26 [ARLB005](#) Kristen McIntyre, K6WX, Appointed ARRL Pacific Division Vice Director
- 2018-01-23 [ARLX003](#) New IARU Region 2 HF Beacon Coordinator Named
- 2018-01-16 [ARLB004](#) NCVEC Question Pool Committee Releases Errata to New Technician Question Pool
- 2018-01-16 [ARLX002](#) Past ARRL Great Lakes Division Director Jim Weaver, K8JE (SK)
- 2018-01-09 [ARLB003](#) NCVEC Releases New Technician License Question Pool into the Public Domain
- 2018-01-09 [ARLX001](#) FEMA Region 10 Communication Exercises Will Make Use of 60 Meters
- 2018-01-02 [ARLB001](#) W1AW 2018 Winter Operating Schedule
- 2018-01-02 [ARLB002](#) W1AW active on 6 meters for all its scheduled transmissions; signal reports welcome





[China's DSLWP-A1/A2 satellites to transmit Amateur Radio data from the Moon](#)

China is planning to launch the **Chang'e 4** lander and rover which is slated to land on the far side of the moon in December. The lander configuration will use a relay satellite for a control and data link with Earth



[AmateurLogic 115: Hamfest Acadian Style](#)

Tommy, George and Emile visit the 2018 Acadiana Hamfest in Rayne, LA. Good food, good friends and good times in South Louisiana. We visit with vendors and attendees to find out what makes this event so special. Emile teaches Tommy and George the proper way to eat Crawfish



[Top 10 reasons to come to AMSAT at the Hamvention](#)

10. Rub shoulders with 25,000 of your best friends at the largest hamfest in the United States, including all of the AMSAT Directors and senior officers. See the latest equipment from Icom, Yaesu, Kenwood, Flex, Alinco, M2, Arrow, and many other manufacturers of amateur radio equipment and accessories. Take advantage of discounted pricing you won't find anywhere else.. Now, read the other 9 reasons...



[80 young radio hams to attend YOTA event in South Africa](#)

The SARL will be hosting 80 young radio amateurs between 16 and 25 years old, representing 34 countries, at the 2018 YOTA summer event to be held in Gauteng from August 8-15



[E-licensing for ham radio in Indonesia](#)

The world-wide shift to online amateur radio exams and licensing continues to gather pace, the latest country to adopt it is Indonesia



[VK6WIA NewsWest](#)

It's John Moyle weekend, and it would be safe to say you're chasing those last few contacts, packing up, or recovering from the Field Day operations - depending on when you're listening to this broadcast here in VK6, or around Australia



[Spectrum above VHF is where the future for radio communications lies](#)

Radio communications started off on long and medium wavelengths, first on Maritime Mobile spark transmissions and years later followed by AM Broadcasting



[QSO Today: Glen Popiel, KW5GP](#)

Glen Popiel, KW5GP, author of two popular books on Arduino for amateur radio and a book on mesh networking for amateur radio joins **QSO Today** once again



[No WiMo at Friedrichshafen](#)

Antenna company **WiMo** have announced they will not be attending the Ham Radio 2018 event in Friedrichshafen on June 1-3



[Essex Skills Night Monday](#)

Skills Night takes place at 7pm on Monday, March 19 in Danbury Village Hall, Essex, this free event is open to all



['It's not real Ham Radio!'](#)

Chris G7DDN describes the resistance to change by some radio amateurs over the years and asks 'Do we need an exam anymore to get a licence?'

Special Event Stations in New England

- **04/21/2018 | International Marconi Day**
Apr 21, 0000Z-2359Z, KM1CC, Wellfleet, MA. Marconi Cape Cod Radio Club. 14.260 14.035 7.260 3.535 . QSL. KM1CC Marconi Cape Cod Radio Club, Cape Cod National Seashore, 99 Marconi Site Rd, Wellfleet, MA 02667. International Marconi Day is sponsored by the Cornish Radio Club, UK. KM1CC is one of many stations participating. KM1CC represents Marconi's 1901 South Wellfleet Station <https://www.nps.gov/caco/learn/historyculture/marconi.htm>
- **04/28/2018 | Honoring the Birthday of the Boy Scouts of America**
Apr 28, 1000Z-1500Z, W1BSA, Fall River, MA. USNR NE1PL. 7,259. QSL. USNR c/o Rick Emord, 135 Wareham St, Middleboro, MA 02346. This will be our fourth year transmitting in honor of the birthday of the Boy Scouts Of America from the ward room of the USS Massachusetts. Scouts camp over night on the ship and we try to involve as many as we can.
- **04/28/2018 | W1BSA Scouts on the Air from Battleship Cove**
Apr 28, 1500Z-2000Z, W1BSA, Fall River, MA. USNR. 7.245. Certificate & QSL. Rick Emord, KB1TEE, 135 Wareham St, Middleboro, MA 02346. We'll be on clear frequencies on 20m 40m, possibly 10m and wherever conditions lead us. Feel free to make contact or if you're in the area stop on down and say hi, we love to have more operators or to meet new people, or catch up with old friends. usnrnelpl@gmail.com
- **06/02/2018 | First Nuclear Submarine USS NAUTILUS**
Jun 2-Jun 3, 1300Z-2100Z, N1S, Groton, CT. Generations Amateur Radio Club. 21.324 14.264 7.264 3.924. QSL. via bureau or direct to: GARC, Harrison Solt, N1FAM, 110 Vinegar Hill Road, Gales Ferry, CT 06335. Museum Ships Weekend participant. Nautilus info: ussnautilus.org. <https://www.qrz.com/db/n1s>
- **06/08/2018 | American Cancer Society's Relay For Life**
Jun 8-Jun 9, 2000Z-1959Z, N1C, Gardner, MA. Area Amateurs. All FT8 frequencys 20, 40, 80 meters SSB. QSL. Bill Leger, N1UZ, 38 Chapel Street, Gardner, MA 01440. Great cause, third year doing this event. All QSL cards will be answered. Any and all donations will be appreciated. Last year we raised over \$1,000 and had a blast doing it. Start a event near you.
- **07/21/2018 | Flat Hammock Island, NY - On the Air**
Jul 21, 1500Z-2100Z, W1QV/2, Groton, CT. Tri-City ARC of Connecticut. 21.295 14.295 7.195 3.895. QSL. Tri-City ARC, PO Box 552, Groton, CT 06340. Limited operation is also planned on 28.395, 50.135, and 144.205 MHZ. Rain date is Sunday, July 22nd; same times and frequencies QSL information is shown on the W1QV QRZ page.
- **08/17/2018 | 151st Annual Marshfield Fair**
Aug 17-Aug 26, 1600Z-0059Z, NN1MF, Marshfield, MA. Whitman Amateur Radio Club. 18.160 14.260 7.260 3.860; EchoLink: WA1NPO-R, IRLP: 8691. Certificate & QSL. Whitman ARC, PO Box 48, Whitman, MA 02382. Times are daily. www.wa1npo.org

Repeater Nets

146.955 Nets – There are a number of nets that are regularly scheduled on the 955 repeater.

- Sunday night at 2000/8:00 PM Sunday Night PART Net – every
- Sector 1C Emergency Communications Net – this net occurs the 1st Monday or every month (except when it is a holiday).
Skywarn and ARES Nets – these nets are spontaneous when local conditions warranted.

NOTE: You can LISTEN ONLY to this repeater audio by linking to this URL:
<http://www.radioreference.com/apps/audio/?feedId=10933> (TEMPORARILY DOWN!)

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 069C
- Tuesday 9:00 PM North Carolina Net – Reflector 54C
- 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> and at http://www.wb1gof.org/F_repeater/dstar-status/dstar-status.html

Monthly PART Breakfast

NEW Venue - Paul's Diner

From this month's President's Column: "The event will be moved to Paul's Diner in Westford starting on Saturday, March 3rd, 2018. The event will still begin at 8 AM, and we'll meet in the back room of the restaurant. Each person will order from the [menu](#), as there is no buffet at this restaurant."

Paul's Diner is located at 6 Carlisle Rd in Westford, MA 01886. Directions to Paul's Diner can be found at this link: <http://www.paulsdiner.com/Directions>



Repeater Information

Repeater Interference

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



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

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

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

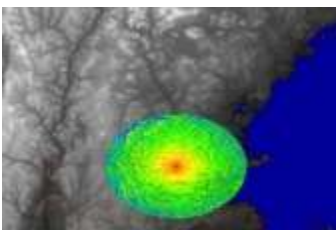
EmComm events and repeater use

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

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

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

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



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

PART Gear

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

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

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



EmComm

Emergency Communications – The WB1GOF 146.955 repeater is used on the first Monday of every month (except federal/state holidays) for an EmComm Net starting at 1930 local time. If you are interested in being part of the local emergency communications team in your community, feel free to contact any of the following folks:
Terry Stader – KA8SCP, MEMA Region 1 Communications Officer & Town of Westford

Bill Ohm – W1OHM, for the Town of Chelmsford

Darrel Mallory – K1EJ, North Middlesex ARES

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

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

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

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



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This month's editor: Terry Stader – KA8SCP

PART official mailing address is:
PART, PO Box 503, Westford, MA 01886

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