



PARTicles

The newsletter of PART of Westford, MA – WB1GOF

June 2012

President's Column

- *Andy Stewart (KB1OIQ)*

Field Day 2012 is fast approaching! Many people are working feverishly to insure that all of our ducks are in line so that we will have a lot of fun at this event! It is the biggest club event of the year, and I am looking forward to seeing all of you there.



Bob (W1IS), our Field Day chairman, will have much more to say about Field Day at the club meeting on Tuesday, June 19th, 2012 at the Westford Police Station. Be sure to wish for sunny weather. It makes Field Day more enjoyable, and it will help us charge the batteries with our solar panels. All radios will be battery powered with low output power (QRP - maximum 5 watts). This will have its own set of interesting challenges, but is quite realistic in terms of what one might encounter in an emergency situation. If you wish to reserve a time to operate or keep the log, please contact Bob (W1IS).

I am especially looking forward to seeing some of our newer club members at Field Day, and those that have been recently licensed. I have arranged for a couple of friendly elmers (mentors) to assist you at Field Day. They will be happy to explain what is going on, and answer your questions. I'm sure they'll encourage you to get on the air, and there will be ample opportunity! Geoffrey (KBIUSE) will be our "ace in the hole" when he makes at least one QSO at Field Day. We'll get extra points for a QSO made by a ham under the age of 18 years. (P.S. Be sure

to ask him about his baseball team). Let's be sure to get a photo for "evidence" (or perhaps fodder for an amusing slide show).

What I'm hearing from all of you is that the bands are definitely open! I worked several Russian CW stations on 17m recently, around 11 PM local time. I've heard that 6m openings are occurring during the daytime hours. The Australians are often heard on 40m very early in the morning. I wish those openings didn't happen while I was at work (or asleep!). Spin the dial - you may be surprised at what you hear.

Shortly after Field Day, the K2H 13 Colonies special event station will be operating, and PART has always had good participation in this event. The operating dates are: July 1st through July 5th, 2012. Charlie (K1PUB) is the coordinator of this event, and he has created a really nice QSL card for the Massachusetts Colony (K2H). Operators are needed. One can operate from their own home, but must sign up for time slots. More information about this event, and a picture of the QSL card, can be seen at the MA 13 Colonies website: <http://www.13colonies.info/MA13Col.htm>

Bill (K1NS) has volunteered to be the club liason for WRTC2014. You may remember that WRTC2014 is the "world radiosport team championship". We heard a lot about it at our May 2012 PART meeting from Dave (KM3T). Thanks, Bill, for taking this role.

73 de Andy KB1OIQ

***Next PART Meeting – June 19th 7:30 PM-
Field Day prep meeting
@ the Westford Police Station***

Upcoming PART Meetings/Events

June 19th, 2012

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

June 23rd & 24th, 2012

- PART Field Day, Concord Rod & Gun Club

July 7th, 2012

- PART monthly breakfast. Westford Regency. 8-10 AM (\$14/\$9; kids: \$8 – see article below)

July 17th, 2012

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

August 4th, 2012

- PART monthly breakfast. Westford Regency. 8-10 AM (\$14/\$9; kids: \$8 – see article below)

August 21st, 2012

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

August 24th – 26th, 2012

- ARRL New England Division Convention/Boxboro Hamfest (<http://www.boxboro.org/>)

Treasurer's Report

PART Treasury between 18-Apr '12 and 14-Apr '12 (As of 14-May '12)

	General Fund	Repeater Fund	Checking Total
Old Balance	\$3,873.94	\$1,024.84	\$4,898.78
Income	\$133.00	\$59.00	\$192.00
Expenses	(\$333.64)	(\$0.00)	(\$333.64)
Net	(\$200.64)	\$59.00	(\$141.64)
New Balance	\$3,673.30	\$1,083.84	\$4,757.14

PART 2012 Membership as of 1-May '12

	Households (= New for 2012 + Renew for 2012)	Individuals (= New for 2012 + Renew for 2012)
Full (\$25)*	41 (= 12 + 29)	41 (= 12 + 29)
Senior (\$15)*	28 (= 3 + 25)	28 (= 3 + 25)
Family (\$30)*	17 (= 2 + 15)	8 (= 1 + 7)
Student (\$15)	0 (= 0 + 0)	0 (= 0 + 0)
Associate (\$10)	0 (= 0 + 0)	0 (= 0 + 0)
Grand Total*	86 (= 17 + 69)	77 (= 16 + 61)

* Starred lines changed since 1-May '12

* To pay dues *
PART, P.O. Box 503, Westford, MA 01886-0015
-or-
Club Meeting, Westford P.D., 7:30PM, 3rd Tuesday

Latest new PART members

Alan/W1GXH (Westford)
Robert/KB1WNG (N. Chelmsford)
PAtrick/KB1WNF (N. Chelmsford)

Monthly PART Events

- Every Sunday, 8 PM – PART Net on 146.955 repeater
- Every 3rd Tuesday, 7:30 PM – PART Meetings at Westford Police station
- Every 1st Saturday, 8 AM, Regency Inn Westford – PART Monthly Breakfast
- Every Wednesday, 6 AM, Owl Diner Lowell – Breakfast

New England Area Ham/Electronic Fleas:

<http://web.mit.edu/w1gsl/Public/ne-fleas>

16 June Newington CT NARL @StMarySch \$5@8 \$15/T Vinnie W1VJA 203 987 2108 W+
16 June Brookline NH NEAntqRC@EvtCtr\$10@7:30\$4@8:30\$0@10 Bruce 603 772 7516 W+
17 June Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F
15 July Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F
11 Aug St Albans VT STARC @VFW \$5@8 Arn N1ARN 802 309 0666 F+
11 Aug Milo ME PARC @AmLegion George WA1JMM 207 441 6112 A+
12 Aug Adams MA NoBARC @BoweFld \$5@9 \$10/T Tim KE3HT 413 822 7075
19 August Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F
24-26 Aug Boxboro MA FEMARA NE Conv @HI Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235 W
8 Sept Ballston Spa NY SCRACES @FG @7 Darlene N2XQG 518 587 2385
9 Sept Newtown CT CARA @TownHall \$5@8:30 \$10/TG \$15/T Joe AB1DO 203 938 4880 W
15 Sept Forestdale RI RIAFMRS @VFW \$5/Sp@8 Rick K1KYI 401 864 9611
15 Sept Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Outdoor John 860 673 0518
16 Sept Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F
22, 23 Sept Wakefield MA Photographica @AmericalCtr ~photo~ John 781 592 2553
29 Sept Center Conway NH WMARC @RecCtr \$5@8:30 Thaire W2APF 603 447 2376 +
6 Oct Greenwoodd NS GARC @CommCtr \$4@10 S@8 Guy VE1NC 902 825 6151 R+
7 Oct Wallingford CT Nutmeg John N1GNV 203 440 4973 T+
12, 13 Oct Deerfield NH NEARFest XII @FG Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235
14 Oct Queens NY HoSARC @HoS Stephen WB2KDG 718 898 5599 A
20 Oct Longueuil PQ CRAR-SdeM \$7@9 +\$10/T@6 Guy VE2GGY 450 679 2318 R+
21 Oct Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F
27 Oct Gales Ferry CT TCARC Auction @FireCo @10 Darryl WA1DD 860 443 7799 T
28 Oct Hicksville NY LIMARC @LevitHall Richard K2KNB 516 694 4937 A
2 Nov Feeding Hills MA HCRA Auction @CongCh @6:30PM Jim KK1W 413 237 4666
3 Nov Bourne MA FARA @UpperCC VoTech \$5@9 \$10/S@7 Ralph N1YHS 508 548 0422 F
3 Nov Londonderry NH IRS @Lions \$3@8 S@6 Chris KB1QVM 603 434 6137 F+
1 Dec Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Indoor John 860 673 0518

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> (UPDATED 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

NOTE: The Port B node (442.450) is connected to [REF010C](#) Mon – Fri from 10:00 am until 3:30 pm. The Port C node (145.330) is connected to [XRF019B](#) usually 7x24 unless changed by users.

Users can LISTEN ONLY to D-Star Reflector 10C by linking to this URL:

<http://www.radioreference.com/apps/audio/?feedId=5031>

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 \$14 (includes tip) per person, a cheaper, lighter fare is available for adults and children. **NOTE: PLEASE let the folks who are settling the bill with the staff know whether you had a full or continental breakfast!**

Monthly Breakfast Pricing

The full breakfast is $\$10.95 + 18\% + 6.25\% = \14.00 (rounded up slightly). This price is unchanged. Here is the math for completeness and full disclosure.

Continental breakfast: \$9.00 (new price)

Full breakfast: \$14.00 (same price)

Kid's breakfast: \$8.00



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Robert Schmeichel
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Public Service Event Warp Up

PAN-Mass Challenge

By George Allison- K1IG

On Sunday, June 10, six hams from PART assisted the PAN-MASS Challenge (PMC) Kids Ride at the Middlesex School in Concord. Over 300 bike riders from ages 5 to 15 participated in a variety of rides from one to 15 miles to raise money for the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute's Jimmy Fund.

PART was well represented by net control Alan K1ALL, Steve N1BDA, Dick W1LTN, Andy KB8JDO, Jeff KB1CIY, and George K1IG. Three of the hams were stationed along the race route and coordinated non-ham road monitors via FRS radio, and two others rode along with race staff in logistics vans as part of emergency response teams. Alan was stationed at the race headquarters for overall coordination.



With support from the hams, the PMC Ride was a great success, and event leaders expressed their gratitude for the help. A ride like this can raise over \$50,000 for a very worthwhile charity; ham involvement can help ensure success.

Public Service Events

Chelmsford 4th of July Parade



Have you done your public service quota this year? Our neighbors, the North Middlesex ARES group is looking for volunteers to help with the annual Road Race and Parade on Wednesday, July Fourth.

Due to the expansion of the number of floats, more vigilance is needed along the course for safety reasons.

It starts at 8 and should be finished by noon, for those who have plans for the day. If you have a bike or roller blades, which would be great otherwise just being there would help. For contact info use K1EJ@arri.net.

Member Contributions

Chatham Marconi Maritime Museum-Revisited

By John M. Ahle – W1JMA

Last summer I visited the recently opened Chatham Marconi Maritime Center on Rt. 28 in Chatham. The museum is located at the wireless station site built by Guglielmo Marconi in 1914. Many know the site as the Chatham Radio WCC; ship to shore communications (RCA purchased the facility from Marconi after the First World War). It was last used to pass traffic in 1993 and abandoned in 1997. In 1999 the property was purchased by the town and concept of a museum began to percolate.

The museum was chartered in 2002 and volunteers began working on opening the main receiving building; the museum opened in July 2010. The building features vintage radio receivers, teletype machines, a directional Antenna (similar to the receiving loop found in the ARRL antenna book) and the diorama of the facility as it was in days gone by. There are videos, slide shows and the ability to send and receive CW using period Morse code keys. When you arrive at the museum, there is an introductory video about the history of WCC narrated by the late Walter Cronkite; in addition there is a video on the efforts the station made in tracking and locating German U-Boats in the Atlantic during the Second World War. (The station was "requisitioned" by the Navy from RCA during the war)

WCC was one of Marconi's 10 wireless radio stations. In addition there is an amateur radio station, WA1WCC. On this visit the station was open and staffed. The station has 2 HF operating positions and 2m APRS. The ham antenna farm has grown since my last visit. Today they have a tri-bander, 30m and 40meter dipoles. The operator on duty was trying to work the new Southern Sudan DX entity on 20m CW. Efforts are underway to re-rig the 60 ft poles that held the rhombic antenna used by WCC; the goal is to put up 160 and 80 meter loops. 35 minutes up the road from Chatham is the original Marconi transmitting site where cross Atlantic DXing began in 1903 and the SOS was received from the Titanic. The remnants of that site can be accessed from the Marconi beach off Route 6. For more information about the Chatham museum go to their website: www.chathammarconi.org. If you are on the Cape, both sites are worth the visit.





PART Field Day Update!

By Robert Glorioso rglorioso@comcast.net

Field Day 2012 preparations are on schedule for a great time on June 23rd and 24th. If the weather Gods hold off the thunderstorms we are planning to make a record number of contacts this year. Our Field Day QTH is the Concord Rod and Gun Club at 74 Strawberry Hill Road, Concord, MA, near the Concord Rotary.

We now have enough operators signed up to run 3 HF stations simultaneously, Digital, CW, and SSB, so we will be Class 3A. Since we are Class A, the VHF station is free. Our exchange will be "3A EMA" on Digital and CW and "3 Alpha, Eastern Mass" on SSB. We will be using Bob's call, W1IS. Unique this year, we will be operating all stations QRP on Batteries with solar chargers!

The station managers for the 5 stations are:

Digital – Fred, AB1OC, and Anita, AB1QB

SSB – Rich, AB1HD (Editor's Note: was Scott, NE1RD)

CW – Bill, AA1O, Charlie, K1PUB, and Bob, W1IS

VHF – Allison, KB1GMX

Satellite – Bob, KB1SWZ

The station managers are making great progress pre-configuring their gear and testing their stations to assure as smooth a start-up as possible including a training session held for Digital operators at Fred and Anita's home on Sunday June 10th.

All operators should bring their favorite headset, as all rigs will have splitters so operators and loggers or listeners can hear what's happening.

We will begin putting up antennas at 0830 Saturday, June 23rd, begin the contest at 1400 and operate continuously until 1400 Sunday, June 24th. All are encouraged to come even if you don't plan to operate to help with installations on Saturday morning and tear down on Sunday afternoon.

Steve, N1BDA, has an antenna plan to make any ham envious with 5 HF beams, an HF Vertical Dipole, two PARs, a G5RV, Crossed Dipoles for 10 M and Allison's Acres of Aluminum on VHF.

We have several activities planned for everyone again this year, in addition to the great food that Rick, W1RAG, and Charlie, W1ADL, are preparing, including "Tool Box Talks" and a Fox Hunt.

Once again Peter, KB1PBA, will run a Fox Hunt so bring your handhelds and Fox Hunting antennas and join in the hunt. Tally Ho!

Steve, WA1KBE, is planning an interesting "Tool Box Talk" that will take place before we begin operating to help us learn aspects of our diverse hobby that we may not be familiar with.

We have a special program this year for prospective hams, new hams, new members and those who have never operated Field Day before to introduce you to Field Day operation by an experienced contest operator, CW, SSB or Digital. Just drop Bob, W1IS, or Andy, KB1OIQ, a note to Bob at W1IS@arrl.net or Andy at andystewart@comcast.net if you are interested.

In addition to the folks mentioned above others on the team working to make Field Day 2012 a success are:

Facilities – Joe, KB1SSA

Safety – Mike, K1LJN and Hugh, N1QGE

Signs and Net Locators – Alan, W1AHM

PR – Alan, K1ALL

Traffic and Message Handling - Fred, AB1OC and Richard, N1HY

Logging and Computers – Andy, KB1OIQ

(And, if I missed anyone, please let me know and accept my apologies. Bob, W1IS)

Please mark your calendars and join the Fun. There really is something for everyone at Field Day.

A short email to me at WIIS@arrl.net letting me know if you will attend and have lunch either day or dinner Saturday night will help us make sure we accommodate everyone. Also, please be aware that we are not allowed to bring alcoholic beverages into the Concord Rod and Gun Club but you can purchase those beverages at the bar there.

Skywarn Training

By Rob Macedo-KD1CY/Steve Telsy-N1BDA



This is a reminder on upcoming SKYWARN Training Classes coming up for Saturday June 16th in West Newbury, MA from 1-4 PM and Attleboro, MA, Thursday evening June 21st from 7-10 PM. We have also added a session in Leominster, MA for Saturday July 28th from 10 AM to 1 PM with preregistration required. In August, a SKYWARN Training class will be held Friday Afternoon August 24th from 1-4 PM at the Holiday Inn in Boxboro, home of the 2012 Boxboro New England Division Amateur Radio ARRL Convention. Additional classes could be added during the later summer and fall months. The complete SKYWARN Training schedule is listed below along with a link to the schedule.

SKYWARN Training Class Schedule link:

<http://www.wx1box.org/node/36>

The following are SKYWARN Training Sessions booked for 2012. Further training sessions will be booked over the course of the year so check back frequently for updates.

Saturday June 16th, 2012: 1-4 PM:
Public Safety Complex Training Room
401 Main Street
West Newbury, MA
Taught by: Amateur Radio Coordinator
Registration: None required

Thursday June 21st, 2012: 7-10 PM:
Sturdy Memorial Hospital
Conference Rooms A, B and C
211 Park Street
Attleboro, MA
Taught by: NWS Taunton Forecaster
Registration: None Required
Note: Parking in the main lot. Walk up the hill to the Emergency Room entrance and walk through to the main hospital. Signs directing you to the conference room area will be posted.

Saturday July 28th, 2012: 10 AM-1 PM:
Leominster Office of Emergency Management (OEM)
37 Carter Street
Leominster, MA
Taught by: Amateur Radio Coordinator
Registration: Preregistration required. Email KD1CY-Rob Macedo at rmacedo@rcn.com

Friday August 24th, 2012: 1-4 PM:
Holiday Inn - Boxborough
242 Adams Place
Boxborough, MA
Taught by: Amateur Radio Coordinator
Registration: None Required
Sponsorship: This training is being run in conjunction with the ARRL New England Division Convention and Ham Radio Show. This is being done prior to the Hamfest starting and no admission will be charged on Friday for those interested in attending this SKYWARN Training session.

ARRL News



The American Radio Relay League (ARRL) is the national association for amateur radio, connecting hams around the U.S. with news, information and resources. URL: <http://www.arrl.org>



[Youth@HamRadio.Fun: From Field Day to Financial Aid -- What Amateur Radio Can Bring \(besides On-The-Air Fun\)](#)

June 13, 2012 - By ARRL Youth Editor Sterling Coffey, N0SSC, n0ssc@arrl.net

As I wrote about in **last month's column**, everyone finds his or her own niche in Amateur Radio. It can be as simple as having an mobile rig in the car that you might turn on every once in a while, doing nothing but listen to numbers stations or regularly working the Amateur Radio satellites, or "birds." For me, I find **fun in everything!**



[Adventures in Russia!](#)

June 13, 2012 - Well, I could fill a *QST* with stories, of course, but this story is based on several particularly interesting events in my travels to Russia. You see, my wife is from the southern Russian Republic of North Ossetia, and over the years I have traveled to Russia seven times. In the summer of 2002 we traveled to Moscow for a month. I decided to get a Russian license and to bring my HF gear with me....



[W1AW Announces 2012 Field Day Bulletin Schedule](#)

June 13, 2012 Stations active during **ARRL Field Day** -- June 23-24 -- are eligible to receive 100 bonus points for copying the special Field Day bulletin transmitted by W1AW (or K6KPH on the West Coast) according to the schedule below. You must include an accurate copy of the message in your Field Day submission. The Field Day bulletin must be copied via Amateur Radio; it will not be included in Internet bull...



[Notify Your Neighbors about ARRL Field Day, June 23-24](#)

June 13, 2012 - It's not too late to get information about your **ARRL Field Day** activities out to the public. ARRL Field Day -- the largest on-the-air operating event -- is the one of the best opportunities of the year for showing our Amateur Radio capabilities to the public.

ARRL Media and Public Information Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, notes that the ARRL has made many media materials available for local use: "...



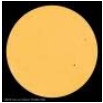
[VK100WIQ: Celebrating the Centenary of the WIA in the State of Queensland](#)

June 12, 2012 - The year 2012 represents One Hundred Years of the Wireless Institute being established in the State of Queensland, Australia. To celebrate this wonderful milestone, the Queensland Advisory Committee of Wireless Institute of Australia has organized a special Centenary call sign, VK100WIQ. The Centenary call sign will be on air from June 1 through July 31, 2012, on all the HF bands as well as VH...



[President Obama Announces Nomination of Mignon Clyburn for New Term as FCC Commissioner](#)

June 12, 2012 - On June 6, President Barack Obama announced that he will **nominate Mignon Clyburn for a new term as one of five FCC Commissioners**. Clyburn, a Democrat, came to the Commission in August 2009, filling the unexpired term of Republican Deborah Taylor Tate, whose tenure as a Commissioner came to a close in January 2009 when the Senate failed to confirm her nomination. Clyburn's current term expires J...



[The K7RA Solar Update](#)

June 08, 2012 - The average daily sunspot numbers increased about 60 percent during the past week (May 31-June 6), when compared to the previous seven days (May 24-30). The increase was 48.5 points, from 81.9 to 130.4. The average daily solar flux was also up: 18.6 points from 111.6 to 130.2. Sunspot numbers for May 31-June 6 were 76, 151, 113, 133, 155, 154 and 131, with a mean of 130.4. The 10.7 cm flux was ...



[Merle Kachenmeister, WA8EWW, Founded SKYWARN](#)

June 08, 2012 - Merle G. Kachenmeister, WA8EWW, died May 29 at the age of 82 in the care of Hospice of NW Ohio. He had lived most recently in Blissfield, Michigan. A Navy veteran, he began his career doing weather for the Navy, according to his obituary. He then worked for the US Weather Bureau, later renamed the National Weather Service, where he developed the SKYWARN weather warning system following the dea...



[Surfin': I Got Mail/Ideas](#)

June 08 - By Stan Horzepa, WA1LOU, Contributing Editor

This week, Surfin' answers the mail and shares its contents with you. I get mail and lots of it. Mostly e-mail, but mail nonetheless. Please keep those cards and letters coming; I enjoy hearing from you and I often get ideas from your mail that end up here.

Les Paul - Urb LeJeune, W2DEC, e-mailed me asking if I knew if electric guitar pioneer **Les Paul** was a...



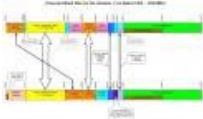
[New QuickStats Poll Now Available on ARRL Website](#)

June 06 - Four new poll questions have just been published on the **QuickStats page** on the ARRL website. Let your voice be heard!

Questions in this month's QuickStats poll:

- Have you ever operated on a microwave band (1.2 GHz and above)?
- How long is your longest wire antenna?
- What is your favorite way to read digital *QST*?
- Do you own an RF spectrum analyzer?

Visit the **QuickStats page** and be sure to bookmark it ...



[ARRL Board of Directors Approves 9 cm Band Plan](#)

June 04, 2012 - The ARRL Board of Directors has unanimously voted to approve the 9 cm band plan, as presented by the ARRL UHF/Microwave Band Plan Committee.

Earlier this year, the committee **asked** radio amateurs for comments on a proposed 9 cm band plan, explaining that the purpose of these band plans is to share information about how the amateur bands are being used and to suggest compatible frequency ranges f...



[Former "The World Above 50 MHz" Conductor Gene Zimmerman, W3ZZ \(SK\)](#)

June 04, 2012 - Gene Zimmerman, W3ZZ, of Gaithersburg, Maryland, passed away on Sunday, June 3. He was 71. Zimmerman wrote the popular *QST* column "The World Above 50 MHz" from 2002-2011. He also served on the ARRL Contest Advisory Committee, edited the VHF contesting column for *CQ Contest* magazine during its five-year lifespan and was director of the CQ VHF Contest from 2000-2002. An ARRL Life Member, Zimmerma...



[Forecasters Calling for Near-Average Hurricane Season](#)

June 02, 2012 - Forecasters with the National Hurricane Center (**NHC**) are calling for a "near-normal" Atlantic hurricane season for 2012. In its initial outlook for the 2012 Atlantic hurricane season -- which began Friday, June 1 and runs through November 30 -- the National Weather Service's Climate Prediction Center (**CPC**) is calling for a 50 percent probability of a near-normal season, a 25 percent probability...



[Call for Nominations for ARRL Directors and Vice Directors for Central, Hudson, New England, Northwestern and Roanoke Divisions](#)

The ARRL is governed by its Board of Directors. A voting Director is chosen by ballot by the full (licensed) members in each of the 15 ARRL divisions. Vice Directors -- who serve in the absence of the Director from a Board meeting and succeed to the position of Director should a vacancy occur -- are chosen at the same time. Elections are held in five divisions per year. It only takes 10 full members in a division to nominate a candidate for either office.

This fall, ARRL members in the Central, Hudson, **New England**, Northwestern and Roanoke Divisions will have the opportunity to choose a Director and a Vice Director for a three year term that starts January 1, 2013. Beginning in 2012, ARRL members in Divisions where there are contested elections will be able to vote electronically. Members with valid e-mail addresses in their membership profiles will be sent instructions on how to vote by e-mail; members without e-mail addresses, or whose e-mails bounce, or who request a paper ballot, will be sent a ballot by postal mail as in the past. Read more [here](#).

[Repeater Interference](#)

Check out the following article "Jammers or, 'GOD LUV UM', Nobody Else Does", <http://www.repeater-builder.com/k7pp/art005.html>



The ARRL New England Convention

At the Holiday Inn, Boxborough, Massachusetts

August 24-25-26, 2012

Call for Speakers!

All speakers and organizations wanting to participate in the 2012 ARRL New England Division Convention program, please contact us at your earliest opportunity. Note the dates

for the convention this year: August 24 – 26, 2012.

While there has been good response to date, open program hours remain available. Contact us if you wish to present a talk; include a subject title and, if you are so prepared, include a brief abstract.

If you represent a regional club or organization (e.g. NESMC, CEMARC, MARS, NEWS etc.) we can help facilitate open forums or closed meetings by providing you a meeting room. We do ask that organizations like this to please consider Sunday morning time slots for their closed meetings.

Groups looking to set up information booths should get your request in early. While the information booths are offered without charge, we ask for some volunteer time in return to assist us with ticket sales and other logistics during the convention operation.

Note, if you require a hotel room, make your reservations ASAP per the instructions contained on the web site to get the special convention rate.

Keep an eye on the convention web site, <http://www.boxboro.org>, for the latest information. We look forward to meeting you at the convention, Ken Caruso, WO1N, Boxboro Program Chairman, WO1N@ARRL.net, 508-572-3347.

July 2012 QST - Digital Edition - [Go Now>](#)



ARRL The national association for AMATEUR RADIO™

ARRL Contest Update

NEWS AND TECHNIQUES FOR THE ACTIVE OPERATOR

- Public Service
- Advocacy
- Education
- Technology
- Membership

Click the logo to view the ARRL Contest Update

Repeater Information

Repeater Interference

The 146.955 repeater continues to see interference to existing 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.

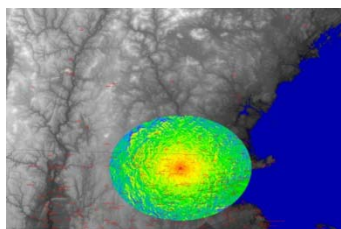
EmComm events and repeater use

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 either Hugh-N1QGE (Westford EmComm/Skywarn NCS) or Terry-KA8SCP (MEMA Region 1 Communications Officer and Skywarn NCS) . They will be more than happy to talk about these programs with you.



New additional repeater info is now 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.

PART Gear

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

Club members are also encouraged to obtain an official PART badge from [The Sign Man](http://thesignman.com/clubs/part.html) (<http://thesignman.com/clubs/part.html>) PLEASE NOTE: There is a new PART badge available if you'd like to order one. Price for badge is \$15 which includes shipping and handling.



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
Hugh Maguire – N1QGE, for the Town of Westford
Bill Ohm – W1OHM, for the Town of Chelmsford
- 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. We expect to have a local Skywarn training class in 2010, more information as it becomes available. You can provide valuable information even if you have not attended one of the training sessions. Listen to the Skywarn Net Control Station for reporting criteria, when you have information that qualifies, please advise him with your report.

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

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

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