



PARTicles



The newsletter of PART of Westford, MA – WB1GOF

Celebrating 40 years of public service 1975-2015

President's Column

- Andy Stewart (KB1OIQ)

I apologize to the club members for not being able to write an article for PARTicles for the month of June. There was a major deadline at work that had me working a lot of extra hours both in the office and at home. I believe that this is the first time that this has happened, and I hope it is the last time. PARTicles is always looking for articles to publish. If you have something to share with the club, please send it to Terry (KA8SCP), our PARTicles editor.

Field Day was a great success from my perspective. It started with high humidity and rain, but soon the weather became very nice. I took my time setting up the GOTA station, trying to keep myself and the equipment relatively dry. Once the tent was up, it didn't take long to setup the rest of the station. I was pleased that Lela (KC1ACV) was able to make 20 contacts, and she had a great time doing it! There were also several youth operators who had fun. On Saturday afternoon, a dignitary from North Chelmsford arrived and visited the GOTA station. Julie (MY1FOX) patiently listened to more than her fair share of "nerd speak", and then joined us for dinner.

In addition, we had our usual great food. Dinner was enjoyed by a large crowd of club members, families, and other guests. The cake had a great logo on it, and was delicious!

All of the stations looked busy and I hope that everybody who wanted to take a turn was able to do so. I understand that the Digital station elmered a few new folks. I heard that there was some 6m propagation on Sunday. I hadn't heard from any of the SSB operators at press time. If you were a first time operator, or

if this was your first Field Day, I hope you'll share your story at the club meeting.

After dinner, I spent time chatting with a variety of people, until my shift started on the CW station at 10 PM. I had a couple of visitors who stopped in at various times between 10 PM and 2 AM, including one gentleman (Edward) who I first met 15 years ago at a Linux meeting in Worcester. I hadn't planned to operate for more than a couple of hours, but as it turned out, I watched the sun rise over the pond (Angiers Pond, that is). I was hoping that somebody would come to relieve me, as I had hoped that the CW station would be operational for 24 straight hours, but that didn't happen. By 6 AM, I was falling asleep, and decided to take a nap in the front seat of my car. I remember George (K1IG) coming over to see if I was still alive. On two or three other occasions, I heard people near the car, and possibly even the sound of a camera shutter.....or did I dream all of it? By 11 AM, I was quite refreshed and enjoyed the rest of Field Day.

We'll hear all of the details at the July PART meeting, which will be held on Tuesday, July 18th. Be sure to bring all of your stories to share with the group, and any photos that you may have taken.

In addition to discussing Field Day, we will have a speaker at the July meeting. Stan (KD1LE) Pozerski will give us a talk about the upcoming solar eclipse in August, and how that relates to amateur radio activities.

The sun had barely set on Field Day when the 13 Colonies Special Event got started. This year, PART withdrew as an official event sponsor, but several club members participated

as operators of K2H, representing Massachusetts. I decided to retire as the K2H QSL manager, and also chose not to participate as a K2H operator. Instead, I tried to contact all 15 stations (13 colonies plus WM3PEN (Philadelphia) and GB13COL (England)). I got all 15 stations on SSB and additionally 14 of them via CW. I did not get K2B from Virginia, who was on CW very infrequently, or they were on 20m when the band went long. Still, this is the best I've done and I had a lot of fun doing it. I've sent for each colony's QSL card, and still need to send for the certificate for the clean sweep. I'll show those at an upcoming meeting.

The annual ARRL New England Division Convention will be held on September 8th, 9th, and 10th in Boxboro at the Boxboro Regency Hotel and Conference Center. They are looking for speakers, and the website is open for ticket purchases. PART usually sends a few very qualified speakers to this event, and I hope this

year is no exception. For more information, their website is here: <http://www.boxboro.org>

At the September PART meeting, which will be held on September 19th, we will have our election of officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Before that time, the PART Board of Directors will meet to appoint the next Director-at-Large. Any club member

in good standing can run for office, or be considered for Director-at-Large. If you have any interest in contributing to the club at this higher level, please feel free to speak to any club officer or Senior Club Advisor. Trivia question: Do you know how many Senior Club

Advisors we have in PART, and who they are?

While this is notice well in advance, NEAR-Fest will be held on October 13th and 14th.

Have a lot of fun, and 73.

Treasurer's Report

PART Treasury between 18-Apr'17 and 15-May'17 (As of 16-May'17)

	General Fund	+	Repeater Fund	=	Checking Total
Old Balance	=\$4072.81	+	\$4848.90	=	\$8921.71
Income	+\$ 204.27	+	+\$ 42.79	=	+\$ 247.06
Expenses	-\$ 57.18	+	-\$ 0.00	=	-\$ 57.18
Net	+\$ 147.09	+	+\$ 42.79	=	+\$ 189.88
New Balance	=\$4219.90	+	\$4891.69	=	\$9111.59
Acc. Receivable	+\$ 0.00	+	+\$ 0.00	=	+\$ 0.00
Acc. Payable	-\$ 307.29	+	-\$ 0.00	=	-\$ 307.29
Net Credit	-\$ 307.29	+	+\$ 0.00	=	-\$ 307.29
Net Worth	=\$3912.61	+	\$4891.69	=	\$8804.30

[Note: Positive GF net, positive RF net, positive overall net; negative GF net credit, positive RF net credit, negative overall net credit/AHM]

PART Treasury between 16-May'17 and 20-Jun'17 (As of 20-Jun'17)

	General Fund	+	Repeater Fund	=	Checking Total
Old Balance	=\$4219.90	+	\$4891.69	=	\$9111.59
Income	+\$ 393.55	+	+\$ 169.32	=	+\$ 562.87
Expenses	-\$ 57.29	+	-\$ 0.00	=	-\$ 57.29
Net	+\$ 336.26	+	+\$ 169.32	=	+\$ 505.58
New Balance	=\$4556.16	+	\$5061.01	=	\$9617.17
Acc. Receivable	+\$ 0.00	+	+\$ 10.00	=	+\$ 10.00
Acc. Payable	-\$ 307.29	+	-\$ 0.00	=	-\$ 307.29
Net Credit	-\$ 307.29	+	+\$ 10.00	=	-\$ 297.29
Net Worth	=\$4248.78	+	\$5071.01	=	\$9319.88

[Note: Positive GF net, positive RF net, positive overall net; negative GF net credit, positive RF net credit, negative overall net credit/AHM]

PART 2017 Membership as of 14-July '17

	Individuals (= New for 2017 + Renew for 2017)		Households (= New for 2017 + Renew for 2017)	
Full (\$25)*	36	(=1 + 35)	36	(=1 + 35)
Senior (\$15)*	42	(=1 + 41)	42	(=1 + 41)
Family (\$30)	19	(=2 + 17)	9	(=0 + 9)
Student (\$15)	1	(= 1 + 0)	1	(=1 + 0)
Associate (\$10)	0	(= 0 + 0)	0	(=0 + 0)
Grand Total*	98	(=5 + 93)	88	(=3 + 85)

ARRL members:* 89 / 90.8%

(Including ARRL Life members:* 14)

NOTE: Starred lines changed since 12-May '17.

New Members:

- Frank/KC1HSC (Hudson, MA)
- Annette/KB1LSH is now an ARRL member.
- Rakesh/VU3CML has received General-class license KC1HTB

##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 (W1KBE) Rimsa

Upcoming PART Meetings/Events

July 18th 2017

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

August 5th 2017

- PART monthly breakfast. Westford Regency. 8-10 AM (\$19/\$9; kids: \$9 – see note below)

August 15th 2017

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

September 2nd 2017

- PART monthly breakfast. Westford Regency. 8-10 AM (\$19/\$9; kids: \$9 – see note below)

September 8-10, 2017 - Boxboro New England Amateur Radio Convention (<http://boxboro.org>)

September 19th 2017

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

October 7th 2017

- PART monthly breakfast. Westford Regency. 8-10 AM (\$19/\$9; kids: \$9 – see note below)

October 17th 2017

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

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 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: 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>

2017

16 July Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 F+
5 Aug Milo ME PARC ThreeRiver @Kiwanis George WA1JMM 207 441 6112 A+
12 Aug St Albans VT STARC @VFW Arn N1ARN 802-309-0666 A+
19 Aug Windsor ME AARA @FG Bill K1NIT 207 512 0312 A+
20 Aug Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 F+
27 Aug Adams MA NoBARC @BoweFld 6:30sell 7:30buy Eric KA1SUN 413 743 9975
27 Aug Newtown CT CARA @Town Hall John W1JGM 203 417 0160 A+
8,10 Sept Boxboro MA FEMARA NE Conv Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235
9 Sept Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Outside John 860 673 0518 +
10 Sept Ballston Spa NY SCRACES @FG \$6@7 Jim KG2H 518 703-9558 F+
16 Sept Alexander ME StCVAR @EISch Roger W1LH 207 454 2174 A
17 Sept Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 F+
8 Oct Queens NY HoSARC Stephen WB2KDG 718 898 5599 A+
13-14 Oct Deerfield NH NEARFest XXII @FG Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235 W+
15 Oct Cambridge MA Flea at MIT Mitch 617 253 3776 F+
21 Oct Brookline NH NEARC Antique@EvtCr \$10@7:30 \$5@8:30 Bruce 603 772 7516 W+
21 Oct Accord NY OMARC @JrHS Keith K2UNI 845 687 9951 A+
22 Oct Meriden CT Nutmeg@Sheraton John N1GNV 203 440 4973 A+
28 Oct Gales Ferry CT TCARC @FireCo auction Darryl WA1DD 860 443 7799 W
29 Oct Hicksville NY LIMARC @LeviitHall Richard K2KNB 516 694 4937 A+
11 Nov Bourne MA FARA @UpperCC VoTech \$5@9 \$10/S@7 ralph N1YHS 508 548 0422
2 Dec Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Indoor John 860 673 0518 +

2018

20 Jan Whitman MA WARC @KoC Rt18 \$5@9AM \$15/T Chris 781 523 5010 F+
3 Feb Springfield VT CVFMA @VFW @8 B/Free \$5/T@7 Dave K1ZS 603 446 7312
24 Feb S Burlington VT RAoNV @HI I89x14 \$9@8 \$15@6 Mitch W1SJ 802 879 6589 +
10 Mar Chicopee MA MtTomARA @Castle \$5@8:30 S@6:30 Brian KC1BDF 860 478 6790
30,31 Mar Lewiston ME AARC ME Conv @Ramada @8 Ivan N1OXA 207 784 0350
7 Ap Hampton NH PCARC @Masonic \$5@8 \$10/T@7 Mark K1RX 603 231 8965
14 Ap Newton MA PHSNE Photographica Sat Only @AmLegion @9A John 781 592 2553

Near-term local fleas

Flea at MIT

Sunday, 16-Jul'17

Sunday, 20-Aug'17

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

<http://web.mit.edu/wlmx/www/swapfest/swapfest-2017.04.pdf>

Parking Lot & Garage on Albany St. Cambridge, at Portland St.

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

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

PART Officer Nominations - 2017/2018

- Alan-K1ALL

It's that time of year again when we nominate our club leadership for the coming year. We have openings for four officer positions:

President

Vice President

Treasurer

Secretary.



Nominations are due by 1700 on 31 August 2017. Nominations should be sent to Alan- K1ALL allod@comcast.net.

Any regular member is eligible for election to office; I ask only that, if you nominate someone, you first get his or her agreement to serve if elected. You may nominate yourself.

Elections will be held at the regular club meeting on Tuesday, 19 September 2017. Nominations from the floor are not in order.

We have many exceptional members of PART; I look forward to receiving your nominations.

Field Day

Field Day 2017

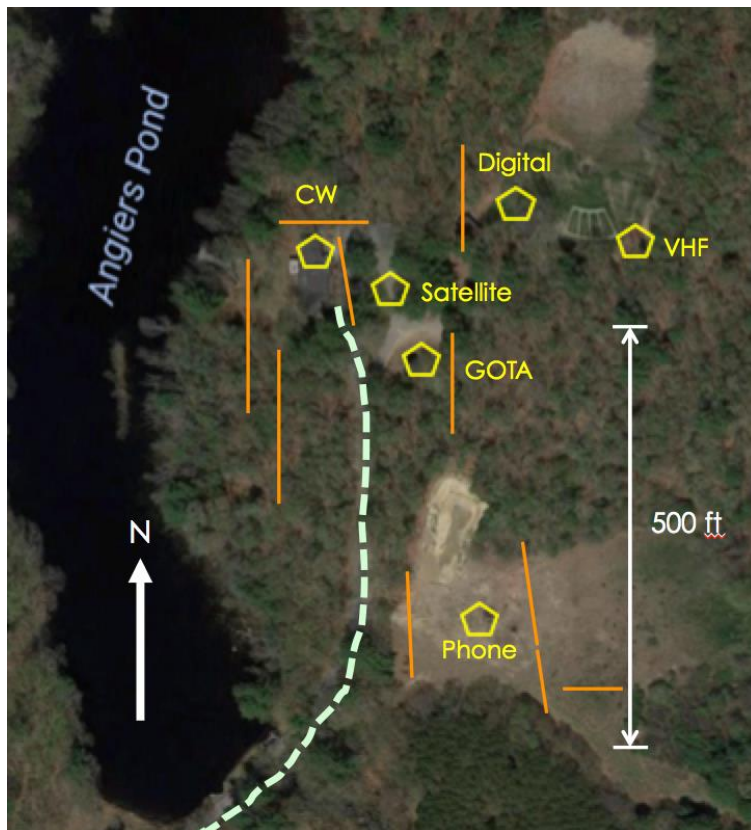
George, K1IG - Field Day Chairman



Field Day 2017

Field Day 2017 is history; the antennas have been taken down and rolled up, transceivers are back at home making contacts on commercial power again, and the Concord Rod & Gun Club has been restored to an RF-free environment. The memories, however, won't fade, and this Field Day will be remembered as one full of fun and achievement.

Although there was a little rain on Friday, June 23, all the antennas went up smoothly, and we made the unfortunate discovery that not all store-bought antennas are cut to the



Field Day Layout at the Concord Rod & Gun Club

right length! By the time club members arrived on Saturday, we were ready to operate with our seven stations: CW, phone, digital, VHF, satellite, and Get-On-The-Air, but because operations didn't start until 2:00 PM, we had time for two educational activities.

The Massachusetts Rescue K-9 crew from MARK9.org provided the first lecture, and gave a live demonstration of search and rescue with their dog teams. Bob, W1IS, then gave a slide show of the design of the 40-meter wire beams he constructed for the CW and phone stations.

When we started operating on Saturday it was a little disappointing, because propagation wasn't really good. We kept at it through the night, though, and were rewarded on Sunday morning when all the bands opened up and the west coast stations were S9. Even six meters opened up, and Allison, KB1GMX, made contacts in both Texas and Europe.

We'll have a full report of Field Day activities and achievements at the PART club meeting on Tuesday, July 18, including contact statistics and maps – there may even be some awards and prizes!

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.



Special Event Stations in New England

08/19/2017 | Shea Naval Aviation Museum S.E.S.

Aug 19, 1300Z-1900Z, W1NAS, South Weymouth, MA. NAS South Weymouth / Shea Naval Aviation Museum Amateur Radio Club. 14.250 40 meters. QSL. Steve Cohn, 10 Hemlock Terrace, Randolph, MA 02368. We will again be operating this S.E.S. along with the Tri-City ARC in Groton, CT. to commemorate the first flight of the blimp "Snowbird" from NAS South Weymouth to Resolute Bay in the Arctic Circle while the submarine USS Nautilus sailed under the polar ice cap beneath the blimp.
qrz.com/db/w1nas

09/01/2017 | Meriden ARC 70th Anniversary

Sep 30-Oct 1, 0000Z-2359Z, W1NRG, Meriden, CT. Meriden ARC. 28.375 14.280 7.210 3.820. QSL. Meriden Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 583, Meriden, CT 06450. Meriden Amateur Radio Club 70th Anniversary event. Phone, CW and Digital modes. Listen in the General band segments. Multiple operators for Club station and member home QTH's www.w1nrg.com

10/06/2017 | Warren Fall Festival

Oct 6-Oct 9, 0000Z-2359Z, W1W, New Milford, CT. Northville Amateur Radio Association. 14.225. QSL. NARA, PO Box 354, New Milford, CT 06776. The Warren Fall Festival is a fund raiser for the Warren CT volunteer fire company. NARA volunteers to operate the special event station.

www.nalra.org

10/07/2017 | Dempsey Challenge Bicycle Race

Oct 7-Oct 8, 1200Z-2300Z, N1D, Auburn, ME. Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club. 28.460 14.270 7.200. Certificate & QSL. Androscoggin ARC, W1NPP, P.O. Box 1, Auburn, ME 04212.

www.w1npp.org

Amateur Radio News



From eHam.net News:

[Pine Board Transmitter Building:](#)

by Bob Heil, K9EID on July 16, 2017

The Pine Board Project begins building 80 and 40 meter AM tube transmitter on Ham Nation this week. Join the hundreds who are following and building this modular Pine Board project. Put Ham Nation into Google and follow the show on Leo Laporte's TWIT network each Wednesday at 8 PM, CDT.

[Historic Point Maritime Radio Station Returns to Air on Night of Nights:](#)

by krcb.org on July 16, 2017

Point Reyes National Seashore is home to one of the most historic morse code radio stations in the United States. In 1999, it became the last commercial station to send and receive morse code messages. But a group of dedicated volunteers are keeping the tradition, and the station, alive. KRCB's Tiffany Camhi reports.

[How Aadhaar is Coming to the Aid of Abandoned Elderly:](#)

by news18.com on July 16, 2017

India is home to nearly 90 million elderly individuals and in the last few years such cases of abandoning have been on the rise. The figure in one hospital alone depicts the sorry state of the elderly across the country. India is home to nearly 90 million elderly individuals and in the last few years such cases of abandoning have been on the rise. Taking note of the issue, the West Bengal Radio Club (Amateur Club) has come up with a unique idea to reunite the abandoned elderly with their family members. The club is using a Biometric system in assistance with Aadhaar card agencies certified by the government to track down the families. "We along with Aadhaar card agencies are going through fingerprint tests of the elderly in order to get their residential address. This particular method gets a positive result only in case of those who have registered themselves under the Aadhaar scheme. But for those who have not, we take the help of the police to locate their houses," said Ambarish Nag Biswas, a licenced amateur radio operator and a member of the West Bengal Radio Club (Amateur Club).

[Unlocking Mysteries in the Sun's 11-Year Cycle:](#)

by nytimes.com on July 16, 2017

Our sun may be special to us, but among all the stars in the galaxy, it's not that unique. According to a study published Thursday in the journal Science, our beloved star can be classified as an ordinary "solar-type" star, meaning that the internal processes that control its activity are similar to those seen in many other nearby stars. The sun goes through an 11-year cycle where its magnetic poles flip -- imagine the north and south poles on Earth changing place -- and during this time the sun's activity changes between subdued and tumultuous. When activity is low, it is known as solar minimum, and when activity is high, it is known as solar maximum. As the sun nears solar maximum and its activity cycle ramps up, its surface gets covered in sunspots, which are ephemeral dark marks created by strong magnetic activity. "Above sunspots you have complex structures that trigger dynamic phenomena, eruptions that are like volcanoes," said Antoine Strugarek, a solar physicist at the French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission and at the University of Montreal. "Those eruptions can impact our

Earth." The sun's emissions can interact with satellites and even influence power grids on Earth, according to Dr. Strugarek. So to better predict the sun's activity, scientists need to better understand the 11-year cycle and how it generates magnetic fields. Additionally, some scientists have argued that our sun's 11-year cycle is fundamentally different from those of other stars, so Dr. Strugarek and his colleagues designed a model to investigate what controls a star's activity cycle. They used the model to study how the hot, turbulent plasma that flows inside a star can generate magnetic fields that affect activity cycles.

The Sun's Sound Waves Reveal that Its Surface is Thinning:

by seeker.com on July 15, 2017

Celestial acoustic research shows that the sun's outer layers are more sensitive to medium and higher frequencies, indicating that some areas of the solar surface have weakened. The celestial music released from the sun suggests that its outer layer has grown weaker over the years, according to new research from the United Kingdom. The sun releases sound waves, and like a musical instrument, the structure of the sun informs the way the sound waves are shaped. Scientists can study the sun's oscillations by listening to the frequencies that make up the sound signal, thereby learning something about the object making the sound. Because the waves are generated by and pass through different sections of the sun, the wave frequency reveals clues about the inside of the sun and allows scientists to chart changes in the star's life. Scientists from the Birmingham Solar-Oscillations Network at the University of Birmingham, in the United Kingdom, used the sun's sound waves to determine that one of its outermost layers may be growing thinner. [How the Sun's Magnetic Field Works (Infographic)] "The sun is the only star on which we can get this level of detail," Yvonne Elsworth, a researcher working on the project at the University of Birmingham, told Space.com in an email. "Other stars do show activity cycles, and if we can understand the processes in the sun, we will be able to extend the ideas to other stars." "The study of the sun is crucial to scientists' understanding of the cosmos because it is the closest star to our planet, and learning about its life processes reveals more about the dynamics of stars many light-years away," she added.

Amateur Radio Parity Act Introduced in the Senate:

by cellular-news.com on July 15, 2017

NEWINGTON, Conn. , July 13, 2017 PRNewswire USNewswire ♦ Today ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio, praised Senators Roger Wicker (R Mississippi) and Richard Blumenthal (D Connecticut) for the introduction of the Amateur Radio Parity Act (S 1534), bipartisan legislation to help protect a vital radio service and national emergency response asset. S 1534 is identical to H.R. 555, which passed the House of Representatives in January. The legislation takes vital steps necessary to protect the right of all Amateur Radio operators to practice their craft in their residences, ensuring that they are prepared when needed in the case of an emergency. Specifically, the Amateur Radio Parity Act will, for the first time, guarantee all Amateur Radio operators who are living in deed-restricted communities governed by a homeowner's association (HOA), or subject to any private land use regulations, the right to construct and maintain an effective outdoor antenna at their residences. Amateur, or "ham" Radio, is a popular voluntary communications service. More than 760,000 federally licensed participants communicate by radio locally, worldwide, and even into space. During an emergency, hams have the ability to operate independently of the public power grid and provide service without the need for normal communications infrastructure, such as cell phone networks or the Internet. Because of this flexibility and independence, Amateur Radio is regularly used during natural disasters to help local emergency and served agencies respond when normal communications methods are disrupted. These skilled communications services are provided by radio amateurs free of charge, as a public service. The Amateur Radio Parity Act would ensure that amateurs living in deed-restricted communities would still be able to prepare for and to provide this vital community service during an emergency or disaster, by protecting their ability to install an effective outdoor antenna. Importantly, the legislation also strikes a carefully crafted balance with HOAs, ensuring that local homeowners' associations have a voice in the process.

FCC Expands Vehicle Radar Frequencies:

by thedrive.com on July 15, 2017

Whether it's for convenience features like adaptive cruise control, semi autonomous safety features like automatic braking, or for fully autonomous driving, more cars are being equipped with radar systems to detect other vehicles on the road. At some point, these systems could start to interfere with each other, like how the FM band in big cities is full of stations stepping on each others' broadcasts. While the only real consequence of that scenario is that there's static on your favorite Wiz Khalifa song, when it comes to vehicle radar interference, the consequences could be dire -- particularly if the car is relying on that radar to detect other vehicles and avoid crashing into them. To prevent this, the FCC just vastly expanded its frequency allocations for vehicle radar, Reuters reports. This is the conclusion of a two-year process initiated by Bosch specifically for vehicle radar, according to the FCC Notice of Proposed Rulemaking. Originally limited to 76-77 GHz, the FCC's ruling expands the vehicle radar allocation to

76-81 GHz, taking over frequencies allocated to radiolocation and amateur radio operators. According to the American Radio Relay League, amateur operations on the current 76-77 GHz vehicle radar frequencies had already been suspended pending verification that ham radio operators will not interfere with vehicle radar systems. It is probably safe to assume that this suspension will extend to the new vehicle radar frequencies, as well.

VK6ARN NewsWest for Sunday 16 July 2017:

by WA Amateur Radio News on July 15, 2017

In the news this week we start with an update on our story about Club Licenses. Last week we told you about how Club Licensing works and how the ACMA finally ruled about the operation of such a license by two Amateurs during the John Moyle Memorial Field Day - Andrew has more.

Foundations of Amateur Radio -- 110:

by Onno VK6FLAB on July 15, 2017

Our Amateur Licensing System is obsolete, broken and in urgent need of review. This week I take a long hard look at the assumptions we've made about how our licensing system currently works and how it harks back to the 1970's and spark-gap transmitters. We can do better, we should do better and to keep our hobby relevant and alive, we must do better.

Solar Flare to Slam Earth this Weekend:

by khou.com on July 14, 2017

HOUSTON -- A medium-sized solar flare is hurtling toward Earth, set to arrive Sunday with intense solar particles of ionizing radiation lasting through Monday. This sounds scary, but Houston won't feel much from this event. There will be no danger on the ground. For areas north of 55°N latitude, which includes much of Canada, Alaska, northern Europe and Russia, there could be interference in the shortwave radio bands affecting communications with commercial pilots flying over the north pole, en route to Asia from America and vice versa. In some cases, airlines can delay or cancel flights, fearing extended radio blackouts over desolate arctic terrain. (Imagine if there was an emergency and the pilot couldn't radio for help?) Amateur radio operators (ham) using "intercontinental", 10 meter or lower HF frequencies could experience propagation issues, greatly reducing their over-the-horizon reach.

Amateur Radio Newline Report 2072 for Friday, July 14, 2017:

by James Pastorfield (KB7TBT) on July 14, 2017

The following is a QST. In British Columbia, hams keep an eye on raging wildfires. The Royal Mint prepares for activation in the UK -- and hams in Scandinavia get their tickets. All this and more as Amateur Radio Newline Report 2072 comes your way right now.

Propagation Forecast Bulletin #28 de K7RA:

by W1AW Bulletin via the ARRL on July 14, 2017

Spaceweather.com reported that at 0209 UTC on July 14 a powerful M2 class solar flare and CME erupted, so geomagnetic predictions in this bulletin for the next few days may already be out of date.

Bellefonte Area Students Could Get Chance to Communicate with Astronauts:

by centredaily.com on July 14, 2017

BELLEFONTE -- Students at Bellefonte Area Middle School could get a glimpse of what it's like in space. The school is one of 13 in the country to be approved for the second phase of a selection process to host the Earthbound part of amateur radio contact with the International Space Station crew. Representatives from the International Space Station are in the process of selecting schools to host ARISS contacts in early 2018.

Large Sunspot Traveling Across the Sun:

by kare11.com on July 14, 2017

High up in the sky, the sun looks the same day in and day out. But looking closer and with the right equipment, you can see areas of the sun showing signs of activity: sunspots. Sunspots are cooler regions on the surface of the sun where temperatures can be nearly 2,000 degrees less than the surrounding surface. They are believed to be caused by the sun's magnetic field. Right now, the largest sunspot of 2017 is traveling across the sun's surface. It's part of a group so large, that 11 Earths could fit inside! Finding sunspots like these will be harder in the next few years because of the sun's solar cycle, a change in the sun's activity that happens about every 11 years.



ARRL News

[The K7RA Solar Update](#)

Friday, July 14, 2017 - **Spaceweather.com** reported that at 0209 UTC on July 14 a powerful M2 class solar flare and CME erupted, so geomagnetic predictions in this bulletin for the next few days may already be out of date.

Average daily sunspot numbers were 28.3 during this reporting week (July 6-12) up from 8 during the previous week. Average daily solar flux increased from 71.7 to 87.

Average planetary A index increased from...

[WRTC 2018 Teams Prep for the Big Event in Europe](#)

Thursday, July 13, 2017 - There's no substitute for being there, and for elite contester and WRTC 2018 participant Tim Duffy, K3LR, and other competitors, this meant traveling to Germany, where WRTC 2018 will take place in 1 year, in part to prepare for the big show. Duffy said getting on the air from Germany during the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) HF Championship this past weekend provided an opportunity to...

[Amateur Radio Parity Act is Introduced in US Senate](#)

Thursday, July 13, 2017 - The Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2017 was introduced in the US Senate on July 12, marking another step forward for this landmark legislation. Senators Roger Wicker (R-MS) and Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) are the Senate sponsors. The measure will, for the first time, guarantee all radio amateurs living in indeed-restricted communities governed by a homeowner's association (HOA) or subject to any private law...

[The Doctor Will See You Now!](#)

Thursday, July 13, 2017 - "APRS" is the topic of the current episode of the "**ARRL The Doctor is In**" podcast. Listen...and learn!

Sponsored by **DX Engineering**, "ARRL The Doctor is In" is an informative discussion of all things technical. Listen on your computer, tablet, or smartphone -- whenever and wherever you like!

Every 2 weeks, your host, *QST* Editor-in-Chief Steve Ford, WB8IMY, and the Doctor himself, Joel Hallas, W1ZR...

[Amateur Radio Volunteers Support Michigan's "One Helluva Ride" Bicycle Tour](#)

Wednesday, July 12, 2017 - Some two dozen Amateur Radio volunteers supported communication for the Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society's (AABTS) 41st running of the One Helluva Ride (OHR) bicycle tour on July 8 in Michigan. The race derives its moniker from the fact that the longer route options pass through the town of Hell. The annual loop tour, which starts and finishes at the Chelsea Fairgrounds, offers rides from 15 m...

[New FT8 Mode Included in WSJT-X Beta Release](#)

Wednesday, July 12, 2017

[WWV 25 MHz Signal Swapped to Circular Polarization, Reception Reports Invited](#)

Tuesday, July 11, 2017

[BIRDS-1 CubeSats Deployed from ISS, Carry Amateur Radio Payloads](#)

Tuesday, July 11, 2017 - The five CubeSats making up the **BIRDS-1** (Joint Global Multi-Nation Birds) constellation were deployed into orbit from the International Space Station (ISS) on July 7. Each carries an Amateur Radio payload but no transponders. The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) module's remote manipulator arm was used to accomplish the launches.

"Another great example of international cooperation toda..."

[Shop AmazonSmile on Prime Day, and Amazon Donates to ARRL](#)

Monday, July 10, 2017, 3:00:00 PM

Amazon Prime Day is here! Deals start at 9 PM ET on July 10 and run through July 11. Prime Day is one of the biggest shopping days of the year. As you browse the great deals available exclusively to Amazon Prime members, we invite you to shop at **AmazonSmile**, choosing the ARRL as your charity of choice.

With every qualifying purchase you make through AmazonSmile, Amazon will make a contribution ...

[ARISS to Celebrate 20th Anniversary with SSTV Event](#)

Monday, July 10, 2017 - The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program is planning a slow-scan television (SSTV) event starting on Thursday, July 20, and continuing for 2 days, to commemorate its 20th anniversary. Transmissions, set to get under way around 2125 UTC, will feature 12 images from past and present ARISS activities. The SSTV signal should be available nearly anywhere on the globe at s...

[Amateur Radio Volunteers in British Columbia Reported Assisting Relief Agencies](#)

Saturday, July 08, 2017 - Radio Amateurs of Canada (**RAC**) reports that it's monitoring the **wildfire situation** in British Columbia. RAC reports that acting British Columbia/Yukon Section Manager Bill Gipps, VE7XS, has advised that Amateur Radio Emergency Service teams have not yet been called out, and that the wildfire situation "has not become a communications event." A state of emergency has been declared in Canada's we...

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

Saturday, July 08, 2017 - The August edition of *Digital QST* is now available for viewing on your desktop or laptop. Click **hereto** view the issue. It is also available for reading on your Apple, Android, or KindleFire devices.

- Get ready for the Total Eclipse QSO Party.
- Build a companion SSB transmitter for the WA3TFS SDR receiver.
- Learn how to spend your feed line dollars wisely.
- See what happened at the 2017 DaytonHamv...

[Historic Maritime Shore Stations Take to the Air on July 12 for Night of Nights XVIII](#)

Saturday, July 08, 2017

Group Selected to Pursue DXpedition to Baker Island National Wildlife Refuge

Friday, July 07, 2017

ARRL Bulletins

- 2017-06-22 [ARLX006](#) ARRL Sacramento Valley Section Official Observer Coordinator Norm Lucas, WB6RVR (SK)
- 2017-06-19 [ARLX005](#) 2017 W1AW Field Day Bulletin Schedule
- 2017-05-24 [ARLB015](#) Spring Section Manager Election Results Announced
- 2017-05-20 [ARLB014](#) Ned Stearns, AA7A, Elected as Southwestern Division Vice Director
- 2017-05-05 [ARLB013](#) Important Notice - New MF and LF Bands are Not Yet Available to Use!
- 2017-04-27 [ARLX004](#) Armed Forces Day Crossband Military/Amateur Radio Communications Test is May 13
- 2017-04-06 [ARLB012](#) Revised Memorandum of Understanding between ARRL and FCC Still a Work in Progress
- 2017-04-05 [ARLX002](#) 30th International Marconi Day Event Set for April 22
- 2017-04-05 [ARLX003](#) Former Kansas Section Manager Orlan Cook, W0OYH, and Former Sacramento Valley Section Manager Ron Murdock, W6KJ (SK)
- 2017-03-13 [ARLB011](#) W1AW 2017 Spring/Summer Operating Schedule
- 2017-02-27 [ARLX001](#) Past ARRL Midwest Division Director Lew Gordon, K4VX (SK)
- 2017-02-24 [ARLB010](#) New Section Manager Appointed in West Virginia
- 2017-02-22 [ARLB009](#) Winter Cycle Section Manager Election Results Announced
- 2017-02-21 [ARLB007](#) FCC Invites Comments on ARRL Petition to Allocate New 5 MHz Band
- 2017-02-21 [ARLB008](#) New Section Manager Appointed in Illinois
- 2017-01-26 [ARLB006](#) Amateur Radio Parity Act Speeds to U.S. House Passage, Heads to U.S. Senate
- 2017-01-17 [ARLB005](#) New "Amateur Radio Parity Act" Bill Introduced in US House of Representatives
- 2017-01-13 [ARLB004](#) ARRL Asks FCC to Allocate New 5 MHz Band, Retain Channels and Current Power Limit
- 2017-01-12 [ARLB003](#) Illegal Drone Transmitters Could Interfere with Air Traffic Control, ARRL Complaint Asserts
- 2017-01-06 [ARLB002](#) FCC Dismisses Two Petitions from Radio Amateurs
- 2017-01-03 [ARLB001](#) W1AW 2017 Winter Operating Schedule



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.

- July 2017

[Exclusive - Yaesu's upcoming DR2 repeater](#)

July 16, 2017 - ICQ Amateur/Ham Radio Podcast's Martin Butler (M1MRB/W9ICQ) and Chris Howard (MoTCH/N4TCH) can exclusively reveal information in relation to Yaesu's upcoming DR2 Repeater after visiting the Ham Radio 2017 event at Friedrichshafen, Germany

[The ADS-B Tracking System](#)

July 16, 2017 - The Bendigo Amateur Radio and Electronics Club invites the public to an interesting presentation on an aircraft tracking system called ADS-B, a system in which electronic equipment on board an aircraft, automatically broadcasts its precise location and other information via a digital data link

[VK6RBP beacon upgraded](#)

Today, July 16, 2017 - On behalf of the West Australian Repeater Group (WARG) Anthony VK6AXB provides an update on the international HF beacon, VK6RBP

[Steps to lower noise floor and revitalize radio](#)

Today, July 16, 2017, 2 hours ago

Background noise interference is degrading the quality of broadcast reception, two-way communications, mobile cellphone services and every other form of wireless communications used today at an alarming rate

[InnovAntennas launch Trailer mast division](#)

Today, July 16, 2017 - InnovAntennas have launched their new trailer mast division which provides budget trailer mast solutions from stock

[Strong solar flare and CME](#)

Today, July 16, 2017 - After days of suspenseful quiet, huge sunspot AR2665 finally erupted on July 14th (0209 UT), producing a powerful M2-class solar flare

[WWV 25 MHz signal swapped to circular polarization, reception reports invited](#)

Today, July 16, 2017 - The resurrected 25-MHz signal of time and frequency standard station WWV is now emanating from a circularly polarized turnstile antenna

[Senators support Regulatory Parity for Amateur Radio](#)

Friday, July 14, 2017 - On July 12, U.S. Senators Roger Wicker, R-Miss., and Richard Blumenthal, D-Conn., introduced legislation titled the 'Amateur Radio Parity Act,' which would direct the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to provide regulatory parity for amateur radio operators

[Ham Radio Go Box](#)

Friday, July 14, 2017 - Young radio amateurs Zechariah WX4TVJ, Faith Hannah AE4FH, Hope KM4IPF and Grace KM4TXT have released a video about their Go Box

[Student teams ready for solar eclipse experiment](#)

Friday, July 14, 2017 - Radio amateurs Magdalena Moses KM4EGE, Xiaoyu Han KM4ICI, Bob McGwier N4HY and Greg Earle W4GDE feature in an article on a propagation experiment for the upcoming solar eclipse

[The Breadboard RF103 SDR](#)

Friday, July 14, 2017 - Hackaday say that when IK1XPV sets out to build a software-defined radio (SDR), he doesn't fool around

[HamRadioNow: Field Day Tour](#)

Thursday, July 13, 2017 - Gary Pearce KN4AQ joined NC Section Manager Karl Bowman W4CHX for a tour of 10 Field Day operations in western North Carolina

[BIRD-G CubeSat on BBC Click](#)

Thursday, July 13, 2017 - One of the recently launched BIRDS-1 Constellation CubeSats features in the BBC show Click

[Australian Raspberry Pi tutorials](#)

Thursday, July 13, 2017 - There's a new and very detailed video tutorial about the Raspberry Pi available from the Australian firm Core Electronics

[The 10 reasons to go to virtual amateur radio](#)

Thursday, July 13, 2017 - Frank FØDUW offers us 10 good reasons to switch to virtual amateur radio

[Baker Island DXpedition](#)

Thursday, July 13, 2017 - The Dateline DX Association (most recently the K4M team) is very pleased to announce that it has been selected by the Pacific Islands Refuges and Monuments Office of the US Fish and Wildlife Service to pursue an Amateur Radio expedition to Baker Island National Wildlife Refuge (KH1)

[Radio hams thanked](#)

Thursday, July 13, 2017 - The Parsons Advocate in West Virginia reports County Commission president Lowell Moore has thanked amateur radio operators for their work

[Radio reaches blocked countries](#)

Thursday, July 13, 2017 - International radio remains the most reliable, robust source of information for people in some nations. North Korea is rated as the second most censored country in the world after Eritrea, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists

[National VOA Museum of Broadcasting to hold Big Band Fundraising Gala](#)

Thursday, July 13, 2017 - The National Voice of America Museum of Broadcasting will host 'Celebrate the Voice of America under the Stars,' a romantic, Big Band dinner-and-dance party on Saturday, Sept. 23 from 6 to 11 p.m. at the VOA museum in West Chester

[Interview with IARU President](#)

Thursday, July 13, 2017 - International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) president Tim Ellam, VE6SH, talks with ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, at Hamvention 2017

[Steps to lower noise floor and revitalize AM radio](#)

Thursday, July 13, 2017, 7:43:47 AM

Background noise interference is degrading the quality of broadcast reception, two-way communications, mobile cellphone services and every other form of wireless communications used today at an alarming rate

Balkans tour

Thursday, July 13, 2017 - Costa, IZ7GXB, will be traveling between the Balkans from August 21st and September 3rd

HamRadioNow: Episode 333 The HamKid

Sunday, July 09, 2017 - Sam Reynolds KM4WDK is The HamKid. The what now? Who says? Well, he does, based on producing a couple of episodes of his new YouTube show The HamKid, being a ham, and being... well, a kid. Sam is 13, but he was licensed almost a year ago, when he was 12

ARISS celebrates its 20th anniversary through SSTV event

Sunday, July 09, 2017 - In commemoration of the 20th anniversary of ARISS, a Slow Scan Television (SSTV) event is planned for Thursday, July 20 starting around 21:25 UTC

Five BIRDS ham radio CubeSats deployed

Saturday, July 08, 2017 - On Friday, July 7 five CubeSats carrying amateur radio payloads were deployed from the Japanese module on the International Space Station

Historic flight reaches New Zealand

Saturday, July 08, 2017 - The around the world Project Earhart flight has left Sydney to cross the Tasman Sea to New Zealand. Pilot and radio amateur Brian Lloyd WB6RQN, 62 of Texas, is marking the flight by Amelia Earhart 80 years ago

ACMA re-sets US General Licence equivalency

Saturday, July 08, 2017 - Following a public review, the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) has re-set the US General Class Licence as equivalent to Australia's middle grade Standard Licence

MacLoggerDX Version 6.12 released

Saturday, July 08, 2017 - Dog Park Software is pleased to announce that version 6.12 of MacLoggerDX has been released

Foundations of Amateur Radio - Episode 109

Saturday, July 08, 2017 - Maintenance in your Shack. If every fix is a 'quick fix' does this mean that you're actually doing maintenance in your shack, or just treading water keeping your head above water until the next thing breaks?

FCC Enforcement Action

Saturday, July 08, 2017 - The ARRL reports FCC crackdown on Pirate Broadcasters targets at least one more Amateur licensee

DSLWP Satellite Amateur Radio System

Thursday, July 06, 2017 - Radio amateurs at the Harbin Institute of Technology (BY2HIT) are working on two microsatellites that are expected to be launched into a Lunar orbit in 2018

Philippines on 5 MHz

Thursday, July 06, 2017 - The Philippines Telecom Regulator, the National Telecommunications Commission, has permitted access to the new WRC-15 Amateur Secondary 60m allocation of 5351.5 – 5366.5 kHz under ITU footnote 5.133B, with a maximum power limit of 15W EIRP

St Pierre and Miquelon update

Thursday, July 06, 2017 - Eric, KV1J, will once again be operating from the Island of Miquelon (NA-032, DIFO FP-002 WLOTA 1417, Grid GN17) as FP/KV1J between July 4-18th

Hams from Philly area 'Radio Active' in observance of US independence

Tuesday, July 04, 2017 - CBS Philly reports radio amateurs in Philadelphia are observing the anniversary of America's independence with a special event recognizing the original 13 colonies

SP9UOB-P30 Pico Balloon reaches USA

Tuesday, July 04, 2017 - A solar powered 'around the world' amateur radio APRS balloon launched from Gliwice in Poland on Thursday, June 15, has crossed the Pacific and is flying at just over 14,000 metres across the USA

Updated Table of Radio Spectrum Usage in New Zealand

Tuesday, July 04, 2017 - Radio Spectrum Management (RSM) has recently published a new issue of 'Table of Radio Spectrum Usage in New Zealand (PIB 21)' - Issue 9.1

NASA statement on National Space Council

Tuesday, July 04, 2017 - The following is a statement from acting NASA Administrator Robert Lightfoot about Friday's Executive Order creating the National Space Council

Clouds of frosted meteor smoke now rippling over Europe

Tuesday, July 04, 2017 - Nightfall is supposed to bring darkness. This week in parts of Europe, nightfall has brought something different: an electric-blue glow caused by clouds of water-frosted meteor smoke rippling over the continent

'Observe' August 21 eclipse with your AM radio

Tuesday, July 04, 2017 - Writing in Sky and Telescope meteorologist Joe Rao describes the effect of a solar eclipse on radio propagation

Canada C3 Expedition Award: An epic journey to celebrate Canada and connect Canadians

Tuesday, July 04, 2017 - The purpose of the award is to track the voyage of the Polar Prince as she travels from Toronto to Victoria via the Northwest Passage and to study radio propagation in the Arctic regions of Canada

Lighthouses galore for this radio amateur

Tuesday, July 04, 2017 - The International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend held next month has a registration for Cape Nelson in Victoria from Ian GWoVML / ZL1MVL, who has been at close to 200 of the structures

Busy time for Project Amelia Earhart flyer

Tuesday, July 04, 2017 - The commemorative Amelia Earhart flight by Brian Lloyd WB6RQN reached Darwin to enjoy local hospitality and some Territory Day celebration events that included a fireworks display.

Girl Guide gets Ham Radio licence

Tuesday, July 04, 2017 - 14-year-old Madeleine got her amateur radio licence after a radio club gave a talk to a Girl Guide group

NewsWest - 3 July 2017

Tuesday, July 04, 2017 - In NewsWest this week, it's our CLUB FOCUS edition and if that's not enough, we also have Andrew's Editorial, Foundations of Amateur Radio and Roy's Helpline, plus a shout-out to our listeners over in VK2

Ham College 30

Tuesday, July 04, 2017 - Ham College begins studies on the General Amateur Radio Exam. Why upgrade? What's on the test?

Foundations of Amateur Radio - Episode 108

Tuesday, July 04, 2017 - Our license naming convention is Elitist and Unproductive. For a long time I've struggled with the way we differentiate between the different license classes in Amateur Radio. In Australia, the three levels of license are Foundation, Standard and Advanced

WRTH A17 Broadcasting Schedules update file is now available

Tuesday, July 04, 2017 - Sean Gilbert has just posted on the WRTH Facebook group: WRTH A17 Broadcasting Schedules Update file is now available for free download

Chelmsford three-talk evening Tuesday

Sunday, July 02, 2017 - After a very successful debut last November, the three-talks format returns to the Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society on July 4 with some more enlightening topics, the meeting is open to all

Our Field Day Drone

Sunday, July 02, 2017 - The Surrey Amateur Radio Club (VE7SAR) used an air cannon firing tennis balls on a string to launch our wire antennas. This year we had a drone to give us a bird's eye view

BIRDS-1 CubeSat Constellation Deployment

Sunday, July 02, 2017 - Masahiro Arai JN1GKZ reports the BIRDS Project Newsletter Issue No.17 shows the deployment of 5 amateur radio BIRDS-1 CubeSats from the ISS is planned for Friday, July 7

Historic flight in Australia

Sunday, July 02, 2017 - The around the world solo flight by Brian Lloyd WB6RQN has finally made it to Darwin after reporting seeing it on Friday night and landing

ILLW registrations roll in

Sunday, July 02, 2017 - The 20th year of the International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend will be in August and so far it has 240 registrations with organisers ready for many more in the coming weeks

IARU aligns Satellite Coordination Guidelines with ITU WRC-15 decisions

Sunday, July 02, 2017 - As the global federation of national associations of radio amateurs in more than 150 countries, the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) for many years has provided frequency coordination services for amateur satellites free of charge

Announcing new Canada C3 Expedition and RAC 150 Awards

Sunday, July 02, 2017 - Just in time for Canada's 150th Birthday, Radio Amateurs of Canada has added two new Operating Awards: the Canada C3 Expedition and RAC 150 Awards

Russian satellites Tanusha 1 and 2 set for activation

Sunday, July 02, 2017 - Two Russian satellites are planned to be activated inside the International Space Station (ISS) Russian Segment as part of a verification test from July 4-8

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 \$19 (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

Full breakfast: \$19.00 (new price)

Continental breakfast: \$12.00 (new price)


Kid's breakfast: \$9.00



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Robert Schmeichel
2011



Copyright WB1GOF,
Robert Schmeichel
2013



NEW ENGLAND'S PREMIER AMATEUR RADIO CONVENTION

Join us September 8, 9, and 10th in Boxborough, MA

Get Tickets!

Repeater Information

Repeater Interference

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



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

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

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

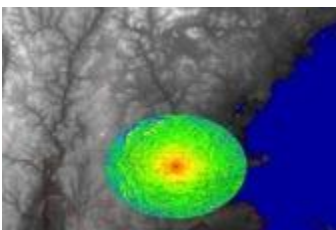
EmComm events and repeater use

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

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

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

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



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

PART Gear

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

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

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



EmComm

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

Bill Ohm – W1OHM, for the Town of Chelmsford

Darrel Mallory – K1EJ, North Middlesex ARES

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

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

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

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



PARTicles © 2016, 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



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