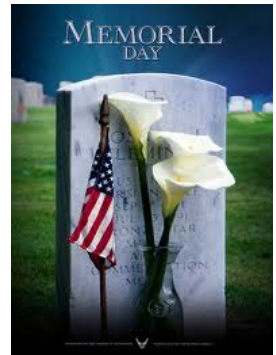




PARTicles

The newsletter of PART of Westford, MA – WB1GOF



May 2013

President's Column

- *Andy Stewart (KB1OIQ)*

This is a very busy time of year! We've got the Apple Blossom Parade, Dayton, Field Day, K2H (Independence Day). We just got finished with NearFest and K1P. There are many opportunities to get on the air, whether it be for contests, special events, or public service. I hope you are all availing yourselves of these opportunities.

NearFest was great this year! The weather on Friday was fantastic, and a great excuse to play hooky from work. I attended with Steve (WA1KBE) and we found lots of cool stuff. I bought an old, dirty communications grade speaker for \$1.00, and it works better than the MFJ Clearstone speaker for \$12.00. It is now cleaned up and used often with my KN-Q7A QRP SSB rig on 40m. I found a bell for \$0.25 that rings when connected to a battery. My 10 year old daughter has been studying electricity in school, and she had a fun time making the bell ring by touching the alligator clips to the right places. I found a Navy Flameproof key in mint condition, complete with the plastic cover and the navy knob. I've used it once and it seems like a great key. I also bought a homebrew L-network tuner that is in fine condition. Steve's bag was pretty heavy as we left, too.

If you are into QRP SSB, take a look at the KN-Q7A. It is a kit radio that puts out 10W, designed by a ham from China. There are 40m and 20m versions, each for \$135.00. On my G5RV antenna, my most distant contact so far is Moscow. My "best" contact on 40m was with

DF2BO (Tom, the founder of OptiBeam), who gave me a 57 signal report, and *then* I told him I was QRP. He was flabbergasted to say the least. :-)

I'm happy to say that the club continues to do well, largely due to the great many volunteers we have who step up and get things done, often without being asked. Several of our members share with other groups by speaking at their club meetings. Thank you, everybody!

Field Day is our largest event of the year. The vast majority of the club members attend at some point during the weekend. There will be many opportunities to help, learn, operate, and log contacts. To the more seasoned among us, I'd ask that you look for chances to pull some of the new hams into the activities. Offer them the mike or CW key if they've been watching for a while. A newer ham might be too bashful to ask. To the newer hams, don't be afraid to jump right in! If you want to operate, just go for it - you'll be glad you did! Often, more seasoned operators can be seen elmering less experienced hams. Although we're gathering points for each contact, we're never too busy to help somebody who wants to learn and have fun.

Field Day - June 22 and June 23, 2013, at the Concord Rod and Gun Club. Save the dates! Field Day chairman Bob (W1IS) will be talking more about this at our May and June PART meetings.

73 de Andy KB1OIQ

Next PART meeting: Tuesday May 21st
@1930 – Westford Police station

Upcoming PART Meetings/Events

May 18th, 2013

- Apple Blossom Parade. 08:00 a.m. – noon, muster @ Westford Police station by 0800

May 21st, 2013

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

June 1st, 2013

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

June 18th, 2013

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

June 21st -22nd, 2013

- PART Field Day – Concord Rod & Gun Club (see announcement)

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

Treasurer's Report

PART Treasury between 19-March '13 & 15-April '13 (As of 16- April '13)

	General Fund	Repeater Fund	Checking Total
Old Balance	\$3490.73	\$2194.82	\$5685.55
Income	\$185.00	\$1.00	\$186.00
Expenses	(\$72.15)	(\$0.00)	(\$72.15)
Net	\$112.85	\$1.00	\$113.85
New Balance	\$3603.58	\$2195.82	\$5799.40

PART 2012 Membership as of 12-May '13

	Individuals (= New for 2013 + Renew for 2013)	Households (= New for 2013 + Renew for 2013)
Full (\$25)*	29 (= 4 + 25)	29 (= 4 + 25)
Senior (\$15)*	32 (= 1 + 31)	32 (= 1 + 31)
Family (\$30)	17 (= 0 + 17)	8 (= 0 + 8)
Student (\$15)	0 (= 0 + 0)	0 (= 0 + 0)
Associate (\$10)	0 (= 0 + 0)	0 (= 0 + 0)
Grand Total*	78 (= 5 + 73)	69 (= 5 + 64)
ARRL members*:	70	
ARRL Life members*:	7	

NOTE: * Starred lines changed since 2-Apr'13

##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:

Ed/KB1ZJK (Stow)

Ham Fleas/Events

New England Area Ham/Electronic Fleas:

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

2013

19 May Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F+
1 June Hermon ME PSARA @HS \$5@8 Jerry K1GUP 207 848 3400 +
1 June Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Outdoor John 860 673 0518 +
1 June Goshen CT So.BARC @FG \$5@8 Doc K1CTT 860 672 2659 W+
2 June Bethpage NY LIMARC Richard K2KNB 516 694 4937 A+
2 June Sorel-Tracy PQ STARC \$8@9 \$15/T@6 Luc VE2DWE 450 743 8676 R+
15 June Newington CT NARL @StMarySch \$5@8 \$15/T Vinnie W1VJA 203 987 2108 +
16 June Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F+
30 June Queens NY HOSARC \$5@9 +\$10S@7:30 Stephen WB2KDG 718 898 5599 W+
21 July Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F+
3 Aug St Romuald PQ ARESdQ @9 @Arena X318 Rt20 France VE2AFC W+
10 Aug Milo ME PARC @AmLegion George WA1JMM 207 441 6112 A+
18 Aug Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F+
25 Aug N Adams MA NoBARC @BoweFld \$5@9 \$10TG@8 Tim KE3HT 413 822 7075 F
7 Sept Ballston Spa NY SCRACES @FG @7 Darlene N2XQG 518 587 2385 +
7 Sept Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Outdoor John 860 673 0518 +
8 Sept Newtown CT CARA @TownHall \$5@8:30 \$10/TG \$15/T Joe AB1DO 203 938 4880 +
15 Sept Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F+
21 Sept Forestdale RI RIAFMRS @VFW \$5/Sp@8 Rick K1KYI 401 864 9611 +
21 Sept Manchester CT PVRA @MarcusComm George AB1GL 860 716 3367 A+
21 Sept Alexander ME StCVARC @ElSch Roger W1LH 207 454 2174 A+
28 Sept Brookline NH NEARC Antique \$10@7:30 \$4@8:30 Bruce 603 772 7516 F
6 Oct Queens NY HoSARC Stephen WB2KDG 718 898 5599 A+
11,12 Oct Deerfield NH NEARFest XIV @FG Mike K1TWF 978 250 1235 T+
13 Oct Meriden CT Nutmeg @Sheraton was Wallingford John N1GNV 203 440 4973 +
19,20 Oct Wakefield MA Photographica @AmericalCtr ~photo~ John 781 592 2553
19 Oct Longueuil PQ CRAR-S \$7@9 \$10/T@6 Martin VE2DNF 450 466 2810 R+
20 Oct Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F+
26 Oct Gales Ferry CT TCARC Auction @FireCo @10 Darryl WA1DD 860 443 7799 +
27 Oct Hicksville NY LIMARC @LevitHall Richard K2KNB 516 694 4937 +
9 Nov Bourne MA FARA @UpperCC VoTech \$5@9 \$10/S@7 Ralph N1YHS 508 548 0422 +
30 Nov Windsor CT VR+C Mus 115 Pierson LN @8AM Indoor John 860 673 0518 +

Near-term local fleas

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

Flea at MIT

Sunday, 19-May'13

Buyers \$5.00, 9:00AM-2:00PM (\$1.00 discount with flyer:

<http://web.mit.edu/w1mx/www/swapfest/swapfest-2013.04.pdf>

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

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



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

NOTE: The Port B node (442.450) is connected to [REF010C](#) Mon – Fri from 10:00 am until 3:30 pm. **CHANGE!!** - The Port C node (145.330) is connected to [XRF038A](#) Mon – Fri from 07:00 am until 11:00 pm. 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 \$15 (includes tip) per person, a cheaper, lighter fare is available for adults and children. **NOTE: PLEASE let the folks who are settling the bill with the staff know whether you had a full or continental breakfast!**

Monthly Breakfast Pricing ****CHANGED****

The full breakfast is $\$11.95 + 18\% + 6.25\% = \15.00 (rounded up slightly). This price has recently changed. Here is the math for completeness and full disclosure.

Continental breakfast: \$9.00 (same price)
Full breakfast: \$15.00 (new price)
Kid's breakfast: \$8.00



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Robert Schmeichel
2011



Public Service Events



Apple Blossom Parade – May 18th

The Westford Kiwanis will Sponsor the 45th annual Apple Blossom Festival the week of May 15-19 2013 with the parade and crowning of this year's Apple Blossom Queen on Saturday May 18th 2013. PART has been cordially invited to participate in the parade and festivities. Individuals and Organizations should gather between 8:00 - 8:30 AM Sat. May 19th. The Parade will kick off at 10:00 AM sharp rain or shine.

PART has supported this event for a number of years by assisting with parade route staffing at key locations for safety and operational services to the Kiwanis. Please consider volunteering this year for the event. Contact info@wb1gof.org if you'd like to volunteer or learn more about the parade activities.

Special Notice



The WRTC 2014 organization will be holding a test of about 30 sites during the IARU HF Championship 2013, to be held July 13-14. The objective of the test is to determine the suitability of the operating sites and make sure they are as even as possible for the WRTC 2014 competition to be hosted here in the Boston area. Last year about 12 sites were operated and lessons learned will be applied at this year's test.

Volunteers are needed for site set up, antenna building and contest operation. For more information about the WRTC 2014 competition, visit <http://www.wrtc2014.org/>. There is a sign up link on the page. Also send a note to Brian McCaffrey, W1BP, at w1bp@arrl.net so he can coordinate the PART volunteers to the WRTC 2014 organization.



Screening of "The Treasure Hunt"

- Ken Cantrell (K10TA)

I would like to invite any club members interested. Tickets are free and I will have them with me at the next meeting. The drama is called "The Treasure Hunt". Screening is at the Chelmsford Center for the Arts On May 18th at 8PM. A link describing it follows.



Perhaps I could do a documentary in the future about ham radio for showing on our local cable TV stations if anyone is interested in participating. More info at: <http://www.chelmsfordarts.com/2013/03/13/screening-of-the-treasure-hunt/>

ARRL E-mail System Continuing to Experience Delays

05/09/2013

The ARRL's e-mail service provider is continuing to experience technical issues that are affecting timely delivery of e-mail messages sent via the **arrl.net** forwarding service, as well as e-mail sent to addresses in the **arrl.org** domain. This issue remains intermittent, but may result in delaying the delivery of some messages sent to both **arrl.net** and **arrl.org** addresses by hours. The ARRL's e-mail provider is working to resolve the issue as quickly as possible. We apologize for the inconvenience.

Upcoming Event

ARRL Field Day
June 22-23, 2013
Amateur Radio's most popular on-air operating event!

▶ [More info and Official 2013 Field Day Gear](#)

A cartoon illustration of a ham operator wearing a red shirt and headphones, sitting at a desk with a radio. A sign on the desk says "WIAW". There is a circular logo for "ARRL Field Day 2013" and a box labeled "ORANGES".

Skywarn Training Update

Three additional SKYWARN Training classes have been added for the month of June and will be taught by Amateur Radio SKYWARN



Coordinators. Additional

classes taught by Amateur Radio SKYWARN Coordinators will be added in July and August targeting other parts of Eastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Below is the latest SKYWARN Training Schedule:

The following are SKYWARN Training Sessions booked for 2013. Further training sessions will be booked over the course of the year so check back frequently for updates.

Thursday May 16th, 2013: 7-10 PM: Marlborough CT Fire Department 200 West Road Marlborough, CT Taught by: NWS Taunton Forecaster Registration: None Required

Tuesday May 21st, 2013: 7-10 PM: "Alternatives" 50 Douglas Road Whitinsville, MA Taught by: NWS Taunton Forecaster Registration: None Required

Thursday May 30th, 2013: 7-10 PM: Massachusetts State Police Academy 340 West Brookfield Road New Braintree, MA Taught by: NWS Taunton Forecaster Registration: None Required

Wednesday June 5th, 2013: 7-10 PM: Holden Public Safety Building 1370 Main Street Holden, MA Taught by: Amateur Radio Coordinator Registration: Pre-registration required. Email Rob Macedo-KD1CY at rmacedo@rcn.com

Saturday June 8th, 2013: 10 AM-1 PM: Concord Emergency Operations Center - 3rd Floor Training Room 209 Walden Street Concord, MA Taught by: Amateur Radio Coordinator Registration: Pre-registration required - contact Rob Macedo-KD1CY at rmacedo@rcn.com or Steve Telsy-N1BDA at steve.n1bda@verizon.net NOTE: Parking is limited at the station and folks are urged to park on Keyes Road public lot and carpool. A Google map can be seen at the following link: <http://goo.gl/maps/4tWAj> and Keyes Rd. is in the upper left side of the map just north of Route 62 (Main Street).

Monday June 10th, 2013: 7-10 PM: Manchester Health Department Rooms: 162 and 164 1528 Elm Street Manchester, NH Taught by: NWS Taunton Forecaster Registration: None Required

Tuesday June 11th, 2013: 630-930 PM: Masenic Regional High School 175 Turnpike Road New Ipswich, NH Taught by: NWS Taunton Forecaster Registration: None Required

Wednesday June 12th, 2013: 7-10 PM: Whitman Police Department 20 Essex Street Whitman, MA Taught by: Amateur Radio Coordinator Registration: Pre-registration required. Email Rob Macedo-KD1CY at rmacedo@rcn.com

Monday June 17th, 2013: 7-10 PM: Morton Hospital and Medical Center - Margaret Stone Conference Room 88 Washington Street Taunton Mass. Taught by: Amateur Radio Coordinator Registration: Pre-registration required. RSVP via Rob Macedo-KD1CY via email at rmacedo@rcn.com

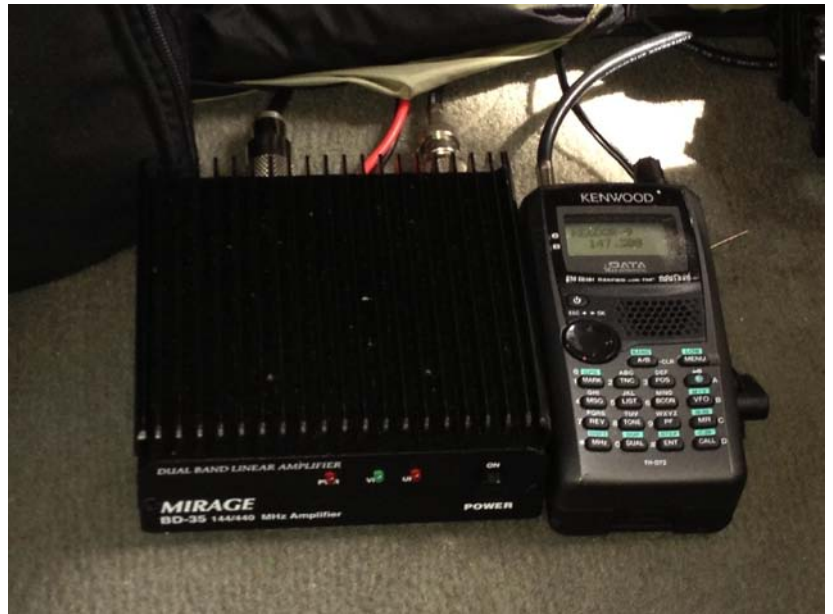
Member Contribution

On the road - APRS'ing

- Ernie Bauer (N1AEW)

Hello everyone sure is nice that spring has finally arrived. Madaline (N1JRG) and I are currently located in Valencia, CA and that is about 30 miles north of Los Angeles. We are camped at the Valencia Travel Village Campground. The weather here has been great; 70 degrees and sunny almost every day. This week we plan to tour Hollywood and the sights in LA as well as the Reagan Presidential Library. We have lots of other touring ideas but we'll see how many actually get done.

For this issue I want to tell you about a new radio we added to our tow vehicle. The HT I use for my portable satellite station died and when looking for one that would be full duplex (so you can hear yourself on the down link when you transmit) I found the Kenwood Th-D72A. It is quite an HT especially since it has a built in TNC for packet as well as a built in GPS receiver and antenna. I couldn't resist and soon found myself reading up on APRS, Automatic



Packet Reporting System. Madaline and I were planning to drive to the west coast this winter so the notion of recording a bread crumb trail of GPS positions and having them automatically posted on the internet sounded like a great way to engage our friends and family at home in participating in our travels. I installed yet another antenna on the roof of the truck (there are now 5) and installed the Kenwood under the back seat. Even around the Boston area I quickly learned that 5 watts on 144.39 Mhz. was not enough power and added a small Mirage/MFJ amplifier to boost the transmitter to 50 watts. That 50 watt signal has proven to be a real asset in contacting station a distance from our positions, especially when we were at the Bureau of Land Management sites along the Colorado River in the Arizona and California desert this winter.

Take a look at our position, if you want. Just dial up your favorite search engine and ask for APRS N1AEW-1 and you will find several servers run by amateurs that will present the position data in different ways. I usually recommend using the APRS.FI page (<http://aprs.fi>). On the aprs.fi page you can also select Google maps choices. Once you have the map page showing you can select up to the last 7 days to plot. Some of the other APRS pages have additional information as well as who is nearby us and other interesting features. My family members seem to enjoy seeing our campsites using the Google satellite view even though it is either empty or someone else is camped there of course. It is certainly fun to hear on the cell phone; oh I can see your campsite there in the desert, loads of sand and a camp fire ring showing! Of course some of the others are more interesting.

By the way, the Kenwood HT also works really well on the satellites with the arrow antenna. It is nice and compact to take out of the truck while we are at the campsite and make some satellite contacts.
73's Ernie – N1AEW

2013 Field Day: June 22-23!

Bob, W1IS



Field Day is coming up Saturday June 22nd thru Sunday 23rd at the same location we had last year, the Concord Rod and Gun Club on Strawberry Hill Road near the Concord Rt. 2 Rotary. Thanks to Joe, KB1SSA, and other members of PART and CRGC for obtaining this great site for us.

Field Day is the one event that encompasses more aspects of our hobby than anything else we do. We test our logistics skills setting up antennas and stations in a short time, sheltering and feeding the team, and training new people. We operate many modes, CW, SSB, Digital, on HF and VHF, and communicate through Satellites. We exercise our operating skills to copy and send the short FD exchange and handle formal traffic in a difficult environment that includes, background noise, QRM, QRN, and even thunder storms where we

shut down and disconnect all the antennas. Those who have never operated in a contest environment can learn and get their feet wet at FD.

Thanks to the spirit of PART, members have signed up to take on all the tasks we need completed for Field Day except PR (Public Relations). This is a key function that helps spread the good word about Ham Radio and the role we play in emergency communications. So if you would like to try your hand at sending/emailing Press Releases to the local papers and inviting and hosting press and officials at the FD site, please contact me. Alan, K1ALL, last year's PR chair who is tied up this year, has agreed to give you a hand making the job that much easier.

We are planning to stay in the same category as last year, 3A, QRP, Battery with Elecraft rigs but this year we will have the new KX3s in most HF stations. Because we are 3A, our VHF and Satellite stations don't add to our simultaneous transmitter count, they're free! Alison, KB1GMX, and Bob, KB1SWZ, have agreed to honcho the VHF and Satellite stations respectively. We also plan to have solar chargers on the HF and VHF stations and Scott, NE1RD, plans to make several contacts using solar energy alone, no battery. Solar charging and operation give us extra points. Last year we finished second in the 3A QRP category and a very respectable ninth in New England in 3A where those stations were running 100 Watts.

We plan to do something different with Tool Box Talks this year making them more relevant to FD itself. Anita, AB1QB, will give a talk on how to operate the Digital Station, Scott, NE1RD, will talk about operating the KX3, and Andy, KB1OIQ, will explain the use of the logging SW we will be using that he is now supporting and improving (Nice to have the inside track.). In order to get these talks completed before we have to be on the air at 1400, the antennas and stations must be up by 1100. This requires an "all hands on deck" operation starting at 0830 hrs. Please plan to help us get set up on time. We were very close last year and with a few more hands I am confident we can be set-up by 1100 this year.

Those of you who attended last year know what a great job, Charlie, W1ADL, and Rick, W1RAG, did with our meals. I don't think they can outdo themselves but we are indeed lucky that they have agreed to handle refreshments again this year. Maybe they will prove me wrong!

We are planning our antennas now with a few changes and additions to last year's configuration. So far the antenna list includes:

Two element full size 40 M wire beam

Two element full size 20 M wire beam

Three element 15 M beam

Three element 10 M beam

80 M Dipole

6 M and 2M Beams

PAR 40-20-10 end fed

and Fred, AB1OC, is working on a full size three element 20 M beam. The challenge is finding enough room for Fred's beam and getting the HF antennas spread apart enough so we can operate two stations on different sections of the same band, in particular 20 M. The committee is meeting June 4th to work out the details. Wish us luck!

In keeping with the Emergency operation that FD is all about, other than making simple FD exchange contacts, we will be sending and receiving formal traffic.

So sign up now to participate in the PART 2013 Field Day by sending me an email at WIIS@arrl.net indicating if you will help set up and/or tear down, operate SSB, CW or Digital and preferred hours, or if you will just come for some other event like tool box talks or just to see what is going on. If you have never operated Field Day or a contest before and want to try, we will have folks to help you get started, just let me know. Last year a few new ops gave it a try and did quite well. I look forward to seeing you all at 0830 on Saturday June 22nd at the Concord Rod and Gun Club.

Dayton Hamvention

It's time for the 2013 Dayton Hamvention broadcast!!

Please join us during our live, online broadcast of the Dayton Hamvention this week. To join the broadcast go to <http://W5KUB.com> where the fun begins!



New venue for 2013: We will be located inside Hara Arena at Booth SA302 to provide you with a totally different program. There will be no rain, hail, sleet, or snow on our cameras this year!!

During the Hamvention W5KUB will interview vendors regarding their latest products. We will have many special guests such as Bob Heil (K9EID) of Heil Sound; Martin F. Jue (K5FLU) founder of MFJ Enterprises; John Amodeo (NN6JA) producer of ABC TV's hit show, "Last Man Standing"; and many more.

During the live broadcast, you will also have the opportunity to meet and chat with other ham radio operators from all over the world. During the 2012 Dayton Hamvention we had 47,400 viewers that followed our broadcast for the 5 day broadcast!

You could win one of 43 prizes, valued over \$5,300, which will be awarded during the broadcast! The prizes include dual band mobile, HTs, D-star ID-51A, Comet Antenna Analyzer, Heil microphone and headset, antennas, weather station, computer to radio interface, spool LMR-400, auto antenna tuners, and much more. These prizes are made possible because of our relationship with partners; such as, GigaParts, Ten-Tec, NCG Company, Kantronics, MP Antenna, Heil Sound, ARRL, MFJ, and many more. In the past year over \$10,000 in prizes have been awarded! Of course, no purchase is necessary to win a

prize. W5KUB is not affiliated with any products or companies and does not sell any products or services.

Dayton Hamvention broadcast schedule (all times are subject to change):

- Wednesday, May 15: 1300 UTC (8:00 AM CT) drive from Memphis to Dayton, Ohio (10 hours). Yes, this will be a live broadcast!
- Thursday, May 16: 1300 UTC - 2030 UTC (9:00 AM - 4:30 PM ET), set up at Hara Arena and visit with vendors
- Friday, May 17: 1200 UTC - 2100 UTC (8:00 AM – 5:00 PM ET), Dayton Hamvention
- Saturday, May 18: 1200 UTC - 2100 UTC (8:00 AM – 5:00 PM ET), Dayton Hamvention
- Sunday, May 19: 1200 UTC – 1600 UTC (8:00 AM – noon ET), Dayton Hamvention
- Sunday, May 19: 1700 UTC (1:00 PM CT) drive from Dayton to Memphis (10 hours). Yes, this will be a live broadcast!

Join our group on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/w5kub/> to keep up with us year-round.

Also, please help spread the word by posting this announcement in Facebook and forwarding this message to your ham radio friends that may not have received this message! We'll 'see' you at Hamvention!

73, Tom Medlin, W5KUB (<http://w5kub.com>)



Upcoming Events

Get There!

Dayton Hamvention®
Dayton, Ohio May 17-19, 2013

Featuring **ARRL EXPO**, and celebrating the **75th Anniversary of W1AW**—The Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station

▶ [Attendee Information and News](#)

ARRL—The national association for
AMATEUR RADIO



D-STAR QSO PARTY 2013

Mark your calendar! **SEPTEMBER 20 (Fri.) ▶ 22 (Sun.)**

Southgate Amateur Radio News

- Sun 12 May [Propagation Report from Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP](#)
[SARL Antenna Defense Fund now at R61 750](#)
[Nominations for MTN Radio Amateur of the Year Awards invited](#)
[ARISS contact with Yellowknife R.C.M.P. Headquarters, Yellowknife, NWT, Canada](#)
[TARG Ham Radio and Fishing Break](#)
[WICEN vacancies at Rally of South Australia](#)
[CS25ARVM special event station](#)
[Dambusters special event station GB70DAM](#)
- 11 May [Propagation de K7RA](#)
[Rayleigh Windmill on the Air](#)
[Win a portable HF antenna!](#)
[Concerns over loss of amateur radio repeaters](#)
[Village to host Search & Rescue Conference](#)
[RFinder now available on iPhone and Android in German](#)
[Tony's Ten Metre Band Report](#)
[Hamfest India 2013](#)
- [Updated AMSAT LVB Tracker to be shown at Dayton](#)
- 10 May [Dave Raycroft's ICPO Bulletin](#)
[Publisher sought for VHF Communications Magazine](#)
[Ofcom 2400 MHz Consultation](#)
[IARU Monitoring System Newsletter](#)
[First SOTA Summit to Summit contact with VK9/NO-001 Norfolk Island](#)
[Annular Solar Eclipse - live webcast](#)
[DX News from the ARRL](#)
[Last month he turned 100, this month silent key](#)
[Mills on the Air Weekend](#)
[GB4PEN Penlee Lifeboat - special event](#)
- 9 May [Camb-Hams operating GS3PYE/P from Isle of Mull](#)
[May 432 and Above EME Newsletter](#)
[Tony's 10 Metre Band Report](#)
[IOTA news from the Deutscher Amateur Radio Club](#)
[ILLW becomes interesting](#)
[First call for AMSAT Space Symposium papers](#)
[Azerbaijan WFF op](#)
[DX activities featured at ARRL EXPO](#)
[Pile-up training exercise in Jersey](#)
[DXpedition to Robinson Crusoe Island](#)
- 8 May [Upcoming ARISS contact with The Gary Literacy Coalition, Inc, Gary, IN](#)
[ARISS contact on EchoLink ?](#)
[K7AGE releases new video to help new hams get on 2m FM](#)
[Isle of Man special callsign](#)
[ICSEDS 434 MHz balloon launch](#)
[YOTA - Youngsters On The Air](#)
[Successful launch of ESTCube-1 CubeSat](#)

[VK hams invited to use VI 103 WIA](#)
[Dutch team unhappy with callsign change](#)
[Grow, Thrive and Influence: The future of RAC and Amateur Radio](#)

- 7 May [Amateur Radio Today - IARU-R1 Vienna Interview](#)
[Getting Started in Ham Radio Video](#)
[Youth Week 2014](#)
[60 metres already going strong](#)
[AMSAT booth at Dayton is moving, but not very far!](#)
[2013 Digital Communications Conference - Call for papers](#)
[High Altitude 434 MHz Balloon Tracking](#)
[Military/Amateur Radio Crossband Communications Test](#)
[ADIF to DX Marathon Conversion Program](#)
[Amsterdam Island DXpedition](#)
[Wake Atoll Commemorative DXpedition](#)
[Raising the public profile of Amateur Radio](#)
- 6 May [Irish Radio Transmitters Society newsletter](#)
[SEARG gear-up for Geoparks weekend](#)
[Final results for the Nauryz DX Contest in 2013 published](#)
[Final call for stalls at ARiC 2013](#)
[AMSAT Space Symposium - Save the Date - November 1 - 3 Houston, Texas](#)
[Brit Fader Scholarship Trust announces call for applications](#)
[VO-52 satellite completes eight years in orbit](#)
[ICQ Podcast](#)
[Radio Amateur of the Year for 2012](#)
[IOTA news from OPDX](#)
[DXCC Country/Entity Report](#)
[History This Week](#)
- Sun 5 May [Propagation Report from Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP](#)
[South Africa allocates two 5 MHz channels](#)
[434 MHz balloon flight with a difference](#)
[Video of CARS/TARG Tabletop Sale](#)
[Comparison of ham radio digital modes](#)
[Video QRP To The Field 2013](#)
[ZS3 Sprint](#)
[EUDOTA 2013: Europe Day On The Air](#)
[9M2SE Perhentian Island IOTA AS-073 activation](#)
- 4 May [DARC and UBA support amateur radio in Tunisia](#)
[Ham radio enthusiasts will make waves in Deerfield](#)
[Wicklewood Windmill to go 'on air' to celebrate public opening](#)
[New Drive-on Mast Bases](#)
[VK9 now SOTA classified](#)
[WWII Veteran on the air](#)
[NASA and Amateur Radio operators piece together the PhoneSat picture](#)
[W4HM Daily MF/HF/6M Radio Wave Propagation Forecast](#)
[Propagation de K7RA](#)
[Strong solar flare on May 3rd](#)
[New 24 GHz EME world record](#)

- 3 May [Dave Raycroft's ICPO Bulletin](#)
[Norfolk Island DXpedition](#)
[Armed Forces Day Crossband Military/Amateur Radio Communications Test](#)
[NASA invites public to send names and messages to Mars](#)
[Cambodia and possible Myanmar op](#)
[DX News from the ARRL](#)
[80m phone Trans-Tasman Contest](#)
[Special Event EA3DBE](#)
[Hurricane Watch Net seeks new members for net control stations](#)
[Ham radio balloon on KFDM TV](#)
- 2 May [Tony's 10 Metre Band Report](#)
[Ham radio operators can play crucial role during severe weather](#)
[Find out about the KickSat Sprite satellite](#)
[SU8N Nelson's Island 'New IOTA'](#)
[Success continues as NASA's Orion parachute tests get more difficult](#)
[Wray Scarecrow Festival GB4WSF](#)
[ILLW registrations are growing](#)
[Cell phone outages in Boston highlight Ham Radio use](#)
- 1 May [Indian Ham Radio Workshop](#)
[Changes at British Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society](#)
[Amateur Radio World Castles Award](#)
[ARISS contact with Guilford County Schools, Greensboro, NC](#)
[Live broadcast of Hamvention](#)
[Interference from old television signal amplifiers](#)
[Radio Ham interviewed about 50 MHz on Radio New Zealand](#)
[Bluetooth Ham Radio Interface](#)
[IARU Region 1 agrees addition 2m Satellite allocation](#)
[An Evening with Rob Mannion - Practical Wireless editor](#)

AMATEUR RADIO NEWS (various sources)

Purdue's West Tower Home to Longest-Standing Club:

by purdueexponent.org on April 7, 2013

Thanks to his involvement in Purdue's longest-standing club, one student was able to communicate with his family during a natural disaster. The west tower of the Memorial Union, otherwise known as "The Shack," is the official meeting place of W9YB. The shack's walls are covered with computers, radios, other electronics and postcards from around the world. By a large window on the far wall sits a large satellite antenna, almost as long as the room itself. After spending some time with the club, members can earn "call numbers," which act as a username over the radio. Mat Amore, call number KD2CMJ and a freshman in the College of Technology, is involved with the W9YB, or the Purdue Amateur Radio Club. "I live in New Jersey, and when Hurricane Sandy came through, I tried to call (my family)," Amore said. "I was freaking out because I was seeing pictures on Facebook ... I was seeing the worst of it." Luckily, Amore and his father both had experience using amateur radio. "If any type of emergency happened, we had a set frequency to communicate," Amore said. "It was a relief to hear from them."

Amateur Radio Connects Discovery Class to Space Station:

by madisoncountyrecord.com on April 6, 2013

MADISON -- Amateur radio may seem low-tech, but this medium went sky high to an in-flight astronaut

for Discovery Middle School students. "The students chatted with astronaut Dr. Tom Marshburn (who serves as physician for the space station team) for approximately 10 minutes as the International Space Station flew directly over Huntsville," Jane Caudle said. The session was staged at the University of Alabama in Huntsville. "We put to use our amateur radio lessons that we explored for a month preceding the UAH field trip," Caudle said. Caudle teaches eighth-grade physical science and serves as science department chair at Discovery. "This opportunity allowed our university students to share their experience with amateur radio to middle-schoolers in the area." Two of Caudle's classes, or about 60 students, participated in the session. "Students asked questions about what astronauts did when they had personal time on the space station," Caudle said. In addition, the Discovery youth wanted to know about required training to become an astronaut. "What was the scariest thing that happened to you onboard the ISS?" was one question. Four Discovery students had the opportunity for one-and-one conversations with an astronaut. This exchange was affiliated with an education partnership program named Amateur Radio on International Space Station (ARISS).

Solar Maximum: Fizzle, or Finale Yet to Come?

by science.kqed.org on April 6, 2013

Thinking back through my life, I recall four times when I took notice of sunspots one way or another. Back in 1980 when I was in the 12th grade, I remember seeing them in solar images I projected from my 4-inch Astroscan telescope. Then in 1991, when I worked in an aircraft hangar at NASA/Ames Research Center, I remember walking by a disk of light on the floor and realizing that it was an image of the sun projected from a hole in the hangar roof -- making the entire hangar a giant pinhole camera. The disk was several inches across, and in it I saw sunspots once again. In 2002, around the time that I started working at Chabot Space & Science Center, I made a regular activity of sharing the spotty sun with visitors, teachers, and summer camp kids alike, using Sunspotter Telescopes, pinhole projectors, and filtered telescopes. Again, the spotty sun was raised in my awareness. And now in 2013, we have spots once again! The pattern was always there for me to notice: 1980, 1991, 2002, 2013. See it? I didn't, until in recent years, because noticing the regular pattern of the appearance of sunspots over time requires that you notice the times when the sun isn't so spotty. During those times, the sun simply fell from my attention because there wasn't much to see. If you've been following the sun lately, you're aware that we're somewhere in the midst of Solar Maximum: that season in the solar cycle of greatest magnetic activity when sunspots and other related magnetic events like solar flares and coronal mass ejections are frequent and pronounced. On average, Solar Maximum comes every 11 years, reaching a singular high in magnetic activity and then relaxing toward Solar Minimum. By the original predictions, Solar Maximum was expected to peak around May of 2013. However, except for a sharp spike in activity in late 2011, all of 2012 fell below par, appearing on graphs as if Solar Maximum climaxed a year early and is now on the way out. Did it fizzle, ending unexpectedly early -- and after a performance that fell short of the anticipated mark? Or perhaps...with a light drum roll...is the drop in activity we've observed lately only a brief calm before a spectacular resurgence?

ARNewsline Report 1860 -- Apr 5 2013:

by Bill Pasternak (WA6ITF) on April 5, 2013

The following is a QST. The FCC says it is reviewing RF exposure limits in all radio services; a look at the possible candidates to be the next FCC Chairman; a UK ham's signal is heard 2000 Kilometers away with only 10 milliwatts from a Raspberry Pi transmitter; the tiny Baofeng HT becomes a paradise for makers and hackers and the story of how ham radio help to stop a civil war. All this and more on Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1860 coming your way right now.

Propagation Forecast Bulletin #14 de K7RA:

by W1AW Bulletin via the ARRL on April 5, 2013

Solar activity increased over the past week, with average daily sunspot numbers up 32 points to 81.6, and average daily solar flux increasing more than 16 points to 113.4. The geomagnetic field was active on March 29, due to solar wind.

[Stratford Students Host Question and Answer with Space Station:](#)

by 13wmaz.com on April 5, 2013

Stratford Academy students made their own history today by hosting chat with an orbiting astronaut 250 miles above them. The students held a Question and Answer with Canadian astronaut Chris Hadfield, who is on the International Space Station. It was all part of a project through amateur radio to connect the ISS to schools. The event was only possible during a 9-minute window from 8:47 a.m. to 8:58 a.m., when the ISS was flying over the radio center in Santa Rosa, California. During that time, kids squeezed in questions on everything from what astronauts do for fun in orbit to how they tell the difference between night and day. Since the radio project is experimental, there was no guarantee of a connection. Although the astronauts could hear their questions, the responses coming in were staticky and hard to follow. "It's still really cool that we actually got to hear his voice and know that he's actually listening to us speak," says junior Maggie Bergmark. They say it's still a moment they'll never forget.

[DX News -- ARRL DX Bulletin #14:](#)

by W1AW Bulletin via the ARRL on April 4, 2013

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by N7QT, NC1L, The Weekly DX, the OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX News, The Daily DX, DXNL, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.

[This Week in Radiosport:](#)

by The ARRL Letter on April 4, 2013

This Week in Radiosport:

[World Radiosport Team Championship Solicit Volunteers for Station Test:](#)

by The ARRL Letter on April 4, 2013

The WRTC 2014 Organizing Committee will be conducting a capability and training test for the World Radiosport Team Championship stations and volunteers during the 2013 running of the IARU HF Championship, July 13-14. According to WRTC 2014 Co-Chairman Randy Thompson, K5ZD, the organizing committee is looking for local hams and volunteers willing to visit New England during the contest to assist with station setup and operation; preference will be given to those volunteers who intend to return and assist with the 2014 event. Thompson said the committee is looking to set up and operate up to 30 stations during for the final station test before the WRTC 2014 competition in July 2014.

[ARRL in Action: What Have We Been Up To Lately?](#)

by The ARRL Letter on April 4, 2013

This feature is a concise monthly update of some of the things that the ARRL is doing on behalf of its members. This installment -- which covers the month of March -- takes a look at the FCC's decision to grant the ARRL's waiver request for TDMA operation, the 2013 sessions of the ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology, the ARRL's Second Century Campaign, new League publications, updates from the ARRL Development Office, reports from the Official Observer Desk and more.

July 17-20, 2014 -- Hartford, Connecticut



In the News

- [ARRL Centennial Convention \(PDF\)](#)
- [ARRL Plans Centennial Celebration in Hartford in 2014](#)

More information coming soon.

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.

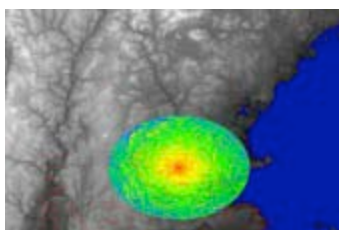
EmComm events and repeater use

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.



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. 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 from [The Sign Man](http://thesignman.com/clubs/part.html) (<http://thesignman.com/clubs/part.html>) PLEASE NOTE: Please check with Hugh Maguire-N1QGE, hulin127@verizon.net, if you need a badge.



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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This month's editor: Terry Stader – KA8SCP

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