



PARTICLES Vol:12 No: 3
June 2008

By: Bo Budinger (WA1QYM)

June PART Monthly Meeting

The next monthly meeting of PART will be held at the Fellowship Room of the Westford Methodist Church on Tuesday May 17th at 7:30 PM. We will be featuring a discussion on our upcoming Field Day. Our Field Day Chairman, Steve (N1BDA), and his crew have been working very hard to make this upcoming Field Day a success. You will find that we have made some significant changes since last years Field Day. Plan to attend this meeting!

Apple Blossom Parade

PART was instrumental in helping the Westford Kiwanis run their Apple Blossom Parade on the morning of Saturday May 17th. PART provided a “shadow” communicator to each one of the many Kiwanis members running the parade. In addition we had one person at the police station acting as net control and as a contact person in case of an accident. Those participating included: Darrel Mallory (K1EJ), Charles Mahar (W1SKT), Dave Welsh (W1IR), Bill McIninch (KA1MOM), Bo Budinger (WA1QYM), and Alan Lewis (K1ALL) who acted as our net control station.



Andy (KB1OIQ) and Kimberly (KB1PZG) with the new PART banner in front of PART's Special Operations Vehicle

In addition, for the first time, the PART special operations vehicle was in the parade. It was driven by Hugh Maguire (N1QGE). In addition our new PART banner was proudly carried by the father and daughter team of: Andy Stewart (KB1OIQ) and Kimberly Stewart (KB1PZG). This banner was designed by Scott (NE1RD) and made for us by Rick McNeil a member of the Westford Kiwanis.

I want to give special thanks to Terry Stader (KA8SCP) for organizing and running this communications event. Terry is one of our most experienced emergency communicator and as usual he did an outstanding job.

NE1RD's QST article on Field Day

I am sure by now most all of you have seen the article by Scott (NE1RD) in the June Issue of QST entitled: "Educate and Earn Bonus Points". It is located in the QST ARRL Field Day section. Scott talks about the educational activities that can take place at Field Day and uses PART's Field Day Manual and our Tool Box Talk procedure as examples of how to do this. He then goes on to describe tool Box Talks and how they are integrated into our Field Day. Very nice article Scott.....well done !

Election of Officers

You may recall that last year PART finally put the election of officers on the schedule set by our Articles of Organization: **SECTION 8.02** Election and term of Officers: "The officers of the organization to be elected by the membership, shall be elected annually by the membership at which a quorum is present, at the first meeting of the membership held the beginning of each calendar year." **SECTION 8.02.1** Calendar Year [3] The calendar year for The Police Amateur Radio Team shall be based on a 12 month period commencing September 1st and ending on August 31st of the following year.

Even though voting for new officers will be in September, we plan to have a more formal nomination and election process than will take place over a month or two time frame. So I urge you to start think about running for a position within the PART organization. The offices of President, Vice President , Treasurer and Secretary are yearly elected positions.

Repeater Access to Local Police Departments

It has come to my attention that there is still some confusion as to how to use the autopatch on our two repeaters to access local police.

From the WB1GOF web site: " PART has only one phone line at the repeater site, so if the patch is in use on the 442.45 repeater you cannot use the line on 146.955 until the line becomes available. We have not interfaced busy detect logic to the controllers so it is possible to dial into another call, patches are infrequent but you should check for use on the other repeater. Users make autopatches by entering 3 digit "speed dial codes". Codes are identical on the two repeaters.Send the # (pound) key to hang up the call. Dial tone and DTMF Tones sent to the phone are muted on the air for privacy reasons. Patch indicates that it is dialing by sending 4 beeps."

Not only can you call the Westford Police Department Directly with a three digit autopatch but many other police departments and other agencies directly. The following autopatch Macros can be used on our two repeaters.

Speed Dial Code	Department
910	Westford Police Business Line
911	Mass State Police –Concord
912	Littleton Police Department
913	Acton Police Department
914	Lowell Police Department
915	Tyngsboro Police Department
916	Groton Police Department
917	Chelmsford Police Department
918	Carlisle Police Department
921	Westford Fire Department Business
721	AAA Lowell

“To test the patch, key xmtr, announce use of autopatch and your callsign, release PTT and then key xmtr again, press 739, un-key xmtr, hear 4 beeps, hear ringing, hear busy signal, key xmtr, press # to hang up. You should announce you are clear of the patch.”

It might be a good idea to keep this list of Speed Dial Codes in your automobile in case of an emergency.