



August 2016 PARTicles



The newsletter of PART of Westford, MA – WB1GOF

Celebrating 40 years of public service 1975-2015

President's Column

- Andy Stewart (KB1OIQ)

With all of this heat and humidity, I'm glad that my hamshack is located in the cellar, where it is generally 15-20 degrees cooler. The dehumidifier, while noisy, helps a great deal. I hope you have found ways to stay cool during this heatwave.

Lately, I've been playing with JT65 and JT9, weak signal modes brought to us by nobel laureate Joe Taylor (K1JT). Despite the reduced propagation of late, there is still a lot of life with these modes. Also, look at PSKReporter and see who is hearing your signal. You may be surprised!

Field Day has come and gone, and we've been privileged to use the grounds of the Concord Rod & Gun Club for the last several years. This location is quite beautiful and absolutely perfect for Field Day. There are several people who are members of both PART and GR&GC, and the relationship between the two clubs is great!

The CR&GC has been very generous towards PART. We have never been charged a fee to use their facilities. As a token of our appreciation, PART will be making a donation to the CR&GC to help them with their annual Kids' Fishing Derby, which is held in the spring. Toward that end, I'm soliciting voluntary donations to this fund. The goal is to raise \$250, which I will present to the CR&GC on behalf of PART. If you wish to make a donation, please see me (Andy KB1OIQ) or contact me via email (kb1oiq@arrl.net).

The ARRL New England Convention is now an annual event that is held in Boxboro, MA. This year, the convention will take place on September 9-11, 2016. As a member of the convention committee, I am responsible for finding a few dozen volunteers to staff a variety of jobs. All jobs require sitting for periods of

time, and are not physically demanding. Some jobs are indoors, while others are outdoors. Volunteers will receive a voucher for a free lunch (maximum \$10 value). If you are available for one (or more!) 2-hour shifts during that weekend, please send me email (kb1oiq@arrl.net) indicating which day(s) and time(s) you are available.

Nominations are now open for PART officers. The election will take place at the September meeting. If you are interested in running for office, please send email to Alan (K1ALL, allod@comcast.net). It is OK to nominate yourself, but please don't nominate others without their permission. Nominations will close shortly before the meeting, and thus no nominations will be taken from the floor. The offices are: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The current officers are respectively Andy (KB1OIQ), Rich (AB1HD), Rick (W1RAG), and Alan (W1AHM). Your Director-at-Large is Steve (WA1KBE), and this is a position appointed by the Board of Directors.

PART is privileged to have a lot of new people coming to our meetings, many of whom have recently received their licenses. I am renewing my call for an elmering program for new and less experienced hams. Part of this program can be presentations at our monthly meeting of topics of interest to new hams. Other possibilities need to include hands-on activities. I will offer my shack as a location for some of these activities, but it can only accommodate 3-4 people at one time. Ideally, I'd like someone to be the "Elmering Chairman", but this is so important that I will serve in that role temporarily. We'll discuss this more at the August PART meeting.

Have a lot of fun, and 73, Andy - KB1OIQ

Treasurer's Report

PART Treasury between 21-June '16 & 18-July '16 (As of 19-July '16)

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Repeater Fund</u>	<u>Checking Total</u>
Old Balance	\$ 4,078.73	\$ 4,259.34	\$ 8,338.07
Income	\$ 225.00	\$ 138.12	\$ 363.12
Expenses	\$(1,045.40)	\$ 0.00	\$(1,045.40)
Net	\$ (820.40)	\$ 138.12	\$ (682.28)
New Balance	\$ 3,258.33	\$ 4,259.34	\$ 7,655.79

PART 2016 Membership as of 3-August '16

Individuals			Households		
(= New for 2016 + Renew for 2016)			(= New for 2016 + Renew for 2016)		
Full (\$25)*	46	(=6 + 40)	46	(= 6 + 40)	
Senior (\$15)	43	(=3 + 40)	43	(= 3 + 40)	
Family (\$30)	17	(=1 + 16)	7	(= 0 + 7)	
Student (\$15)	0	(= 0 + 0)	0	(= 0 + 0)	
Associate (\$10)	0	(= 0 + 0)	0	(= 0 + 0)	
Grand Total*	106	(= 10 + 96)	96	(= 9 + 87)	

ARRL members:* 98 / 92.5%

(Including ARRL Life members:* (12)

NOTE: * Starred lines changed since 12-July '16

New Call Sign:

George/KC1GAT (Acton)

Silent Key:

Dan/N1LLG (Groton, MA)

##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'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 (WA1KBE) Rimsa

Upcoming PART Meetings/Events

Aug 16th 2016

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

Sept 3rd 2016

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

Sept 9th, 10th & 11th 2016

- Boxboro 2016/ARRL New England Convention – see www.boxboro.org for tickets and more info

Sept 20th 2016

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

Oct 1st 2016

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

Oct 18th 2016

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

Nov 5th 2016

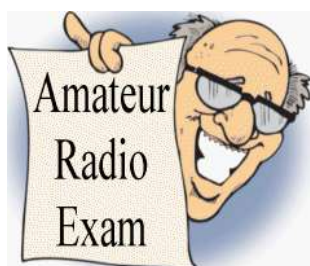
- PART monthly breakfast. Westford Regency. 8-10 AM (\$15/\$9; kids: \$8 – see note below)

Nov 15th 2016

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

Monthly PART Meetings and Social Events

- Every Sunday, 8 PM – PART Net on 146.955 repeater, Echolink Node 380799
- Every 3rd Tuesday, NEW TIME - 7:00 PM – PART Meetings at Cameron Senior Center
- Every 1st Saturday, 8 AM, Regency Inn Westford – PART Monthly Breakfast
- Every Wednesday, 6 AM, Owl Diner Lowell – Breakfast



The Billerica BARS VE team conducts VE Sessions on 2nd Thursday of every month. They are held in the church hall of Matthews Memorial 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:

Bruce W1LUS at 978-851-2886 [Email Bruce W1LUS](mailto:Bruce.W1LUS@arrl.org) or Gary W1GFF at 978-453-1100 [Email Gary W1GFF](mailto:Gary.W1GFF@arrl.org).

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.qsl.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>

2016

20 Aug Windsor ME AARA @FG Bill K1NIT 207 512 0312 A
21 Aug Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 +
28 Aug Adams MA NoBARC @BoweFld 6:30sell 7:30buy Eric KA1SUN 413 743 9975
28 Aug Newtown CT CARA @TownHall John KC1CBL 203 417 0160 A

9,10,11 Sep Boxboro MA FEMARA NE Conv Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235

*****www.boxboro.org*****

10 Sept Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Outdoor John 860 673 0518 +
11 Sept Ballston Spa NY SCRACES @FG Peter W2BEW 518 893 7484 A+
17 Sept Forestdale RI RIAFMRS @VFW \$5/Sp@8 Pete AA1PL 401 639 4484
18 Sep Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 +
24 Sep Brookline NH NEARC Antique @EvtntCr \$10@7:30 \$5@8:30 Bruce 603 772 7516
24 Sept Forestdale RI RIAFMRS @VFW \$5/Sp@8 Roland N1JOY 617 839 9081 +
1 Oct Fishkill NY MtBARC @DCQ Adam KC2DAA 845 849 3666 A+
9 Oct Queens NY HoSARC @HoS Stephen WB2KDG 718 898 5599 A
14,15 Oct Deerfield NH NEARfest XX @FG Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235
16 Oct Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 T+
16 Oct Meriden CT Nutmeg @Sheraton John N1GNV 203 440 4973 A
29 Oct Gales Ferry CT TCARC @FireCo Darryl WA1DD 860 443 7799 +
30 Oct Hicksville NY LIMARC @Levitt Hall Richard K2KNB 516 694 4937 A+
5 Nov Bourne MA FARA @UpperCC VoTech \$5@9 \$10/S@7 Ralph N1YHS 508 548 0422 +
3 Dec Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Indoor John 860 673 0518 +

2017

4 Mar Chicopee MA MtTomARA @8:30 S@6:30 Brian KC1BDF 860 478 6790 W
31 Mar Lewiston ME AARC ME Conv @Ramada @8 Ivan N1OXA 207 784 0350 W
8 Ap Newton MA PHSNE Photographica Sat Only @AmLegion @9A John 781 592 2553 +
13 May E Greenbush NY EGARA @FireCo Tom KC2FCP 518 272 1494 A+
8,10 Sept Boxboro MA FEMARA NE Conv Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235



Near-term local fleas

Flea at MIT

Sunday, 21-Aug'16

Sunday, 18-Sep'16

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

<<http://web.mit.edu/w1mx/www/swapfest/swapfest-2016.08.pdf>>) Parking Lot&Garage on Albany

St. Cambridge, at Portland St.

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

<<http://web.mit.edu/w1mx/www/swapfest/buyers-parking.pdf>>

New England Convention

Friday, 9-Sep'16, Saturday, 10-Sep'16 and Sunday, 11-Sep'16

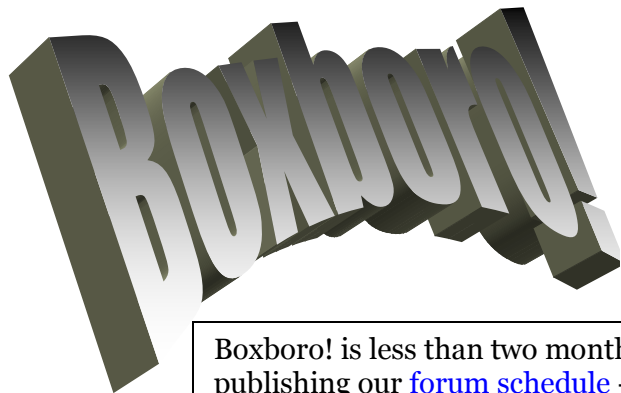
\$15.00 (Covers Fri/Sat/Sun)

<<http://boxboro.org/2016/index.html>>

Holiday Inn

242 Adams Pl., Boxboro, MA

<<http://boxboro.org/2016/directions.html>>



September 9, 10, & 11

Boxboro! is less than two months away, so our event planning is in full swing. We are close to publishing our [forum schedule](#) - look for another announcement in a few weeks.

In the meantime, take a look at our Friday and Saturday evening programs. At our Friday DXCC/Contesting dinner, David Collingham, K3LP, will brief us on the recently completed VP3S DXpedition. On Saturday, noted radio historian Donna Halper will treat us to "Heroes of Amateur Radio: Past, Present, and Future".

Visit our website for more info. While you are there, you can sign up a friend for a license class or VE Exam. You can also reserve yourself an operating slot at our W1A special event station.

We still have opportunities for those that would like to volunteer a few hours of their time at the convention. Volunteers will receive a voucher for a free lunch.

Finally, we've published a "[Guide to Quick Entry](#)" on our website to learn how to avoid those entry lines.

Visit our website today to find out more and purchase tickets! <http://www.boxboro.org>

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.



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

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

Club Member Spotlight

Scott-NE1RD got a couple of plaques recently for awards he has earned. The first is an 8-band [DXCC Award](#) (80-10m). The second is the [DXCC Challenge](#) award for confirming 1000 band/country slots.



Nice Job Scott... congratulations! GREAT for the wall of the shack!

Ham Radio Classes

The Nashua Area Radio Club will be giving weekend Ham Radio Licensing Classes this fall. Here is their schedule:

September 24-25 Technician Class
October 22-23 General Class
December 2-4 Amateur Extra Class

Classes are held at Dartmouth Hitchcock Nashua, 2300 Southwood Drive in Nashua.

You can find more information on our website at
<http://n1fd.org/2016/08/14/fall-2016-ham-radio-license-classes/>



2016 Field Day Results

Over 70 people, hams and non-hams, showed up at the Concord Rod & Gun Club on June 24 – 26 to make the 2016 Field Day a smashing success. PART operated seven stations: HF stations on Phone, CW, and Digital modes, a VHF station, a Satellite station, and a Get-On-The-Air (GOTA) station that combined for 1,319 QSOs and 5,834 points.

There was great weather for the entire event; unlike the rainy days of last year, the sun shown and the rain stayed away. The weather was, no doubt, a factor in the three HF stations operating for the full 24

hours. Propagation also cooperated and our stations were able to contact 49 states, three foreign countries, and Puerto Rico.

States and countries worked by the HF and VHF stations are shown below.



VHF Station: Eight States



Digital Station: 36 States, Ireland, and
Puerto Rico



CW Station: 48 States, UK, Ukraine, and Puerto
Rico



Phone Station: 41 States

PART also attained 1,450 bonus points, including maximum points in the new categories of Safety Officer and Social Media. Those PART members who helped us achieve the bonus points included:

- Satellite Station: Bob – KB1SWZ
- Toolbox Talks: Bob – W1IS, Alan – W1CCE, John – KB1MGI
- Generators: Dale – KB1ZKD
- GOTA Station: Andy – KB1OIQ, Bob – W1BAE (SK)
- Safety Team: Dale – KB1ZKD, Steve – N1BDA, Alan – KD1D
- Public Relations & Information Table: Lela – KC1ACV
- Messages: Rich – N1HY
- Solar Power: Allison – KB1GMX, Andy – KB1OIQ
- Social Media: Tim – KC1AJJ, Mark – K1MGY

And, a special commendation for our Food Team: Charlie – W1ADL, Rick – W1RAG, Lela – KC1ACV, and Lyman – W1LKS, who made all the other points possible.

Field Day 2017 is scheduled for June 23 – 25. Mark your calendars and get ready!

The Great 2016 “GO BOX” Competition

When: Sunday, October 16, 2016

Hours: 8:30 am – 10 am

Where: NUTMEG HAMFEST 2016

Sheraton Four-Points Hotel, 275 Research Parkway, Meriden, CT



Get organized to “Go Portable”!

- Eliminate the last minute hunting for gear before leaving.
- Banish the frustration of not having what you need at the operating site... because it is still back at the home QTH.

The “Go Box” is probably the best way to organize your radio equipment for those times when you want to (or need to) “Grab-‘n-Go” for Portable Operations such as:

- Day Trips
- Weekend Get-Aways
- Vacations
- Public Service Events
- ARES Drills/Exercises
- Real World Disasters

DETAILS, ENTRY RULES and OTHER THOUGHTS

<http://www.ctaresregion2.org/forum/getting-equipped-for-ares/574-the-great-2016-go-box-competition>

Don't have a “Go Box”?

Get Started and Build one!

- You'll be glad you did. ;-)

Sponsored by: CT ARES – Region 2

Boxboro Volunteers Needed

The ARRL New England Convention will be held in Boxboro, MA on September 9, 10, and 11, 2016. We are looking for a large number of volunteers and are asking for your help.

Volunteers are asked to work a 2-hour shift, and will receive a voucher for a free lunch (maximum: \$10 value). Jobs involve a minimum of physical activity, mostly long periods of sitting. Some jobs are outdoors, while others are indoors.

These are the times where volunteers are needed:

Friday: 12:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Saturday: 7:00 AM - 5:30 PM, and also 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Sunday: 7:00 AM - 1:00 PM



If you can help, please indicate the times that you are available, also, if you are available to work for more than one shift.

Please reply directly to Andy (KB1OIQ):

kb1oiq@arrl.net or kb1oiq@mval.net



From eHam.net News:

[WIA: Amateur Radio 'Remembrance Day Contest' Opening Address:](#)

by WIA on August 14, 2016

The Amateur Radio "Remembrance Day Contest" for 2016 now has an opening speech, of 15 minutes. The contest is on 13th and 14th August 2016 0300z to 0300z This contest commemorates the Amateurs who died during World War II and is designed to encourage friendly participation and help improve the operating skills of participants. It is held on the weekend closest to the 15th August, the date on which hostilities ceased in the southwest Pacific area.

[Ham Operators from Various Professions Chasing Passion:](#)

by thehindu.com on August 14, 2016

Its 12.30 p.m. on Saturday and a senior High Court advocate Kuthumbaka Ramesh was reporting the situation of a ghat in interiors of Srisailem in Kurnool to the Command and Control Centre (CCC) at Durga Ghat via a hand-held transmitter. Tiruvadhula Satish, a Chartered Accountant, was passing on information of pilgrim rush at the Vijaya Krishna Ghat in Vijayawada to the CCC, which is monitoring entire Krishna Pushkaram. He was there for a six-hour shift passing on the information. The duo is not part of any government team monitoring the Pushkaralu, but is part of the Ham Radio network -- an alternative and definite medium of communication during the Pushkarams. Not just Mr. Satish and Mr. Ramesh, there are about 50 others from various professions involved in the network as Ham Radio Operators.

[Radio Club Mark 50 Years On the Air:](#)

by gazetteandherald.co.uk on August 13, 2016

RADIO enthusiasts may be hearing a very special calling sign across the airwaves this month as the Chippenham and Amateur Radio Club is celebrating its 50th anniversary. To mark the occasion the club, which was founded in 1966, has been given the special calling sign of GB5CRC and hopes to try and speak with as many people as possible both locally and worldwide. Currently made up of more than 30 members, the club was previously based at Chippenham Boys' High School before moving to the Chippenham Sea Cadets site TS Tiger in 1981, where it remains and meets every Tuesday evening.

[Special Event: 90th Anniversary of the Founding of South Plainfield, NJ:](#)

by tapinto.net on August 13, 2016

On Saturday, August 13, 2016; the South Plainfield Amateur Radio Club (SPARC) will be holding a special event operation in Putnam Park from 1500 ~ 1900 Zulu (11 AM to 3 PM). The event is listed on page 100 of August's QST magazine. The planned frequencies of use are: SSB: 21.325; 14.325; 7.225; CW: 21.025; 14.025; 7.025. PARC members are also CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) members under the South Plainfield Office of Emergency Management. These same individuals have further demonstrated their value in public assistance by providing free radio communications for local parades, runs, walk-a-thons, fairs and other charitable public events. Many of these "hams" participate as weather spotters in the Skywarn program of the US Government Weather Bureau.

[1967 Solar Flare Nearly Took U.S. and Soviets to Brink of War:](#)

by skyandtelescope.com on August 13, 2016

On May 23, 1967, amidst the high-strung economic and political tension of the Cold War, all three of the United States' ballistic missile early-warning radars became simultaneously jammed. Located in the high-latitude areas of Alaska, Greenland, and the United Kingdom, these radars were designed to detect incoming Soviet missiles, and any attack or disruption of these radars were considered to be an act of war. The United States Air Force, believing their radars had been intentionally jammed by the Soviet Union, authorized aircraft with nuclear-strike capabilities to take to the skies. Timely information from space-weather forecasters, who realized that it was a powerful solar flare jamming the radar, managed to prevent military action just in time.

[Propagation Forecast Bulletin #33 de K7RA:](#)

by W1AW Bulletin via the ARRL on August 12, 2016

After two days of no sunspots on August 3 and 4, solar activity resumed with both sunspot number and solar flux rising into the 90s. Average daily sunspot numbers rose from 10.7 in the last reporting week to 52 this week

(August 4 to 10). Both averages were suppressed by having a sunspot number of zero on the last day of the old week and again on the first day of the most recent week.

Amateur Radio Newsline Report 2024, August 12, 2016:

by James Pastorfield (KB7TBT) on August 12, 2016

The following is a QST. Hams activate the national park just outside the White House. A steadily growing group of DXers in the UK mark their seventh year. Denmark's bicycling ham is on the final leg of his journey -- and amateurs in one Ohio town take it to the streets. All this and more in Amateur Radio Newsline Report Number 2024 coming your way right now.

Foundations of Amateur Radio -- Episode 6:

by Onno Benschop (VK6FLAB) on August 12, 2016

Does your portable log look like the dog ate your homework? This week I look at what you can do to make it work for you and make a log that you can take home to show and tell.

Space Camp Kids Talk with Astronaut Aboard the International Space Station:

by whnt.com on August 12, 2016

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (WHNT) -- Kids who are spending the week at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center's Space Camp took an interesting call on Thursday afternoon. Kai Demorist is from Portland, Oregon. This is his third time at the camp and he is still learning. "You learn a lot of the teamwork you need to use and quite a few skills," Demorist said. On Thursday, he and his fellow campers received a call from Dr. Kate Rubins, who is currently aboard the International Space Station. "It was pretty mind-blowing because they're 250 miles above us," Demorist said. With the help of the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station, the campers asked Dr. Rubins some questions.

'Hams' Make Contact:

by clearwatertribune.com on August 12, 2016

Each year the national and international ham radio clubs have a special day for making contact with each other. This year it was June 25. The Clearwater Valley Amateur Radio Club, based in Clearwater County, also participated. They went up the mountain to a club member's home in order to get more successful antenna positions than they can at Orofino City Park. Special frequencies are used on various types of short wave radios. These work over the free airwaves and are available to hams (ham radio operators). The fun and educational idea is to contact as many hams as you can from your location to any other ham location in the country or world, and hope to get a response back, with their call letters to put in a record book. The process uses a 24-hour clock time period. It is also a contest to see who can contact the most hams. Transmissions and receptions around the country and overseas is usually much better at night, after the sun goes down. The radio waves have less resistance from the sun's heat and energy that can restrict transmissions.

Ham Radio Operators to Play Key Role:

by thehindu.com on August 12, 2016

A network of Home Amateur Machine (Ham) Radios is going to play a key role during the Krishna Pushkaralu as an alternative medium of communication for the officials monitoring the festival for 12 days. As many as 50 ham operators from various districts of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana volunteered to serve the administration with their own equipment. They took part in a coordination meeting held by authorities here on Tuesday. Training Coordinator at Academy of Ham Radio, A. Ramesh Babu, who will be coordinating the network of operators and the radios said that the Ham Radio network would be live 24x7 during Pushkaralu and operators will be stationed along with the radio equipment at important ghats, railway station, and bus stand. "All the fifty operators aged between 16 and 70 will be working in three shifts at the 20 radio stations. They will be closely moving with the officers monitoring the festival and all live information of crowd movement and other developments will be shared with them," he added.

US Air Force Wants to Plasma Bomb the Sky Using Tiny Satellites:

by newscientist.com on August 11, 2016

Can you hear me now? The US Air Force is working on plans to improve radio communication over long distances by detonating plasma bombs in the upper atmosphere using a fleet of micro satellites. Since the early days of radio, we've known that reception is sometimes better at night. Radio stations that cannot be picked up by day may be heard clearly at night, transmitting from hundreds of kilometres away. This is down to changes in the ionosphere, a layer of charged particles in the atmosphere that starts around 60 kilometres up. The curvature of Earth stops most ground-based radio signals travelling more than 70 kilometres without a boost. But by bouncing between the

ionosphere and the ground they can zigzag for much greater distances. At night the density of the ionosphere's charged particles is higher, making it more reflective. This is not the first time we've tinkered with the ionosphere to try to improve radio communication and enhance the range of over-the-horizon radar. HAARP, the High Frequency Active Auroral Research Program in Alaska, stimulates the ionosphere with radiation from an array of ground-based antennas to produce radio-reflecting plasma.

[DX News -- ARRL DX Bulletin #33:](#)

by W1AW Bulletin via the ARRL on August 11, 2016

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.

[FCC 'Symbol Rate' Rule Making Proposal Open for Comment at Least Until Oct:](#)

by W1AW Bulletin via the ARRL on August 11, 2016

In a July Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) in WT Docket 16-239, the FCC proposed to revise the Amateur Service Part 97 rules in response to the ARRL's so-called "Symbol Rate" Petition for Rule Making (RM-11708), filed in late 2013. The proceeding will remain open for public comment at least for another 60 days, since the NPRM has not yet appeared in The Federal Register, thus starting the 60-day clock.



ARRL News

[Comments in FCC “Symbol Rate” Rule Making Proposal Due by October 11](#)

[BIRDS CubeSat Constellation to Launch in 2017](#)

[W1ZR Wins August QST Cover Plaque Award](#)

Thursday, August 11, 2016 - The winning article for the August 2016 QST Cover Plaque award is “**Antenna Analyzers -- the Basics**” by Joel R. Hallas, W1ZR.

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.

[Annual IOTA DXpedition Plans Morph into Visit to a Rare One – Aves Island \(YV0\)](#)

[RSGB “Deeply Disappointed” in Regulator’s Attitude toward Amateur Radio in 5 GHz Proceeding](#)

August 11, 2016 - In **comments** filed in July, the Radio Society of Great Britain (**RSGB**) has told telecommunications regulator **Ofcom** that it was “deeply disappointed” that it failed to recognize Amateur Radio’s innovational activity at 5 GHz and that it did not engage the Amateur Radio community in its proceeding, **Improving Spectrum Access for Consumers in the 5 GHz Band**. The proceeding (or “consultation”) propose...

[Bouvet 3Y0Z DXpedition Website Goes Live](#)

August 11, 2016 - The website for the **3Y0Z Bouvet DXpedition** planned for early 2018 is now open. Bouvet is the second most-wanted DXCC entity. The website details the vast DXpeditioning experience of the 3Y0Z team members.

3Y0Z plans to be active on all available bands using traditional modes coupled with “the very best antennas, radios, and amplifiers.” The team’s stay on what it’s calling “the most remote islan...

[Now Free of HAARP, US Air Force Still Wants to Tinker with the Ionosphere](#)

[FCC “Symbol Rate” Rule Making Proposal Open for Comment at Least Until October](#)

August 10, 2016 - In a July *Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM)* in WT Docket 16-239, the FCC proposed to revise the Amateur Service Part 97 rules in response to the ARRL’s so-called “Symbol Rate” *Petition for Rule Making (RM-11708)*, filed in late 2013. The proceeding will remain open for public comment at least for another 60 days, since the *NPRM* has not yet appeared in *The Federal Register*, thus starting the ...

[Space Campers to Talk with Kate Rubins, KG5FYJ, on ISS](#)

August 10, 2016 - Students attending Space Camp at the US Space & Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama, will be treated to an Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (**ARISS**) contact with Astronaut Kate Rubins, KG5FYJ, who is onboard the International Space Station.

The contact at 1448 UTC on August 11 will be a telebridge event between OR4ISS and IK1SLD. Direct 2 meter audio on 145.80 MHz should be audib...

[New Hamvention Venue: “You Will Be Very Impressed,” Chairman Assures](#)

August 10, 2016 - Dayton **Hamvention®** is moving on after 52 years at Hara Arena, and 2017 preparations at the show’s new venue in Xenia, Ohio, now are in full swing, two Hamvention officials **explained** this week on the **Amateur Radio Roundtable** webcast hosted by Tom Medlin, W5KUB. Hamvention announced on August 1 that it would relocate to the **Greene County Fairgrounds**, after Hara Arena made it known that it would cl...

[ARRL Field Day 2016 List of Logs Received Now Available](#)

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

[Es’hailSat-2 Launch Reset for 2017](#)

August 10, 2016 - The Es’hailSat Qatar Satellite Company has **announced** that the launch of Es’hail-2, which will carry the first “Phase 4” geostationary Amateur Radio transponder, has been shifted to the 3rd quarter of 2017. **Es’hail-2** had been scheduled to launch in December. Coverage of the Amateur Radio narrowband (NB) and wideband (WB) transponders should extend from Brazil to Thailand.

[ARES® Day in Palm Beach County Recruits 15 New Members](#)

August 09, 2016 - It was **ARES®** Day on July 30 in Palm Beach County, Florida. Sponsored by **Palm Beach County ARES**, the event at the Palm Beach/Martin County Red Cross Chapter in West Palm Beach, attracted 50 radio amateurs, and 15 joined ARES. The Red Cross provided lunch.

“Thanks to the Red Cross and all who attended,” said Central County Emergency Coordinator Barry Porter, KB1PA. “Palm Beach County ARES® is now ...

Southgate

Latest Amateur Radio News from around the world

URL: <http://www.southgatearc.org>



[Ham radio Digital Voice plus Video on HF](#)

FreeDV plus Video adds a new dimension - video conferencing - to amateur radio operation on HF. Imagine a QSO where you're able to listen to and see the other operator!



[CY9C St. Paul Island DXpedition](#)

Randy, N0TG, reports on the upcoming CY9C operation for August 19-29th: The CY9C DXpedition team is very busy with last minute details and packing. All equipment will begin the journey to our take off point in Nova Scotia, August 13-14th



[3E1L on air for ILLW 2016](#)

Radio Club of Panama will activate 3E1L PAN 030 Miraflores Locks Panama Canal Pacific entrance



[DKARS Magazine August](#)

The **DKARS** (Dutch Kingdom Amateur Radio Society) issues its own free PDF Magazine once every month



[SARL HF Digital Contest](#)

The aim of the **HF Digital Contest** is for participants to contact as many amateurs in Southern Africa as possible using RTTY and PSK31 on the 20, 40 and 80 m amateur bands

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

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



[Kerry Amateur Radio Group to participate in ILLW](#)

The Kerry Amateur Radio Group based in Co. Kerry, Ireland will participate as an Award Station in this year's **International Lighthouse & Lightship Weekend** from Saturday 20th August to Sunday 21st August



[Registration tidal wave for lighthouse fun-event](#)

The 19th annual International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend is only days away with 420 registrations now and the organisers tip it will reach 500



[34th Chelmsford Amateur Radio Foundation Course](#)

The Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society (CARS) will be holding their 34th Foundation training course starting Thursday, September 1 - Book Now



[SpaceX to attempt another rocket landing](#)

Space.com report that **SpaceX** will attempt another rocket landing during the launch of a commercial communications satellite early Sunday morning (Aug. 14), and you can watch all the dramatic action live

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)



Copyright WB1GOF,
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.

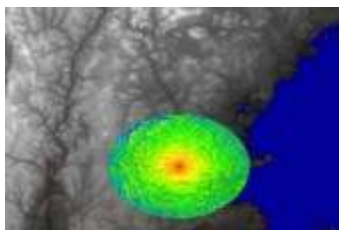
EmComm events and repeater use

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.



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 loose power in the region, an HT with a supply of batteries will reconnect you to other local hams.



PARTicles © 2015, a publication of PART of Westford, MA – WB1GOF

This month's editor: Terry Stader – KA8SCP

PART official mailing address is:
PART, 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



Scan this
QR code

