



Prospect Hill Intermod

The News Letter of the Waltham Amateur Radio Association
and the "Heavy Hitters"

Fall 2002

Check out our web site at www.wara64.org !

AUCTION 2002 - NEW DATE!

Saturday, November 16, 2001
11:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Seller Check-In 9:30 AM

Newton Masonic Hall (2nd Floor)
460 Newtonville Avenue
(at the corner of Walnut Street)
Newtonville, MA.

This is the social event of the season. Whether you come to buy or sell or simply socialize, the AUCTION is where you want to be on November 16th! Mark your calendars now.

There are always great items up for sale, ranging from that connector or accessory you've been looking for to that special rig with your name on it. There are door prizes, including a subscription to HamTestOnline.com that could be your key to your next upgrade in license. And don't forget the infamous "Heavy Hitter's Snack Bar" to help you keep your strength up during the day.

The auction flyer, later in this issue gives complete details or check out the Auction 2002 page on the club web site for complete information and directions.

www.wara64.org/auction/



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello all and welcome back to the very busy fall season.

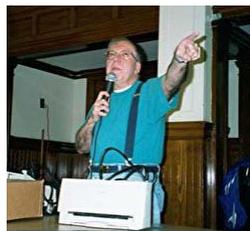
I am writing this in 90 degree heat and thinking that by the time you read this it will be cool and a lot more comfortable for all of us. I hope that many of you will have attended the Boxboro Hamfest the end of August and will have recharged your bodies with all kinds of renewed interest in our hobby.

As we all get back into the fall, we have our major Fund Raiser approaching rather quickly. Please help pass out flyers at all events you will attend and also plan on assisting our Co-Chairs that day, November 16th at the Newtonville Masonic Hall, more details are further on in this newsletter.

I look forward to many or all of you attending the meetings the last Wednesday of each month, and please if you know of speakers for any meeting please let one of the officers know, we are constantly looking for new topics of interest.

See you all on the air or at our meetings.

73, Ann Weldon, KA1PON



PROGRAMS FOR CLUB MEETINGS

There are always opportunities for you and others to make a presentation at one of our monthly W.A.R.A. club meetings.

If you have a favorite topic that might be of interest to our group, you can contact Ann, KA1PON on the air or via email at ka1pon@amsat.org

To see if a particular meeting date is in need of a program check the "Meeting Information" section on our club web site at www.wara64.org

EASTERN MASSACHUSETTS YOUTH NET

The Eastern Massachusetts CEMARC Group has concluded arrangements for the start of a VHF/UHF **YOUTH NET**.

The **YOUTH NET** will go on the air starting on **Sunday, November 10th at 7:00pm**. This net will be a directed net, with a Teen Net Control Operator, strictly for youth up through Grade 12. Subject matter will be at the discretion of the net attendee's.

All young operators are welcome.

NO ADULTS MAY PARTICIPATE.

The Minute Man Repeater Association, through Kevin Paetzold, k1kwp, has graciously made their linked system available to air this net, and will have control operator's monitoring.

(Continued, page 2)

CEMARC YOUTH NET (continued from page 1)

In addition, Ann Weldon, ka1pon, a mother, grandmother, Club President, and school teacher, has agreed to act as a mentor and help to coordinate this net. Thanks to Roger, N1XKB for bringing this idea to the attention of CMARC.

What can you and I do?

First, talk up the net start date and time. Then, advise all youth that you know; to try connecting to one or more of the MMRA repeaters before the net starts, to determine which repeater is best for them from their QTH. Help them decide if you can.

Check MMRA web site for the list of repeaters. <http://www.mmra.org/>

The future of amateur radio, and our clubs depends on bringing young operators into amateur radio. Their future in continuing in the hobby depends on us. Let's not fail them.

While no adults will be recognized during the Youth Net, parents who would like to sign on their child under their control, using their call sign, may do so. However, once the Net starts, no adults will be recognized; only the youth who was checked into the net.

Please direct any questions to:

Frank Murphy - N1DHW

n1dhw@arrl.net

Ann Weldon - KA1PON

ka1pon@amsat.org

Kevin Paetzold - K1KWP

k1kwp@amsat.org



I-LINK ECHO LINK & PAL-TALK?

What part do computers have in amateur radio in the 21st century? Well, read this message from George Caswell, W1ME; Heavy Hitter # 1.

"I have a group of old friends from the early sixty's scattered around NE in Concord NH, Needham Mass and Cape Cod who qso on 2m fm. We all were six meter op's back then. My location is located on a small hill with a 80 foot tower about 1/2 mile to the ocean and I get tropo-ducting in the warmer months usually north/south and sometimes multiple hop conditions. We have tried repeaters in NH with success but my transmissions seem to bring up dx repeaters in 2 and 3 land during the summer months. The result sounds like a can of worms and my transmissions even with qrp power we key up more than one repeater. So we are looking at ILINK as a method of keeping the peace and ward off hate mail ;-)

I may start a new net in the Fall.

I have been playing with a free service called PalTalk. I have heard some hams complain about dropped links and the audio quality. I have had good luck with it and have checked into a AMSAT NET in the mid west on Sunday nights with good results. Looks like the problems if they existed have been fixed. Paltalk can be configured by groups/rooms in voice and keyboard or as with the AMSAT net out west one way voice originating from the repeater out west and all users can chat, check in, and tell tall stories by keyboard. All users that join the PalTalk group/room can hear the AMSAT net audio.

I am thinking about using PalTalk to run a New England-AMSAT net on as many repeaters as possible. To do this a local volunteer will need permission to run the net on a local repeater.

I will help with an audio device to link the incoming net audio to a transmitter so that folks on the repeater can hear the NET. Local check-ins can be relayed via keyboard and will be acknowledged on the air.

PS; I retired as of 1 Jan 2002. Bought a 27' class-c RV.

The XYL is still working but we go camping most weekends. Caroline (WAIMER) upgraded to General and is back to Maine U, wants to teach grade school. Christine is working on another degree and is teaching art in Freeport middle school. George Jr. (KA1SSZ) has moved to the Boston area and is no longer active in Ham Radio

So far this year we have traveled and camped in the RV at;

Eastham, Cape Cod, we plan another trip in the fall. CC loves biking on the rebuilt rail trail

Boothbay ME, twice

Dayton Hamvention 5 days, we left the RV home on this one.

Orr's Island, ME; twice. I love this spot for sunset photo's. Want some high resolution W1ME sunset wallpaper for your computer?

Bar Harbor Maine, two trips; best take in NE. We biked on Mt. trails, played radio on Cadillac Mt., Horse & Buggy on mountain trails, free bus service so we spent a day exploring the island by bus, sun set cruise on a 110' 4 mast schooner. I volunteered to raise one of the sails.

Moose Head Lake, twice, Lilly bay on the South West side of Moose Head. We saw three moose on that one, two calf's and a mommy moose. They were posing for pictures about 10 feet off the road for a crowd of rubber-neckers in cars and last weekend 3 days in the North western branch of Moose Head Lake.

(continued on page 3)

I-LINK, ECHO LINK & PAL-TALK?

(continued from page 2)

(23 miles of dirt road. 1.5 hr ONLY ONE DENT, \$8.00 toll at the wilderness toll gate). Campground is in the Seeboomick area fn55 has AC by low noise diesel generator. It was real quiet. Slam the door on the rv and get a long delayed echo.

It was a long ride home." (W1ME)

OK, back to the internet linking software programs available for amateur radio operators to keep in touch in a different way.

I-LINK is an internet capability which allows amateur radio stations to make internet links to on air operation through repeaters. You get on a local repeater, punch in a code number on your dtmf key pad on your rig (as long as the repeater you're on is connected via I-LINK) and you can connect to a repeater half way around the world.

Echo Link allows much of the same, but also allows you to connect to repeaters around the world via the internet, from your computer; using your sound card, microphone and speakers and your space bar is the microphone key.

PalTalk is new to me, but it's basically an audio/video conferencing system which allows users to connect to conference calls, including nets on amateur radio; around the world, via the internet. This service has great possibilities for linking local nets to regional or global nets via the internet with control stations linked together via the internet, as George (W1ME) said in his message. I, for one, am going to look into this.

So, why the hype over linking amateur radio to the internet? First, why not. Second, if our young folks can get exposed to amateur radio through a medium that they are comfortable and knowledgeable in, why not? This kind of thing as well as satellite

communications can and will be our link to the future of amateur radio, by bringing new, young folks into the world of world-wide voice communications using radio as well as the internet.

Of course, there are a lot of other ways to communicate; worldwide via the internet. But none of them offer the excitement and challenge of talking via radio to other people driving in their cars or living in remote places of the world where phone lines and fiber optics just aren't there to connect to. Radio can do that, because we don't need wires any further than our antenna on the roof of the house or on the tower or in the tree in the back yard.

There is a special excitement that goes with talking to someone at the other end of the line when he or she is on an antenna and not on a wire. This is something, one of many things that could lure the excitement of youth back into the amateur radio community.

Check them out. We'll be putting links to these "services" up out our club web site so you can find them easily.

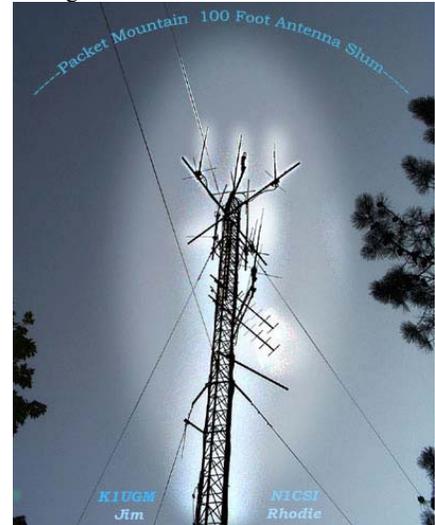
I can hear George saying this now. **"It's amateur radio, enjoy!"** There's always something new and exciting to explore and to learn about.

There is a local group of "WARA" hams which is working on an ILINK system for our area. Repeater, computer, site, system and software specialists looking to take us into the world of *Internet/Amateur Radio*. Steve, WA1HUD; Jim, K1UGM; Mitch, KA1MIT; Megan, KB1FCA and, I'm sure, many others who are helping in their areas of expertise.

This is an exciting time in amateur radio, the internet and for our young, upcoming future amateur radio scientists who will carry on the tradition of experimentation and pushing the limits of technology giving us and they the future and ham radio.



2 mtr rpt 220 rpt UGM pkt Atwater
for digi-link station AM radio



K1UGM/N1CSI Tower



WA1HUD-KB1FQG-KB1FCA-KA1MIT



07/29/2002 Steve adjusting the cavities of the 147.075 repeater with a spectrum analyzer. tight quarters

Steve, WA1HUD tuning cavities

Photos by K1UGM

Photos taken in K1UGM/N1CSI cellar
(Used with permission of K1UGM)

See more photos and read about the project at:

www.scitechantiques.com/hamd/

W.A.R.A. OFFICERS

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V. President – Kip Shustack,
N1AUP
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Donovan, WA1GEP
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Asst. Treas. – John Antes, KB1EB

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Publisher – Eliot Mayer, W1MJ
Editor – Ron Perry, N1USS
Production – Open
Circulation – Ann Weldon,
KA1PON



**The Waltham Amateur Radio
Association is affiliated with
the A.R.R.L.**

**MEMBERSHIP PAYS!
JOIN W.A.R.A.
TODAY!**



WE NEED YOU – TO PARTICIPATE AND CONTRIBUTE!

Prospect Hill Intermod (PHI) is **YOUR** newsletter. We always get good submissions of articles, information and sometimes even photographs to include in each issue. That's what makes it interesting for the readers. So if you have an idea, some thoughts or perhaps some photos of your shack or some event you participated in, send them on in and share them with everyone!

You can send things in via e-mail to n1uss@arrl.net or snail mail to: Ron Perry, N1USS; 34 Summer Street Melrose, MA. 02176-4610

Text should be plain text (ascii) like an e-mail message or in Microsoft Word format (preferably) and photos should be in JPEG or GIF format.

COURAGE HANDI-HAM SYSTEM

This is an email message we received after Phil Temples (K9HI) visited the September W.A.R.A. club meeting.

Hi everyone,

I enjoyed meeting many of you at last night's WARA meeting. I was heartened by your responses to my plea for individual donations to the Courage Center Handi-ham System.

Handi-hams is a project of the non-profit Courage Center in Golden Valley, MN.

I've been privileged to work, as a volunteer instructor at their radio camps for the past couple of years. They do excellent work!

In addition to the camps, the Handi-hams disseminates through its mailing lists and web site all kinds of information of interest for folks with disabilities who are interested in

Amateur Radio. For example, they have an equipment loaner program and a resource list of equipment that is easy to use, or can be modified for folks with vision or motor problems.

If you would like to make a cash donation (tax deductible) to Handi-ham you may send it directly to their office, or in care of me. Make your check or money order payable to "Courage Center Handiham". If you prefer to send in care of me, I will make sure that they know that it's from a Waltham ARA member.

My contact information:

Phil Temples, K9HI
125 Coolidge Avenue #803
Watertown, MA 02472

Handi-ham address:

Courage HANDI-HAM System
3915 Golden Valley Road
Golden Valley, MN 55422

Thanks, and 73!
Phil Temples, K9HI

Thanks, Phil, for enlightening us about Handi-Hams. Out of curiosity I looked up their web site on the internet to learn more.

handhams

Courage Handi-Ham System was "born" in Rochester Minnesota in 1967; the idea of Ned Carman, W0ZSW. Ned worked for a clinic, and, in the course of his work, would visit people with severe physical disabilities. As he spoke with his clients, who often had few opportunities to leave their homes, he realized that Amateur Radio would be the perfect hobby for them. Here was a hobby that could open a window to the world! A person with the most severe disabilities could stand as an equal with fellow hams in the world of Amateur Radio.

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handhams

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Ned enlisted the help of a group of local nuns, the Sisters of St. Francis, on April 30, 1967. Although their first action was as weather watchers during a thunderstorm that passed through Rochester that day, the Sisters were committed to helping Ned with his new project, and several received their licenses. Among them was Sister Alverna O'Laughlin, WA0SGJ, the former Educational Coordinator for the Handi-Ham system, now retired.

The first Handi-Ham was Edna (Eddy) Thorson, N0YL, who took her General Class license exam in December, 1967.

Very soon the Rochester Amateur Radio Club and a little later the PICONET of South Eastern Minnesota took up the torch of service that Ned had lighted. Word of the Handi-Ham System spread rapidly throughout southern Minnesota and northern Iowa.

By 1967 it was very evident that the expansion of Handi-Ham services could not continue without some rather substantial financial support. This support came from the non-profit Minnesota Society for Crippled Children and Adults (whose name would later change to "Courage Center"). The Society granted full affiliate status to the fledgling System and helped with money and equipment.

Word of the Handi-Ham System spread throughout the Upper Midwest, then across the country, and around the world. It became impossible to continue the work of the System as a volunteer organization. Something had to be done or Handi-Hams would be a victim of it's own success. The answer emerged when Courage Center agreed to accept the System as a program, and in 1975 the Minnesota Handi-Ham System emerged with Courage Center to become a full service, providing help wherever there was a need.

The Courage Handi-Ham System, now a fully-integrated service of Courage Center, is able to call on the resources of its parent organization, from accounting and counseling to rehabilitation, medicine and physical therapy, in order to better serve its students and members.

Handi-Ham stations are now in operation at Camp Joan Mier, Malibu, CA; Courage St. Croix, Stillwater, MN; Camp Courage, Maple Lake, MN; Courage North, Lake George, MN; and at Courage Center in Golden Valley, MN. Radio Camp sessions and other Handi-Ham services serve members from everywhere in the United States and around the world. Members learn radio, electronic theory and computing, but they also learn that they can accomplish what they set out to do!

Ned Carman is now a silent key, but the Courage Handi-Ham System's headquarters station bears his call sign, W0ZSW, and an organization of volunteers and paid staff carries on his good work of sharing Amateur Radio with people who have physical disabilities.

Again, thanks to Phil Temples for bringing such a wonderful program to our attention.

You can learn more about the Handi-Ham system on their web site at:

<http://www.handiham.org/>

handhams

IN MEMORIUM

Walter S. Woodward
"Woody"

W1RCJ

1917 - 2002

Waltham Wranglers Swap Net Update

Greetings from net manager, John Flood, KB1FQG, flood@krohne.com
The net is alive and well, in spite of Ebay and other online trading sites. It is a great place to clean out all of that stuff collecting dust looking for a new home. To keep up with the times, we are now online (sort of). Each week we will be giving people with traffic the option of having it listed on the WARA web site message board. If you miss a week or forgot who listed "that item" you were interested in, check out the message board. It will be updated weekly or as needed. If you have sold something and want to remove the posting, drop John an email message or call him at (978) 897-7878 and he'll take care of it. Most weeks we have about 10 stations checking in and, who knows how many others listening in!

Stop by Wednesday evenings, even if only to say hello.

Waltham Wranglers Swap Net
Wednesdays - 9:00 P.M.
146.04/64 Repeater
(no pl tone)

OUR REPEATERS

Six Meter FM
53.25 (PL 71.9) WA1HUD

Two Meter FM
146.64 W1MHL

220 FM
224.94 WA1GEP

440 FM
449.075 WA1PBU

OUR WEBSITE

<http://www.wara64.org/>



AMATEUR RADIO & ELECTRONICS AUCTION

Sponsored by the Waltham Amateur Radio Association and the 1200 Radio Club

Saturday, November 16, 2002 *New Date!*

11 AM – 4 PM

Seller Check-in starts at 9:30 AM

Newton Masonic Hall (second floor)
460 Newtonville Avenue
Newtonville, MA. 02460

Admission: \$2

PARKING & ACCESS

Metered parking on street, *free parking* in municipal lot across Walnut St. Please do not park in the lot next to the Masonic Hall, or in the Star Market parking lot. Unfortunately, this fine old building does not have a “Handicapped Access Ramp” – there is an elevator but the entrance has five steps.

**While you are at the AUCTION; enjoy the “Heavy Hitter’s Snack Bar”
Coffee – Donuts – Soft Drinks – Lunch – Snacks – AND MORE!**

For auction rules and other information, visit www.wara64.org/auction,
or contact Eliot Mayer, W1MJ, w1mj@amsat.org, Tel 617-484-1089

WARA and 1200 RC thank the Newton Masonic Associates for the use of their fine facility.

Directions:

From 128/I95 take the Route 16 East exit (#21A), follow Rt 16 into West Newton square, then bear right leaving Rt 16 and following Washington St. About 8/10 mile further take a right at the light at Lowell Ave., cross the turnpike and take the immediate left onto Austin St. The Masonic Hall is directly ahead of you at the end of the street, and the municipal parking lot is on your right.

From Boston, take the Mass. Pike west to exit 17 at Newton Corner. Go straight ahead on Washington St. about 1.2 miles to Newtonville Square. At the light at Walnut St. go left over the turnpike and take the immediate right onto Austin St. (The Masonic Hall is on your left as you cross the turnpike.) Park in the municipal lot on your left off Austin St.

TALK-IN: 146.64 MHz (-) Waltham Repeater

WALTHAM AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP FORM

The Waltham Amateur Radio Association operates repeaters on 2 Meters (04/64), 6 Meters, 220 MHz, and 440 MHz. The repeaters are free and open for everyone to use. But repeaters have bills to pay, just as you do. A \$15 annual membership would help support these repeaters, as well as help to keep you informed about club activities and other aspects of ham radio. If you cannot afford \$15, please send what you can. If you are inclined to donate more, we will put it to good use. Please print this form, complete it legibly, and return it to:

**Waltham Amateur Radio Association
Post Office Box 411
Waltham, MA 02454**

Name _____ Call Sign _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone # __ (____) _____ Are you an ARRL member? _____

Email _____ Web Site Address (URL) _____

This year's donation enclosed (\$15 nominal): \$ _____

Check if you would like to get involved in any of the following Waltham ARA activities:

_____ Repeater Maintenance/ Construction	_____ Speaker for Club Meetings
_____ Public Service Activities	_____ Auctions
_____ Newsletter Writing or Production	_____ Public Relations for W.A.R.A.
_____ Contribute to the W.A.R.A. web site	_____ Photographer for W.A.R.A. events

Comments about the club, its repeaters, our web site or the newsletter?:

Visit the W.A.R.A. web site at: <http://www.wara64.org/>

Waltham Amateur Radio Association
P.O. Box 411
Waltham, MA. 02454

Please check expiration date on mailing label.