



PARTicles

The newsletter of PART of Westford, MA – WB1GOF

Celebrating 40 years of public service 1975-2015

September 2015

President's Column

- Andy Stewart (KB1OIQ)

September is election time at PART. Our nominations committee has once again been run by Alan (K1ALL). Club members were free to nominate themselves or other club members for each of the positions. Nominations are now closed, and the following nominations have been recorded:

President: Andy (KB1OIQ) Stewart
Vice President: Rich (AB1HD) Crisafulli
Secretary: Rick (W1RAG) Green
Treasurer: Alan (W1AHM) Martin

The Board of Directors announces that their appointment for Director-at-Large is Steve (WA1KBE) Rimsa. Congratulations and many thanks go to Steve for his many years of service to the club and to the hobby, and his willingness to continue in that role. Since there are no contested positions, the nominations chairman will call for a single vote at the next PART meeting to make this official for the 2015-2016 year.

Starting with our October meeting, PART will move to a new meeting location. The Cameron Senior Center is located at 20 Pleasant Street in Westford, which is 2.5 miles from our current meeting location. We will need to setup the room by moving tables and chairs, and we'll put it back as we found it after the meeting. This facility offers some flexibility that isn't available at our current meeting site, and it'll take us a few meetings to figure out how to best take advantage of those amenities. We're very thankful to the Town of Westford, which has always been very accommodating.

The Cameron Senior Center is also the location for the Westford Food Pantry, which provides food for local residents in need. I think it would be a great gesture from the club if our members brought

appropriate food items for donation. For details, please talk to Hugh (N1QGE).

At our next club meeting, our featured speaker will be Rick (W1RAG), who will present his "Field Day Retrospective", otherwise known as the "Silly Slide Show". This very popular presentation will contain photos from Field Day with captions from an amusing perspective. Rick's entertaining presentation will surely have you smiling and laughing.

Rick's presentation won't take up the entire meeting, so I'm looking for an additional 2 or 3 short presentations of a 5-15 minute duration. If you'd like to give a ham radio related talk, please contact me to get onto the agenda. It could involve slides or it could be more of a Show-n-Tell format.

Lee (KB1ELE) will be giving one such talk. He is a relatively new PART member who has a rejuvenated interest in the hobby. Lee will talk about his experience configuring and customizing Linux for his ham radio needs on his Macbook computer.

I will probably do a quick demonstration of my portable QRP setup, which was inspired by a recent article in a ham radio magazine. I call it my "Rig in a Bucket", which was designed to go from the car to a nearby picnic table. I found a perfect spot in the Grassy Pond conservation area in Westford, and operated from there one afternoon during the Labor Day weekend. As I walked through the woods with a covered bucket in one hand, and a long cardboard mailing tube (containing the antenna) in the other, I encountered a lady walking her dogs who thought I was going fishing in the nearly dried out pond!

That's all for this month. Have a lot of fun, and 73 de Andy (KB1OIQ).

Next PART meeting: Tuesday September 15th
@1930 – Westford Police station

Treasurer's Report

PART Treasury between 21-July '15 & 17-August '15 (As of 18-August '15)

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Repeater Fund</u>	<u>Checking Total</u>
Old Balance	\$ 3,135.11	\$ 3,612.54	\$ 6,747.39
Income	\$ 0.00	\$ 20.26	\$ 20.26
Expenses	\$ (120.44)	\$ 0.00	\$ (120.44)
Net	\$ (120.44)	\$ 20.26	\$ (100.18)
New Balance	\$ 3,014.67	\$ 3,632.80	\$ 6,647.47

PART 2015 Membership as of 28-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)*	43	(= 5 + 38)	43	(= 5 + 38)
Family (\$30)*	21	(= 2 + 19)	10	(= 1 + 9)
Student (\$15)	0	(= 0 + 0)	0	(= 0 + 0)
Associate (\$10)	0	(= 0 + 0)	0	(= 0 + 0)
Grand Total*	107	(= 16 + 91)	96	(= 15 + 81)

Latest new PART members:

Jerry/K10GI (Stow)
Miguel/KC1EIN (Haverhill)

ARRL members:* 96 / 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, 3rd Tuesday

Renew online by PayPal at: 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 15th 2015

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

October 3rd 2015

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

October 20th 2015

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

November 7th 2015

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

November 17th 2015

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

December 5th 2015

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

December 15th 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 3rd Tuesday, 7:30 PM – PART Meetings at Westford Police station
- Every 1st 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>>

NEAR-Fest

Friday, 16-Oct'15 and Saturday, 17-Oct'15 Buyers \$10 for Fri+Sat <<http://www.near-fest.com:8084/nearfest/>>

Deerfield Fairgrounds, 43 Stage Rd. (Rt. 43), Deerfield, NH <<http://goo.gl/maps/gdFDT>>

Links to hamfest websites (partial)

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
Marlboro MA	AARC	http://www.qsl.net/n1em/2015FleaFlier.pdf
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.fcrc.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>

2015

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 @EISch 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 +
20 Mar Southington CT @HS John WA1JKR 860 621 8791 +
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 +
13 Aug St Albans VT STARC @VFW \$5@8 Arn N1ARN 802 309 0666 +
26,28 Aug Boxboro MA FEMARA NE Conv Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235 +
28 Aug Adams MA NoBARC @BoweFld 6:30sell 7:30buy Eric KA1SUN 413 743 9975 +
14,15 Oct Deerfield NH NEARfest XX @FG Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235



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

Important Announcement

October Meeting location change!

- *High Maguire – N1QGE*

(NOTE the September 15th 2015 meeting will still be at the Police Station)

After 15 years of meeting at the Westford Police Department we must move on as the town is repurposing the training room. The Cameron Senior Center is welcoming us on every 3rd Tuesday from 7pm to 9:30pm – we have reserved the “all-purpose” room for our meetings; there are no other large meetings on Tuesday evenings. Parking including disabled spaces should be adequate with the exception of late winter and large snow piles limiting some spaces.



20 Pleasant St, Westford, MA 01886
Near the intersection of Pleasant St and Oak St
(978) 692-5523

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FROM ROUTE 2:

Take Rte. 2 to I-495 North. Take exit 31 - Route 119.
At the end of the exit ramp, bear Right onto Route 119.
Approximately 1 mile down, take a Right onto Beaver Brook Road

Stay on Beaver Brook Road 1.6 miles; it ends at a T intersection - Concord Rd. & Pleasant St.
Take a Left onto Pleasant Street (Route. 225).
The Cameron Senior Center is approximately 1 mile down the road on the Left.
It is a large gray building, with a sign on it that reads “Cameron School.”

FROM I-495 North:

Take exit 31 (Rte. 119). At the end of the exit ramp, bear Right onto Rte. 119.
Approximately 1 mile down, take a Right onto Beaver Brook Rd.
Stay on Beaver Brook Road 1.6 miles; it ends at a T intersection - Concord Rd.& Pleasant St.
Take a Left onto Pleasant St. (Rte. 225).
The Cameron Senior Center is approximately 1 mile down the road on the Left.
It is a large gray building, with a sign on it that reads “Cameron School.”

FROM I-495 South:

Take exit 31 (Rte. 119).
Stop at end of exit. Take a left onto Rte. 119.
Approximately 1 mile down, take a Right onto Beaver Brook Rd.
Stay on Beaver Brook Road 1.6 miles; it ends at a T intersection - Concord Rd.& Pleasant St.
Take a Left onto Pleasant St. (Rte. 225).
The Cameron Senior Center is approximately 1 mile down the road on the Left.
It is a large gray building, with a sign on it that reads “Cameron School.”

Upcoming Public Service Events

PART Pumpkin Patrol - Saturday October 31st, 2015

PART once again is providing the Pumpkin Patrol service to the Town of Westford. Many of you are veterans and others may be volunteering for the first time... whichever you are... thank you in advance for your help!

Pumpkin Patrol involves the use of Amateur Radio volunteers providing additional eyes and ears to the Town of Westford during the annual Trick or Treat event. Our purpose is to observe and report any potential safety concerns back to the PART Pumpkin Patrol Net Control Station which will be located at the Westford Police station. A report from one of our patrols will get handed off to the Westford PD dispatcher and addressed by the Town's public safety services. Our role is **ONLY** to report what we see and provide input to our Town's public safety departments.

We normally require 5 - 8 radio operators per "shift" that will patrol various geographical sections of town. Maps and a checklist of locations to watch will be provided when you check-in for your assignment. Check-in occurs at the Westford Police station where we record your call sign and your vehicle information. You do **NOT** need to be a resident of the Town of Westford to volunteer, but a basic familiarity with the town's geography is a plus!

We have quite a few new hams and club members this year. If warranted, a meeting prior to the event may be scheduled. This will give our new folks and veterans a chance to interact and become comfortable with the operation.

The normal time for Trick-or-Treaters is 6 PM until 8 PM. Our activities have varied over the years, but we normally will run the operation from 5:30 PM until 10:00 - 11:00 PM. If the weather is lousy, the net closure time will be adjusted accordingly. We try and accommodate every individual's schedule, we have run with 2 shifts in the past... an early and a late shift. We will accept your offer to assist at any time throughout the course of the evening.

The plans are to use the WB1GOF 2 meter repeater, 146.955 (PL 74.4), for the entire event. So all a volunteer will need is a radio capable of operating on that frequency. A vehicle will help too... but if you don't drive and want to ride shotgun with another ham, we should be able to accommodate that as well. If you'd like to do a bike or foot patrol, please contact me and we could talk thru that kind of an operation.

Contact Terry-KA8SCP (KA8SCP@WB1GOF.org) if you are interested or need more information.



Bay State Marathon - Sunday Oct. 18th, 2015

- *By Terry Stader – KA8SCP*

Once again, local ham radio operators will be ramping up to support the Bay State Marathon in the City of Lowell on Sunday, October 18th. As we have done in the past, we will be assisting with medical operations and runner accountability from many locations on the course.



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

Race information can be found at <http://baystatemarathon.com> If you are interested, please contact Terry-KA8SCP via email, ka8scp@wb1gof.org to sign up or get more information.



From eHam.net News:

[Emergency Preparedness Fair Promotes Education:](#)

by clarksvillenow.com on September 13, 2015

CLARKSVILLE, Tenn.- The Fourth Annual Clarksville Emergency Preparedness Fair will take place on September 19 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, located at 3242 U.S. 41Alt (Sango) in Clarksville. The fair promotes preparation for emergencies at individual and family levels during National Preparedness Month. This is a free, public event. Exhibits will educate and inform attendees on helpful local and national emergency and crisis organizations, the use of different kinds of emergency equipment, and what to do in a variety of disaster situations. The organizations participating include the NOAA (National Weather Service), Red Cross, the Montgomery County Sheriff's Dept., EMS, Clarksville Police Dept., Humane Society, the Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Dept, CERT (Community Emergency Response Team), CATS Club Ham Radio Operators, ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service) and more. All fair participants from these organizations work at this function on a volunteer basis.

[AMSAT Fox-1D to Launch w/Fox-1C 1Q2016:](#)

by Andrew Glasbrenner (KO4MA) on September 12, 2015

In response to a breaking opportunity, AMSAT and Spaceflight, Inc. have arranged for Fox-1D to accompany Fox-1Cliff on the maiden flight of the SHERPA system on a SpaceX Falcon 9. As a Fox-1 series, Fox-1D is identical to Fox-1Cliff, but with different frequencies and carrying the University of Iowa HERCI (High Energy Radiation CubeSat Instrument) radiation mapping experiment as a hosted payload.

[ACMA SPECTRA Has License Changes:](#)

by WIA on September 12, 2015

The Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) has commissioned the new SPECTRA system for Apparatus Licences, and thanks all for their patience during the recent two week shut-down. Under its Project Helm (Holistic Engineering and Licence Management), the ACMA has transitioned from the old RADCOM platform that has been in use since 1996. The SPECTRA system means a number of changes to the WIA Exams Service that will affect both the assessors and candidates. These may take a few weeks to fully filter through and assessors have been alerted to the new simpler system. The more efficient SPECTRA Enterprise platform is now handling all data for both Apparatus and Spectrum licensing. Broadcast Licences are due in early 2016. There are a number of changes to Amateur Radio licence processing and recording, some not obvious while others reflect the new ways of doing things. No longer will specialised blue licensing paper be used but they will be on plain A4 paper, contact with licensees will be through email if that is the communication preference chosen, and the station location will be in the ACMA licensing database. The station location details, and any special conditions, were previously only included on the license itself due to some privacy concerns.

[160-Meter Fish Net Beacon Proposal:](#)

by Donald B. Chester (K4KYV) on September 11, 2015

While most attention on this proceeding so far has focussed on the proposed new MF and LF allocations, there is also the issue of fish net beacons on 160m. The initial comment deadline is past due, but REPLY COMMENTS ARE STILL OPEN THROUGH THE 30th of SEPTEMBER. We can reply to the ARRL comments; they pretty much have the issue identified and defined spot on, except for a suggestion that fish net beacons on 1900-2000 kHz be moved to the "lightly used" portion of the Radiolocation frequencies between the broadcast band and 160m ham band, specifically 1750-1800 kHz. From what I hear on my receiver at this location, THE ENTIRE SEGMENT OF FREQUENCIES between 1705 kHz and 1800 kHz is lightly used. I rarely ever hear a signal of any kind in that segment, which was once packed full of now-discontinued radiolocation beacons. I would strongly urge everyone to submit a reply comment explaining why you support the ARRL position, with a further suggestion that the entire band of Radiolocation frequencies between 1705 and 1800 kHz be considered for re-accommodating beacons presently on 1900-2000.

[Amateur Radio Newline Report 1976 September 11, 2015:](#)

by James Pastorfield (KB7TBT) on September 11, 2015

The following is a QST. A bright young undergraduate makes sense of solar flares and propagation. India works to

grow its ham radio community. A Texas hamfest prepares for the FCC's former top enforcer. And a Netherlands fox hunt takes to the sky. All this and more in Amateur Radio Newsline report 1976 coming your way right now.

WA0EBZ: Over the Airwaves:

by theosakisreview.com on September 11, 2015

Long before the days of Internet chatrooms, people were still capable of speaking to strangers from the other side of the world. Wayne Johanson of Osakis has spoken to people in 330 different countries through the power of amateur radio. Amateur, or Ham radio is a way to communicate over airwaves. "Amateur radio operators are people just like you and me," Johanson explained. "They are anybody that has an interest in talking to people on their street, their block, in their town, their state, the U.S. and the world." Comparable to talking on the phone, Johanson explained that ham radio has allowed him and others to learn about life around the world.

Former ARRL Staffer Mason P. Southworth, ex-W1VLH (SK):

by W1AW Bulletin via the ARRL on September 10, 2015

Former ARRL staffer Mason Southworth, ex-W1VLH, of Montara, California, died August 28 from complications related to a traumatic brain injury 2 years ago. He was 81. A graduate of Trinity College in Hartford and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, he began work in 1956 at ARRL Headquarters, where he met his wife, Freddie.

ULS, Other FCC Systems, Come Back Online:

by The ARRL Letter on September 10, 2015

Scheduled FCC computer system upgrades took a couple of days longer than anticipated, but the Universal Licensing System (ULS) -- the repository for Amateur Radio licensing data and portal for all applications -- came back online early on September 10, along with FCC e-mail and other systems that had been down for several days.

Just Ahead In Radiosport:

by The ARRL Letter on September 10, 2015

Just Ahead In Radiosport:

Opponents' Representations of Parity Act's Purpose 'Just Not True,'

by The ARRL Letter on September 10, 2015

ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, has taken strong exception to certain claims being made by community association organizations about the Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015 -- H.R. 1301 and S. 1685.

Transmitter Sale Funds Opportunity for ARRL Teachers Institute Participant:

by The ARRL Letter on September 10, 2015

The sale of a vintage Collins transmitter has made it possible for a Connecticut Amateur Radio club to fund a seat for a future ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology participant.

Jamboree On the Air 2015 Station Registration Is Open:

by The ARRL Letter on September 10, 2015

Worldwide station registration is open for the 2015 Boy Scouts Jamboree On The Air/Jamboree On The Internet (JOTA/JOTI), which will take place over the October 16-18 weekend. Registration requires a scout.org username, which gives full access to the registration system as well as to many of the JOTA/JOTI activities that will be under way during the weekend. JOTA is aimed at fostering Scout-to-Scout communication across borders and is the largest Scouting event in the world, with upward of 750,000 Scouts participating from some 6000 stations in 150 countries. In the US 13,326 Scouts and visitors took part in JOTA 2014.

ARISS-International Delegates Meet In Tokyo:

by The ARRL Letter on September 10, 2015

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) International delegates and representatives tackled a wide-ranging agenda when they met in late August in Tokyo. The August 20-23 gathering was held in conjunction with the Japan Amateur Radio League's 90th anniversary celebration and the JARL Ham Fair. Those attending represented Canada, Europe, Japan, Russia, and the US.



ARRL News

[ARRL Server Maintenance Will Put All Website Systems Offline](#)

September 12, 2015 - [UPDATED 2015-09-10 @ 1353 UTC] Some ARRL servers will undergo routine maintenance from 0000 UTC until 0700 UTC on Sunday, September 13 (Saturday evening on September 12 into Sunday morning on September 13 in US time zones).

Dates and times have changed since the initial outage announcement on September 9.

While the website will remain accessible, all systems will be unavailable during this outag...

[Three ISS Crew Members, Including Two Hams, Return Safely to Earth](#)

Yesterday, September 12, 2015, 3:17:00 PM

[Worcester Polytechnic Institute Wireless Association Welcomes New, High-Profile Tower](#)

September 11, 2015 - The new fall semester at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) in Worcester, Massachusetts, heralded not only the resumption of classes but a new antenna tower for the WPI Wireless Association (**WPIWA**), the home of W1YK. The new tower replaced an older one atop the four-story Salisbury Labs building on the campus, where the club's other antennas are located. The club station has long been housed...

[K1JT Advises WSJT-X Users Not to Use "Unauthorized" Builds of His Software](#)

September 11, 2015

[FreeDV HF Digital Voice QSO Party Set for September 12-13 Weekend](#)

September 11, 2015 - Australia's Amateur Radio Experimenters Group (**AREG**) has invited all radio amateurs interested in HF digital voice communication to take part in the **FreeDV HF Digital Voice QSO Party** over the September 12-13 weekend. The Wireless Institute of Australia's VK100ANZAC special event station will be the focal point for the event.

The aim is to encourage amateurs to try the HF digital voice mode. The...

[ZL1BPU Wins June QST Cover Plaque Award](#)

September 11, 2015 - The winner of the September 2015 QST Cover Plaque award is Murray Greenman, ZL1BPU, for his article "**FSQ: Fast, Simple QSO.**"

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 October issue today.

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

September 11, 2015

[The K7RA Solar Update](#)

September 11, 2015 - The Australian Space Forecast Centre issued a Geomagnetic Disturbance Warning at 0132 UTC on September 8. They wrote, "The effect of a high speed solar wind stream from a coronal hole is keeping geomagnetic activity enhanced.

Geomagnetic activity is expected to remain mostly enhanced to Active levels on 8 September with the possibility of some minor storm periods."

If you look at <ftp://ftp.swpc...>

[VHF-UHF Mountaintoppers, Rovers Asked to Observe Radio Quiet Zones](#)

September 10, 2015 - The National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO) at Green Bank, West, Virginia, has asked that hams notify the facility if they plan to operate within 10 miles of either the Green Bank Telescope (GBT) or the Sugar Grove Research Station in Sugar Grove, West Virginia. The internationally renowned scientific research facilities are within both state and federal radio quiet zones. The West Virginia...

[Opponents' Representations of Parity Act's Purpose "Just Not True," ARRL President Says](#)

September 10, 2015

[ULS, Other FCC Systems Come Back Online](#)

September 10, 2015

[ARISS-International Delegates Meet in Tokyo](#)

September 09, 2015 - Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (**ARISS**) International delegates and representatives tackled a wide-ranging agenda when they met in late August in Tokyo. The August 20-23 gathering was held in conjunction with the Japan Amateur Radio League (**JARL**) 90th anniversary celebration and the JARL Ham Fair. Those attending represented Canada, Europe, Japan, Russia, and the US. The meetin...

[Arkansas Ham Tops His Own Satellite Contact Distance Record](#)

September 09, 2015 - Arkansas Amateur Radio satellite enthusiast Dave Swanson, KG5CCI, on September 5 topped the satellite contact distance record he had set just a few days earlier. Operating from an old US Forest Service fire tower atop Rich Mountain in extreme western Arkansas (EM24uq01mu), Swanson worked Manuel "Dom" Ruiz, EA5TT, in Valencia, Spain (IM99sl48cx), via the venerable Oscar 7 (AO-7) satellite, opera...

[Sale of Vintage Transmitter Funds Opportunity for ARRL Teachers Institute Participant](#)

September 08, 2015 - The sale of a vintage Collins transmitter has made it possible for a Connecticut Amateur Radio club to fund a seat for a future **ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology** participant. The ARRL-affiliated Chippens Repeater Association/Bristol Radio Club (CRA/BRC) donated the money it realized from the sale of the old transmitter to cover the League's cost of providing the opportunity for an ...

[Mason P. Southworth, ex-W1VLH, SK; Headed ARRL IGY Propagation Project](#)

September 08, 2015 - Former ARRL staffer Mason Southworth, ex-W1VLH, of Montara, California, died August 28 from complications related to a traumatic brain injury 2 years ago. He was 81. A graduate of Trinity College in Hartford and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, he began work in 1956 at ARRL Headquarters, where he met his wife, Freddie.

While at ARRL, he was chosen to head the ARRL International Geophysical Yea...



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

[Skills Night Monday Sept. 21](#)

The next Skills Night, hosted by the Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society Training Team, starts at 7pm on Monday, September 21. This free event is open to all

[Russian military in 7 and 14 MHz Ham Radio bands](#)

The latest IARU Monitoring System newsletter reports Russian Military traffic in the amateur radio 7 and 14 MHz bands has increased

[Fox-1C and Fox-1D FM transponder CubeSats](#)

In response to a breaking opportunity, AMSAT and Spaceflight, Inc. have arranged for Fox-1D to accompany Fox-1C on the maiden flight of the SHERPA system on a SpaceX Falcon 9

[Dipole and Inverted V Antenna Basics](#)

In this video Dave Tadlock KGoZZ explains how dipole and inverted V antennas work and how to build an hf antenna. Includes tips for construction, mounting and tuning

[KLETSKOUS CubeSat update](#)

The KLETSKOUS satellite team is making good progress. SA AMSAT reports that the KLETSKOUS team made some major progress during the past few weeks

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

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

[NASA, Harmonic launch first non-commercial UHD channel in North America](#)

NASA is partnering with Harmonic, a worldwide leader in video delivery infrastructure, to launch NASA TV UHD, the first ever non-commercial consumer ultra-high definition (UHD) channel in North America

[ISS CubeSat deployment](#)

Masahiro Arai JN1GKZ reports CubeSats may be deployed from the International Space Station on September 17

[Aussie balloon lost in polar sea](#)

The pico balloon PS-52 from Melbourne travelled just north of New Zealand, then turned south, but encountered poor weather in the Antarctic region

Repeater Nets

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

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

NOTE: You can LISTEN ONLY to this repeater audio by linking to this URL:
<http://www.radioreference.com/apps/audio/?feedId=10933> (effective 2/2012)

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

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

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

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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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.

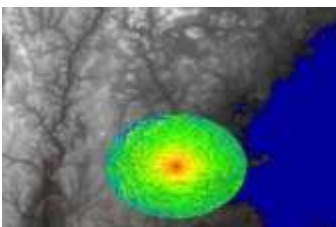
EmComm events and repeater use

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 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, 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

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