

DECEMBER *PARTicles*



The newsletter of PART of Westford, MA – WB1GOF

Celebrating 44 years of public service 1975-2019

President's Column

- *George Allison (K1IG)*

As we finish 2019, we can look back on a very eventful year, with proof that this hobby of ours, and PART in particular, keep getting better. Our club now has almost 100 members, and all of them contribute to our success. Some members I'd like to single out for recognition include:



- Greg, N1DAM, our speaker chairman, who arranged interesting and informative programs for every meeting,
- Andy, KB1OIQ, our past president, who ran a very successful kit-building event in November. The members who attended built Arduino controllers and they all worked!
- All the members who participated in Field Day. In spite of poor propagation forecasts, we kept our four stations running throughout the event and placed #1 in New England for the number of contacts in our category. The number of participants we recorded at Field Day put us in the top 50 of all clubs nationwide.
- Terry, KA8SCP, who kept the three WB1GOF repeaters running.
- Terry (again), who supervised the communications volunteers at the Westford Apple Blossom Parade and the Pumpkin Patrol.
- Chauncey, K1OPE, who arranged our holiday dinner and Yankee Swap on

December 17. Don't forget, the venue has changed to Il Forno, 529 King Street, Littleton.

2020 should be quite a year as well. We're going to start with something new: Winter Field Day on January 25-26, at the Westford Sportsmen's Club, 80 West Street, Westford. The rules of Winter Field Day are similar to Summer Field Day, but the winter weather should give us a challenge. Since this is the first time we are participating in Winter Field Day, we're going to start small, with a single station that will operate on both phone and CW. Brian, W1BP, has volunteered to run the event and he's already completed most of the planning and logistics arrangements. He'll be looking for assistance in setup and tear down as well as operator support; if you want to help out, contact Brian directly at W1BP@arrl.net. There will be more information on Winter Field Day at the January 21 PART meeting, but don't wait until then to get it on your calendar.

In closing, I want to make a final remembrance of Bo, WA1QYM (SK), one of the founders of PART and a frequent president, who passed away in July. Bo's love of Amateur Radio was infectious, and for almost 50 years he worked tirelessly to improve the hobby and our club. His initiative in forming the club and making it one of the foremost clubs in New England is his legacy to us; the continuing success of PART is due largely to his effort.

December 2019

Treasurer's Report

PART Treasury between 15-Oct'19 and 18-Nov'19

(As of 4-Nov'19)

	General Fund	+	Repeater Fund	+	Kit Fund	=	Checking Total
Old Balance	= \$5318.18	+	\$6415.41	+	\$1259.25	=	\$12992.84
+++++							
Income	+\$ 30.00	+	+\$ 52.00	+	+\$ 10.00	=	+\$ 92.00

Expenses	-\$ 17.65	+	-\$ 0.00	+	-\$ 0.00	=	-\$ 17.65
=====							
Net	+\$ 12.35	+	+\$ 52.00	+	+\$ 10.00	=	+\$ 74.35
=====							
New Balance	= \$5330.53	+	\$6467.41	+	\$1269.25	=	\$13067.19
+++++							
Acc. Receivable	+\$ 0.00	+	+\$ 0.00	+	+\$ 0.00	=	+\$ 0.00

Acc. Payable	-\$ 0.00	+	-\$ 0.00	+	-\$ 0.00	=	-\$ 0.00
=====							
Net Credit	+\$ 0.00	+	+\$ 0.00	+	+\$ 0.00	=	+\$ 0.00
=====							
Net Worth	= \$5330.53	+	\$6467.41	+	\$1269.25	=	\$13067.19
=====							

PART 2019 Membership as of 11-Dec'19

	Individuals (= New for 2019 + Renew for 2019)		Households (= New for 2019 + Renew for 2019)
Full (\$25)	33 (= 10 + 23)	[33 (= 10 + 23)]
Senior (\$15)*	48 (= 4 + 44)	[48 (= 4 + 44)]
Family (\$30)	18 (= 0 + 18)	8 (= 0 + 8)	
Student (\$15)	0 (= 0 + 0)	[0 (= 0 + 0)]
Associate (\$10)	0 (= 0 + 0)	0 (= 0 + 0)	
Grand Total*	99 (= 14 + 85)	89 (= 14 + 75)	
ARRL members:*		85	
(Including ARRL Life members:	13)		

Starred lines changed since 3-Nov'19.

No new PART members.

PART members in good standing for 2019

11-Dec'19

AA1HO	AA1O	AB1HD	AC1DJ	AG1A	AJ1Y	K0HNL
K1ALL	K1ARG	K1CL	K1EJ	K1GOI	K1IG	K1NS
K1OPE	K1OTA	K1PAK	K1SRW	K1TW	K1VNV	K1ZY
K3XL	K9DOG	KA1IKK	KA1ULN	KA1VF	KA8SCP	KB1DY
KB1EDE	KB1GMX	KB1ILO	KB1LSH	KB1NIQ	KB1OIQ	KB1OPM
KB1OPO	KB1QAT	KB1SWZ	KB1UKU	KB1WMH	KB1ZKD	KC1ACV
KC1AJJ	KC1EYO	KC1FAC	KC1FGH	KC1HSC	KC1JTQ	KC1LHM
KC1MOZ	KD1D	KD1IT	KD1NNY	KE1LU	KE4NTU	KE8UW
KG1RY	KI5CVI	KZ1CY	N1BE	N1BKR	N1CEO	N1DAM
N1ECC	N1HY	N1IEC	N1NCO	N1QGE	N1RXV	NE1RD
W0TJP	W1ADL	W1AHM	W1BP	W1BX	W1CCE	W1DJR
W1FDR	W1GCF	W1GXH	W1IS	W1KAZ	W1KBE	W1LKS
W1LTN	W1MGA	W1RAG	W1RS	WA1CYB	WA1MCR	WA1SMB
WA2YHR	WB1AAT	WB1AMY	WB1BQE	WB1HBE	WB2FIX	WB2OSZ
WI1R						

Total: 99 individuals

***** Send your 2019 dues to *****

Check (to ``PART of Westford``):
PART, P.O. Box 503, Westford, MA 01886-0015

-or-

Check (to ``PART of Westford``), or cash:
Holiday Party, Il Forno/Littleton Common
6:00PM, Tuesday, 17-Dec'19

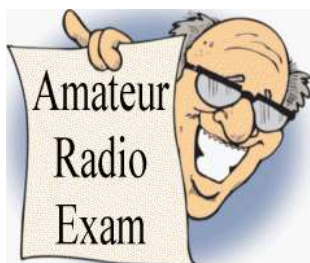
PART's official mailing address is:

PO Box 503
Westford, MA 01886-0015

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

PART Officers:

President: George (K1IG) Allison
Vice President: Andy (KB1OIQ) Stewart
Secretary: Chauncey (K1OPE) Chu
Treasurer: Alan (W1AHM) Martin
Director-At-Large: Bob (W1IS) Glorioso



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](mailto:Gary.W1GFF@wblgof.org)

Upcoming PART Meetings/Events

Tuesday December 17th 2019

- PART Holiday Dinner (**NO monthly Meeting!**). Beginning at 6:00 p.m. LOCATION: Il Forno Restaurant, 529 King St, Littleton, MA 01460

Saturday January 4th 2020

- PART monthly breakfast. Paul's Diner. 8-9:30 AM

Tuesday January 21st 2020

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

Saturday February 1st 2020

- PART monthly breakfast. Paul's Diner. 8-9:30 AM

Tuesday February 18th 2020

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

Saturday March 7th 2020

- PART monthly breakfast. Paul's Diner. 8-9:30 AM

Tuesday March 17th 2020

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



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.

Monthly PART Meetings and Social Events

- Every Sunday, 8 PM – PART Net on 146.955 repeater, Echolink Node 380799
- Every 3rd Tuesday, NEW TIME - 7:30 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



Monthly PART Meetings Minutes

Minutes PART meeting September 17, 2019

Cameron Senior Center, Westford, MA
7:30 PM - 9:00 PM

Officers Present:

George, K1IG, Pres
Andy, KB1OIQ, VP
Chauncey, K1OPE, Secretary
Bob, W1IS, Director at Large

Attendees: 30

George, K1IG, opened the meeting with the usual round of introductions.

Announcements:

1. K1IG talked up the CQ Worldwide CW contest this weekend.
2. Brian, W1BP, reminded us of the upcoming Winter Field Day which he detailed later in the meeting.
3. K1OPE plugged the Holiday Dinner that takes the place of the regular December club meeting. Another reminder will be sent out shortly. Remember, **your payment must be received by December 07.**
4. Bill, K1NS, while visiting the ARRL headquarters, purchased for the club a Special Services Club banner.

The speaker for the evening was Paul Topolski, W1SEX. He spoke on oscilloscopes and their use in amateur radio:

- What can be measured.
- Choice of an analog or digital scope.
 - Need at a minimum a 50 mhz bandwidth
- Specialty scopes
 - Spectrum Analyzer
 - Curve tracer
- How to use the oscilloscope and its use in the shack.
- Purchasing a scope.
- Learning to use an analog scope is very easy compared to using a digital storage scope.
- Resources: "Oscilloscopes for Radio Amateurs" by Paul Danzer.

Paul then demonstrated using a scope and arithmetic to measure the length of coax and its impedance. A mini-contest was held to guess the length of a spool of coax. There were a couple of close guesses. Paul's detailed slide deck may be available later on the WB1GOF website.

W1BP gave the details of the upcoming PART Winter Field Day 2020. This will be held January 25-26, 2020, at the Westford Sportsmen's Club on West Street. Brian had a sign-up sheet for the various responsibilities and got some volunteers that evening.

K1IG presented details of the 2020 budget for the Club:

Income	\$2658
Expenditures	\$2115

Balance	\$543

There was an update by LtCol Bryan Pillai on the new legislation on 'hands free driving'. The bill which is likely to become law does not clearly exempt the use of amateur radio. The bill prohibits drivers from holding any electronic devices and only allows the device to be used in a "hands free mode" while driving on a public road - even if you are not moving.

Many advise carrying your radio license and even your PART badge to back your argument should you be stopped.

Lastly, a donated Bencher paddle was auctioned off to benefit the Repeater fund.

Hope to see everyone next month at the Holiday Dinner at IL Forna's.

Enjoy the holidays.

73

Chauncey

K1OPE

Volunteers!



The club needs your help! We are looking for a couple of people to assist with the essential pieces.

Website administration – help us keep our website current with content, announcements and events.

Check with club officers for other opportunities



WB1GOF/PART window/bumper stickers available at PART meetings and events. Proceeds go to the "repeater fund".



Monthly PART Breakfast

Venue - Paul's Diner



Since early March of 2018, PARTers and guests have been assembling on the FIRST Saturday of every month at Paul's Diner. We meet at 8 AM and order shortly thereafter. They have a wide assortment of eggs and omelets, waffles, pancakes and breakfast sandwiches.

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>

PART Annual Holiday Dinner & Gift Swap

The PART Annual Holiday Dinner & Gift Swap, Tuesday evening, December 17, 2019, beginning at 6 PM. This is in lieu of our regular monthly meeting. **There is no meeting that night.**

We will be at a new venue this year, [IL Forno Restaurant](#), 529 King Street, Littleton MA 01460. 978-540-2880

Just down the road on Rt. 110, from the Yangtze River Restaurant.

Table service for the cash bar is available. There is plenty of parking behind the restaurant.

The Italian buffet dinner consists of:
Cheese & Cracker Platter
Tossed Salad
Eggplant Rollatini
Chicken Broccoli Aglie w/Penne
Meat Lasagna
Garlic Bread
Assorted Mini Desserts

**Celebrate the
2019 Holidays!**



If you chose to participate in the gift swap each attendee should bring a holiday wrapped swap gift in the \$15-\$20 range. One gift should be a ham radio item of less than a cubic foot in volume. See what is in your junk box or check out the stuff on Amazon, eBay, etc. for QRP transceiver kits, test gear, etc. Your guest's gift, should they chose to participate in the swap, can be anything in the same dollar range.

The dinner is for members who had paid by December 07, 2019. There are no cancellations – even for bad weather. IL Forno will be open rain/snow/sleet/ice/hurricanes.

There will be no door admissions. Please remember, this was a “prepaid” event.

Thanks for reading and hope to see you there for a fun time. 73, Chauncey - K1OPE

PARTicles – December 2019

Ham Fleas/Events

New England Area Ham/Electronic Fleas: <http://web.mit.edu/w1gsl/Public/ne-fleas>

2020

18 Jan Whitman MA WARC @KoC Rt18 \$5@8:30 \$15/T@7 Chris N1CFB 508 224 8528 +
15 Feb Marlboro MA AARC @MidSch \$20/T@6:30 \$5@9 Tim KA1OS 508 919 6136 F+
7 Mar Chicopee MA MtTARA @Castle \$5@8:30 S@6:30 Brian N1FI 508 478 6790 +
29 Mar Southigton CT @HS@8 Bruce WA1RR 203 704 7073 +
10,11 April Lewiston ME AARC @ Ramada Ivan N1OXA 207 577 5152 +
26 April Thompson CT ECARC @Raceway \$3@8 \$15/T Jon KA1MPG 508 943 4467 +



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.

Special Event Stations in New England

- **02/15/2020 | WHOA/SCOTA**

Feb 15, 1400Z-2000Z, W1M, Russell, MA. Western Mass Council Scouting USA. 14.290 14.060 7.190 7.060. QSL. Tom Barker, 329 Faraway Road, Whitefield, NH 03598. Paper logging is used--there will be a delay in sending out qsl cards--sase required

- **03/14/2020 | WHOA/SCOTA**

Mar 14, 1300Z-1900Z, W1M, Russell, MA. Western Mass Council--Scouting USA. 7.030 7.190 14.060 14.290. QSL. Tom Barker, 329 Faraway Road, Whitefield, NH 03598. Paper logging is used--there will be a delay in sending out qsl cards.

- **03/16/2020 | Maine Bicentennial Special Event**

Mar 16-Mar 22, 0000Z-2359Z, W1L, Scarborough, ME. Maine Bicentennial Special Event Group. HF 6 and 2 meters, SSB, CW and digital. Certificate. Tim Watson, KB1HNZ, PO Box 6833, Scarborough, ME 04074. Calls include K1B, K1J, K1P, W1C, W1H, W1K, W1L, W1O, W1P, W1S, W1W, and W1Y. Certificate for contact; endorsements for bands, modes, and clean sweep of contact with each of the Maine 200 Special Event call signs.

Complete listings at: <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>



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

[TX Factor show episode 25 released](#)

The latest edition of TX Factor show features an interview with Tim Pettis 2EoCXQ, the Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response (EPRR) Officer, Portsmouth and Southampton City Councils

[AmateurLogic 137: Friday 13th Christmas Show](#)

Join the AmateurLogic crew for an entertaining Christmas episode recorded on Friday, Dec. 13th. Emile creates a RMS Packet Gateway. Tommy updates the firmware on his Icom D-Star radios. George sets up and tests the Kasa Smart Plug Mini, an economical WiFi remote controlled power outlet

[QSO Today Amateur Radio Podcast - Fred Kemmerer - AB1OC](#)

Fred Kemmerer, AB1OC, had a love for radio and electronics as a boy growing up, leading to a career as an electronic engineer at ATT. It was not until much later in Fred's life that he officially joined the amateur ranks

[Bar code lead developer George Laurer K4HZE SK](#)

ARRL reports the radio amateur who developed the bar code, George Laurer K4HZE, passed away December 5, aged 94

[SARL represents IARU at ATU workshop on emergency comms](#)

At WRC-19, the African Telecommunications Union (ATU) requested assistance from the IARU to provide a speaker for the African Telecoms/ICT Day 2019 Commemorative Workshop in Maputo, Mozambique from 5 to 7 December 2019

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

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

[Foundations of Amateur Radio](#)

How did you get here? - During the week I celebrated my ninth birthday. You might think that I'm quite eloquent for a nine year old and you'd be right if it was related to how I came to be born. My ninth birthday as an amateur appeared in my diary unexpectedly on a Monday and I took the liberty of telling a few people

[IARU-R1 VHF-UHF-Microwave newsletter](#)

The December edition of the free IARU Region 1 VHF-UHF-Microwave newsletter is now available for download

[Calling radio amateurs: help find OPS-SAT!](#)

ESA is challenging anyone with amateur radio equipment to catch the first signals from OPS-SAT, ESA's brand new space software laboratory

[TV: A forgotten history](#)

The invention of television was a dynamic process that represented the convergence of many technological innovations and inventors. The medium has been both affected by, and affected, history. The History Guy remembers the forgotten history of the small screen

[VK6WIA NewsWest](#)

NewsWest for Sunday 15th December 2019, is the New Amateurs edition. We also bring you a bit of a heatwave, and hopefully the hot spell will break tomorrow. There's information and encouragement for newbies, we congratulate a bunch of people who recently passed their exams and have obtained, or are about to obtain, their new license

[Cosmic ray update: Radiation at a 5-year high](#)

Something ironic is happening in Earth's atmosphere. Solar activity is low—very low. Yet atmospheric radiation is heading in the opposite direction

[RF pollution from solar panel installations](#)

The Swedish Electrical Safety Agency and the Swedish Energy Agency are investigating radio interference from installations with solar panels

[ALARA grants](#)

ALARA (Australian Ladies Amateur Radio Association) is now able to offer a limited number of grants to any female applying for a Foundation Licence or upgrading to a Standard or Advanced Amateur Radio Licence

[Antarctic operations](#)

In Antarctica, Chris W2RTO, is on the air from KC4USV at McMurdo Station, mostly operating FT8 on 14.075 MHz



[CEoY/VE7ACN Easter Island. From DXNews.com](#) (12/13/2019 03:36)

Mike, VE7ACN will be active as CEoY/VE7ACN from Easter Island, 19 - 30 March 2020.

[J6/AI6LY Saint Lucia. From DXNews.com](#) (12/13/2019 12:49)

John, AI6LY will be active as J6/AI6LY from Saint Lucia Island, IOTA NA - 108, 4 - 11 January 2020.

[3D2AA Fiji. From DXNews.com](#) (12/13/2019 08:29)

Will, AA4NC will be active as 3D2AA from Fiji, in ARRL DX SSB Contest, 7 - 8 March 2019.

[TX4N French Polynesia. From DXNews.com](#) (12/13/2019 07:03)

AA4NC and AA4VK will be active as TX4N from French Polynesia, 11 - 17 February 2020.

[YJoNC Vanuatu. From DXNews.com](#) (12/13/2019 06:12)

Will, AA4NC will be active as YJoNC from Vanuatu, 3 - 6 March 2020.

[DXCC Approved. From DXNews.com](#) (12/13/2019 04:54)

The DXCC Department has approved the following operations

[V4/WB4M Saint Kitts Island Saint Kitts and Nevis. From DXNews.com](#) (12/11/2019 10:22)

Fred, WB4M will be active as V4/WB4M from Saint Kitts Island, IOTA NA - 104, 5 - 11 January 2020.

[CEoY/UR5BCP Easter Island. From DXNews.com](#) (12/11/2019 06:55)

Oleh, KD7WPJ will be active as CEoY/UR5BCP from Easter Island, IOTA SA - 001, 26 - 31 December 2019.

[ZF2FD Grand Cayman Island Cayman Islands. From DXNews.com](#) (12/10/2019 07:46)

Frank, KK5XX will be active as ZF2FD from Grand Cayman Island, Cayman Islands, IOTA NA - 016, 10 - 17 June 2020.

[FS/RWoCN FS/VE7ACN Saint Martin Tintamarre Island. From DXNews.com](#) (12/10/2019 09:19)

Mike, VE7ACN will be active as FS/RWoCN and FS/VE7ACN from Saint Martin, 9 - 16 February 2020.

[TT8RR TT8XX Chad. From DXNews.com](#) (12/10/2019 06:53)

TT8RR and TT8XX Team will be active from Chad, mid 2020.

[ZF2YL ZF2LA Cayman Islands. From DXNews.com](#) (12/09/2019 06:46)

AE9YL, K9LA will be active again as ZF2YL and ZF2LA from Cayman Islands, 13 - 16 December 2019.

[T88IH T88FT Koror Island Palau. From DXNews.com](#) (12/09/2019 06:09)

T88FT and T88IH will be active again from Koror Island, IOTA OC - 009, Palau, 5 - 12 June 2020.

[C5XW Gambia. From DXNews.com](#) (12/08/2019 09:32)

Russell, G5XW will be active as C5XW from Gambia, during 10 days, starting 28 January 2020.

[HR9/N9EAW Roatan Island Honduras. From DXNews.com](#) (12/08/2019 09:00)

Thomas, N9EAW will be active again as HR9/N9EAW from Roatan Island, IOTA NA - 057, until 22 December 2019.

[VP5/WQ7X Providenciales Island Turks and Caicos. From DXNews.com](#) (12/08/2019 06:12)

Mark, WQ7X will be active as VP5/WQ7X from Providenciales Island, IOTA NA - 002, Turks and Caicos, until 21 December 2019.

[3D2CR Conway Reef. From DXNews.com](#) (12/07/2019 10:11)

3D2CR Team start their activity from Conway Reef, IOTA OC - 112 today, 1 June 2019.

[A5B A50BOC A50BPC Bhutan. From DXNews.com](#) (12/07/2019 06:34)

A5B, A50BOC, A50BPC Team will be active from Bhutan, 11 - 20 December 2019.

[5H4WZ Pemba Island Tanzania. From DXNews.com](#) (12/05/2019 08:32)

5H4WZ Team will be active from Pemba Island, IOTA AF - 063, Tanzania, 6 - 18 February 2020.

[FK/DB1RUL New Caledonia. From DXNews.com](#) (12/04/2019 05:30)

Rudi, DB1RUL will be active as FK/DB1RUL from New Caledonia, 6 - 27 December 2019.

[V31GX Ambergris Caye Belize. From DXNews.com](#) (12/03/2019 02:00)

Iain, G4SGX will be active as V31GX from Ambergris Caye, IOTA NA - 073, Belize, during March 2020.

[JD1BMH Chichi Jima Island Bonin Islands Ogasawara Islands. From DXNews.com](#) (12/02/2019 08:22)

Hiroyuki, JG7PSJ will be active again as JD1BMH from Chichi Jima Island, IOTA AS-031, Ogasawara (Bonin) Islands, 22 December 2019 - 3 January 2020.

[5KoK San Andres Island DX Pediton Story. From DXNews.com](#) (12/01/2019 05:44)

San Andres (DXCC prefix HKO/A) is an oval, relatively small island (13km long, 3km wide) resembling the shape of a cigar. It lies in the southern part of the Caribbean Sea.

[E44RU Palestine. From DXNews.com](#) (11/30/2019 04:18)

E44RU Team will be active from Palestine, 5 - 14 January 2020.

[C56BR The Gambia. From DXNews.com](#) (11/30/2019 05:07)

Carlo, ON4BR will be active as C56BR from Gambia, 1 - 14 December 2019.

[3YoI Bouvet Island. From DXNews.com](#) (11/30/2019 03:01)

Following the generous grant of US\$25,000 today we received an donation from amateur radio enthusiast who donate PayPal of 10,000 USD shrinking our missing budget to 55 thousands USD.

[V26FP Antigua Island. From DXNews.com](#) (11/29/2019 10:56)

Flavio, IW2NEF will be active as V26FP from Antigua Island, IOTA NA - 100, 6 - 13 March 2020.

[E44CC Palestine. From DXNews.com](#) (11/28/2019 07:26)

E44CC Team will be active from Palestine, 5 - 17 February 2020.

[HR5/F2JD Honduras. From DXNews.com](#) (11/28/2019 08:57)

Gerard, F2JD will be again active from Honduras, 17 December 2019 - 4 April 2020, as HR5/F2JD.

From the League

ARRL Bulletins - 2019

- 2019-12-02 [ARLX011](#) Past ARRL Chief Technology Officer Paul Rinaldo, W4RI (SK)
- 2019-11-26 [ARLB023](#) ARRL to Oppose Proposal to Eliminate 3.3 - 3.5 GHz Amateur Allocation
- 2019-11-05 [ARLB022](#) W1AW 2019/2020 Winter Operating Schedule
- 2019-09-26 [ARLX010](#) WWV Centennial Celebration and Special Event Kick Off this Weekend
- 2019-09-20 [ARLB021](#) Ad Hoc Legislative Advocacy Committee to Meet with Lawmakers
- 2019-09-19 [ARLB020](#) ARRL Renews Request for FCC to Replace Symbol Rate with Bandwidth Limit
- 2019-09-13 [ARLB019](#) FCC Seeks to Streamline its Hearings Process
- 2019-09-11 [ARLX008](#) ARRL and IARU President Emeritus Larry Price, W4RA (SK)
- 2019-09-11 [ARLX009](#) Past ARRL Iowa Section Manager Bob McCaffrey, K0CY (SK)
- 2019-08-20 [ARLX007](#) WWV Centennial Committee Prepares for Trial Run of WW0WWV Special Event
- 2019-06-17 [ARLB017](#) ARRL Files Interim Report with FCC in "Symbol Rate" Proceeding
- 2019-06-17 [ARLB018](#) Montana to Get New Section Manager
- 2019-06-17 [ARLX005](#) 2019 W1AW Field Day Bulletin Schedule
- 2019-05-23 [ARLB016](#) Springtime Section Manager Election Results Announced
- 2019-05-16 [ARLB015](#) The FCC is Not Reinstating a Vanity Call Sign Fee
- 2019-04-17 [ARLB014](#) ARRL and FCC Sign Memorandum to Implement New Volunteer Monitor Program
- 2019-04-17 [ARLX004](#) Amateur Radio in Space Pioneer Astronaut Owen Garriott, W5LFL (SK)
- 2019-03-29 [ARLB013](#) Bob Famiglio, K3RF, Appointed to Fill Atlantic Division Vice Director Vacancy
- 2019-03-21 [ARLB012](#) FCC Adopts New Rules for Spectrum above 95 GHz in Branded "Spectrum Horizons" Initiative
- 2019-03-15 [ARLB009](#) Commenting Electronically on FCC Proceedings

2019-03-15 [ARLB010](#) FCC Invites Comments on ARRL Technician Enhancement Proposal
 2019-03-15 [ARLB011](#) New West Gulf Division Vice Director Appointed
 2019-03-14 [ARLB008](#) ARRL Supports No Change to Table of Allocations for 45.5 - 47 and 47 - 47.2 GHz Bands
 2019-03-11 [ARLB007](#) W1AW 2019 Spring/Summer Operating Schedule
 2019-03-01 [ARLB006](#) FCC Universal Licensing System will be Down for Maintenance
 2019-02-21 [ARLB005](#) Winter Section Manager Election Results Announced
 2019-02-15 [ARLX003](#) Ninth District Incoming QSL Bureau has New Manager and Address
 2019-02-14 [ARLX002](#) Former Colorado Section Manager Tim Armagost, WB0TUB (SK)
 2019-02-13 [ARLB004](#) FCC Invites Comments on Amateur Radio-Related Petition for Rule Making
 2019-01-31 [ARLB003](#) Geoffrey Starks Sworn in as FCC Commissioner
 2019-01-25 [ARLB002](#) John Robert Stratton, N5AUS, is New ARRL West Gulf Division Director
 2019-01-03 [ARLB001](#) W1AW 2019 Winter Operating Schedule
 2019-01-03 [ARLX001](#) Third Wednesday Monthly Communications Exercises Set



ARRL News

[AztechSat-1 CubeSat to Demonstrate Intra-Satellite Communication](#) (12/14/2019 11:44)

The AztechSat-1 CubeSat, which traveled to the International Space Station (ISS) last weekend on the 19th Space-X Commercial Resupply Services (CRS-19) mission for NASA, will listen for emergency messages in the 439 MHz range and retransmit them for amateur radio operators to copy on the 437.300 MHz downlink using the Winlink protocol, once the CubeSat has been placed into orbit. The satellite ...

[Bar Code Lead Developer George Laurer, K4HZE, SK](#) (12/14/2019 06:29)

The lead developer of the bar code system that became the now-ubiquitous Universal Product Code (UPC), George Laurer, K4HZE, of Wendell, North Carolina, died on December 5. He was 94. While an electrical engineer with IBM in North Carolina's Research Triangle Park in the early 1970s, Laurer led the effort to develop the bar code system. The UPC, composed of 30 unique black bars and a 12-digit n...

[European Space Agency Issues Challenge to Radio Amateurs](#) (12/14/2019 06:25)

The European Space Agency (ESA) is **challenging radio amateurs** (or anyone with appropriate receiving equipment) to hear the first signals from ESA's OPS-SAT space software laboratory. The spacecraft is set to launch on December 17 into a low-Earth orbit from French Guiana. Once in orbit, the satellite will deploy solar panels and a UHF antenna and begin transmitting.

OPS-SAT will begin transmitt...

[The Latest Episode of ARRL Audio News is Now Available](#) (12/13/2019 09:53)

Listen to the new episode of ARRL Audio News on your iOS or Android podcast app, or online at <http://www.blubrry.com/arrrlaudionews/>. Audio News is also retransmitted on a number of FM repeaters. Click **here** and then scroll down to see the list.

[Collegiate QSO Party 2018 and 2019 Plaque Recipients Announced](#) (12/13/2019 07:32)

The ARRL Collegiate Amateur Radio Initiative has announced plaque winners from the 2018 and 2019 rounds of the Collegiate QSO Party. They are:

K4FAU **Florida Atlantic University** Amateur Radio Club, 2018 First Place, High Power; W0QQQ Amateur Radio Club at **Kansas State University**, 2018 Second Place, High Power; W0YQ **University of Colorado Boulder** Amateur Radio Club, 2018 First Place, Low Power; W...

[The K7RA Solar Update](#) (12/13/2019 06:52)

Spaceweather.com reports that Wednesday, December 11 was the 28th consecutive day with zero sunspots. To date in 2019, 77% of days had no sunspots. Compare this to the previous solar minimum, when 2008 had zero sunspots on 73% of days and 2009 the number of spotless days stood at 71%.

Average daily solar flux this week (December 5-11) was 70.7, up marginally from the previous week when average f...

[Year-Long German Special Event to Honor Beethoven](#) (12/12/2019 11:41)

German special event station **DL250BTHVN** will be active between December 16, 2019, and December 17, 2020, to honor the 250th anniversary of the birth of famed composer Ludwig van Beethoven. The Beethoven anniversary year will take place under the auspices of Germany's Federal President Frank-Walter Steinmeier. Beethoven was born in December 1770 in Bonn, Germany, and lived there for the first 22...

[NOAA/NASA Panel Concurrs that Solar Cycle 25 will Peak in July 2025](#) (12/11/2019 09:11)

The NOAA/NASA-co-chaired international Solar Cycle Prediction Panel has released its **latest forecast** for to forecast Solar Cycle 25. The panel's consensus calls for a peak in July 2025 (± 8 months), with a smoothed sunspot number of 115. The panel agreed that Cycle 25 will be of average intensity and similar to Cycle 24. The panel additionally concurred that the solar minimum between Cycles 24 a...

[Next Kids Day is Saturday, January 4](#) (12/10/2019 10:24)

[RTTY Contesting Stalwart Ron Stailey, K5DJ, SK](#) (12/10/2019 10:11)

[Amateur Radio News from Antarctica](#) (12/10/2019 10:10)

In Antarctica, Chris Cianflone, W2RTO, is on the air from KC4USV at McMurdo Station, mostly operating FT8 on 14.075 MHz. The station has a tribander for 20, 15, and 10 meters and a Kenwood TS-480 feeding a 500 W amplifier, which, he said "sounds like it's on its last legs." Given the 24 hours of daylight this time of year and the challenging terrain, the lower bands are unusable in Antarctica, ...

[The January Edition of Digital QST is Now Available!](#) (12/10/2019 09:42)

[SAQ, Sweden's Alexanderson Alternator, Announces Scheduled Christmas Eve Transmission](#) (12/09/2019 01:14)

SAQ, the call sign of the 1920s vintage Alexanderson transmitter in Grimeton, Sweden, is set to be on the air for its annual **Christmas Eve transmission**. SAQ transmits CW with up to 200 kW on 17.2 kHz.

Tune-up is scheduled to begin at around 0730 UTC, with the holiday message transmitted on December 24 at 0800 UTC. SAQ will **livestream** the event. SAQ has introduced a new **reception report form** for...

[2020 Dayton Hamvention Theme will be “Amateur Radio, The Future”](#) (12/09/2019 01:13)

The theme for the 2020 **Dayton Hamvention®** will be “Amateur Radio, The Future.” Hamvention General Chair Jack Gerbs, WB8SCT, invited Hamvention attendees to celebrate amateur radio’s past, present, and future.

“As amateur radio operators, we enjoy many modes of operating,” Gerbs said. “We also enjoy challenges such as satellite communications, moonbounce, meteor scatter, and more. What truly exci...

[Melissa Pore, KM4CZN, is 2020 Carole Perry Educator of the Year Award Recipient](#) (12/09/2019 01:06)

Melissa Pore, KM4CZN, of Vienna, Virginia, is the 2020 recipient of the Carole Perry Educator of the Year Award, **Orlando HamCation** has announced. The award, which recognizes outstanding contributions in educating and advancing youth in amateur radio, was first awarded last year to its namesake, Carole Perry, WB2MGP, in honor of her work teaching students about ham radio. Pore is an Amateur Radi...

Ham radio contest calendar - from DX Zone

- [ARRL Contest Calendar](#) ★★★★★ - Comprehensive ARRL contest calendar, includes rules sopbox web reports and QST results. Contest Corral include non-ARRL contests schedule for coming months.
- [DL2NBY Contest Calendar](#) ★★★★★ - This site provides dates and rules of nearly 400 Amateur Radio HF contests. Based on google calendar system, offer the possibilty to integrate calendar events in your google calendar too.
- [HB9DHG Contest calendar](#) - Yearly contest calendar with links to rules and contest results. Contest information is validated and checked.
- [HF Digital Contest Calendar](#) - Monthly Digital Contest Calendar, this site offer a list of scheduled ham radio digital modes contests.
- [Monthly QRP contest calendar](#) - QRP Contest Calendar All contest have QRP Categories by N3EPA but no more updated since 2011.
- [RTTY Contests](#) ★★★★★ - An RTTY only contest calendar, which includes scores and rules and records of recent and upcoming RTTY contests.
- [SM3CER Contest Calendar](#) ★★★★★ - SM3CER Contest Service is one of the most up-to-date and complete contest calendar available online since the early internet era, it offers monthly constest calendar with rules links and results
- [VHF UHF Contest Calendar](#) - European VHF UHF Contest calendar by G4ZTR
- [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#) ★★★★★ pop - Complete listing of upcoming ham radio contests, including rule summaries of this week's contests. You can even subscribe to his email service or subscribe to rss feeds.



Nets of Note

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
- Sector 1C Emergency Communications Net – this net occurs the 1st Monday of every month (except when it is a holiday). Skywarn and ARES Nets – these nets are spontaneous when local conditions warranted.

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 – XRF103B

W. Middlesex ARES Net - 147.435 PL 110.9 Simplex

- Second Tuesday 7:00 PM local
- Operates from [Stow Fire station](#)
- Remote base in Stow Center



PARTicles – December 2019

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.

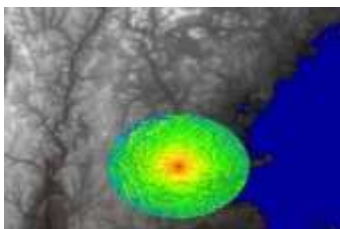
EmComm events and repeater use

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 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

Alan Martin – W1AHM, [Middlesex County District Emergency Coordinator ARES](#)

[Darrel Mallory – K1EJ, Middlesex County Assistant District Emergency Coordinator ARES](#)

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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Our website is: <http://wb1gof.org>

Our forum is: <http://wb1gof.net/forums/>

Contact us at: info@wb1gof.org

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