



PROSPECT HILL INTERMOD

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WALTHAM AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION
& THE HEAVY HITTERS

www.wara64.org

SPRING 2010

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Recently we have heard many new folks visiting our repeaters trying out their brand new callsigns. Be sure to give them a warm and friendly welcome. Additionally, W.A.R.A. would like to welcome all new members to the club! Thank you for joining and we hope to hear you on the air soon!



Kip? Is that you? You sound different! No, it's not Kip, this is Emmett at the microphone. N1AUP is taking my photo!

WALTHAM ARA RAISES FUNDS FOR COURAGE CENTER HANDIHAM

Phillip Temples, K9HI

Members of the Waltham Amateur Radio Association recently embarked upon a project to benefit the Courage Center Handiham program, and to honor the memory of long-time member and Silent Key, Laurie Cote, KC1BN.

A Cote family member contacted Handiham in November, 2009 to inform them that KC1BN had

left a sizeable amount of ham equipment from his estate to the non-profit organization based in Golden Valley, Minnesota. Handiham's Manager, Pat Tice, WA0TDA reached out to Eastern MA Handiham volunteer instructor Phil Temples, K9HI.

Handiham very much appreciated the generous gift from Laurie," explained Temples. "But the Handiham staff were not easily able to take possession and liquidate the equipment." That's when Temples thought to approach Laurie's home club, the Waltham Amateur Radio Association and seek their help.

"I suggested to WA0TDA that it might make sense to enlist the aid of WARA to sell the equipment from Laurie's estate, retain a portion of the proceeds, and donate the remainder to the Handiham program. Pat agreed." Temples added, "I thought it would both honor an organization that Laurie admired, and afford WARA the opportunity to honor Laurie's memory."

All parties were agreeable, so K9HI presented the idea at a Waltham ARA meeting in January, 2010. WARA's Vice President, John Flood, KB1FQG enthusiastically agreed; he volunteered to spearhead the project.

"I'm glad that WARA is able to help the Handiham group with this project," said John, "I do remember hearing that [Laurie] liked the work they do. He wanted to do something like this to help Handiham."

John spent many hours cataloging and testing equipment from Cote's estate, as well as advertising the items on the club's mailing list.

"Thank you so much for your hard work on our behalf," wrote Pat Tice, WA0TDA to John Flood, KB1FQG on behalf of WARA.

"I want to add my thanks for all the hard work [KB1FQG] and other Waltham ARA members have contributed to this project on behalf of Laurie's family and the two organizations," added K9HI.

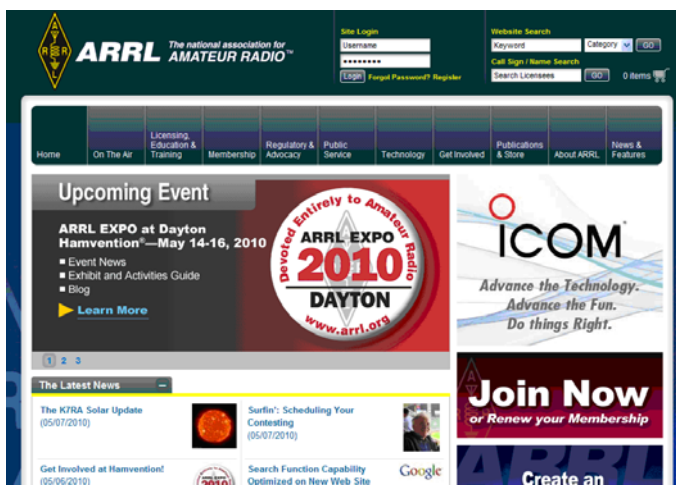
The [Courage Center Handiham System](#) is a national program that provides tools for people with

disabilities to learn Amateur Radio and technology skills, and to earn their Amateur Radio licenses.

The [Waltham Amateur Radio Association](http://www.walthamamateurradio.org) is an ARRL-affiliated club, established in 1938. Its repeater site is located on Prospect Hill in Waltham, MA.

NEW ARRL WEBSITE

The ARRL has a new look for its website. Be sure to check it out, www.arrl.org It looks like they worked out the bugs and finally got their site launched, a bit later than expected but it was worth the wait. The new site is easier than ever to navigate, looks great and seems to be loaded with some interesting resources. Even though it does not lack in advertisements promoting the league's books and accessories, it is what helps to keep the ARRL alive. So be sure to click the above link and have a closer look.



EchoLink IMPROVEMENTS

Eliot, W1MJ

The introduction on www.echolink.org says, "EchoLink® software allows licensed Amateur Radio stations to communicate with one another over the Internet, using streaming-audio technology. The program allows worldwide connections to be made between stations, or from computer to station, greatly enhancing Amateur Radio's communications capabilities." We have had EchoLink on the WARA 146.64 MHz repeater for a few years, using a link located in K1UGM's basement, but it hasn't always been reliable.

However, with the help of KB1KTT, K1UGM, and others, we have made significant improvements in reliability since last December:

- A newer used computer, donated by KB1KTT, has been reliable, and will boot up and run EchoLink automatically, after a power outage.
- The computer now has a "Fixed IP" address within K1UGM's home network, so the home network router no longer needs to be tweaked after the computer or router is power cycled.
- Hams on '64 attempting to make connections by Touch-Tone (DTMF) command could not rely on the DTMF decoder built into the EchoLink software. Then K1UGM pointed out that the Universal Link Interface (ULI), which he had donated to this project, has a built-in DTMF decoder. We switched to this hardware decoder, and it works very well.
- Some minor tweaks to the myriad of EchoLink configuration settings have further enhanced the operation.

If the microphone in your mobile rig can generate DTMF tones, you can initiate an EchoLink connection next time you can't find anyone on '64 to talk to. It works like this:

- When you're at home on a computer, go to www.echolink.org/logins.jsp and jot down the EchoLink node numbers for some exotic locations, such as 26350 in Tel Aviv or 377271 in Duluth.
- When '64 is quiet, announce your intention to initiate a link, "This is W1XYZ mobile on EchoLink".
- With your DTMF keypad, enter 64 followed by the node number, e.g. 64 26350 for Tel Aviv.
- If the link understood you, it will respond, e.g. "Connecting to 4X4ARC".



- Join the conversation on the DX repeater, or make a call if it is quiet.
- When you are done, disconnect the link with the DTMF # key (pound sign)

You can check the connection status at any time by keying 08. If you want to test the system, connect to the EchoLink Test Server, Node 9999, by keying 64 9999, and follow the instructions.

If you have some ham friends from far away, tell them to connect to us at Node 490278, or W1MHL-R. You can use the same technique to get on 64 from your laptop computer when traveling.

iHAM

Mark, K1KGG

To some, it almost feels as if the shack is really not complete unless it is equipped with a computer running some type of ham radio related application in the background. Whether your shack is full of modern compact digital display type radios, or is a bit more vintage with analog dialed tube radios, I believe it would be safe to say that most of us find the need to have a computer running on the side. Maybe you are running Echo-Link or simply your favorite logger software, either way, it seems hams are becoming a bit more high tech.



iPod Touch screen device

Small, compact personal electronic devices can also be useful for the amateur radio hobby. iPhone

and iPod Touch, you may possibly have heard of them or currently own one. Touch screen devices such as the iPod and iPhone can be used to access the internet, listen to music, watch video, take notes and run web applications. They are both very similar except for the iPhone, of course, is also a cell phone. Why are we talking about iPods? The ability to access the internet from a (lighter than your HT) handheld device holds many possibilities especially if you are away from your home Q. Because they can be a useful tool to our amateur radio hobby, especially when we don't have access to a computer, personal electronic devices are a natural fit. The iPod Touch can run small applications or "apps" which are mini programs designed to run simple tasks. Some apps require an internet connection while others can be used without. One free app I found to be interesting was Exam Prep. Since it is free, there are only a handful of questions available so you would have to purchase the full version for complete access. In addition to the review, practice questions and test are FCC Rules and Regulations (part 97), ARRL links and an FCC license data search link which I found to be useful. Other fun stuff and tools are a few different public safety scanner apps, satellite tracking, APRS, HF beacons, Echo-Link, calculators and conversion tools are also available for free. There are many more if you are willing to pay a buck or two, morse code practice, text to morse converter, loggers, repeater directories, DX cluster chaser, UTC clock, transmission line calculator, and more. So, check out the App store on your ipod or iphone, do a search for Amateur Radio and have fun. Don't own one? Maybe its time to get a little more high tech!

W.A.R.A. WEBSITE

Be sure to visit our W.A.R.A. website where you can find the latest updates on what is going on in the club. In addition, you can buy club merchandise to support W.A.R.A., pay your membership or donate, check Field Day information, view member links and more. Please feel free to submit photos, suggestions and comments. We welcome your input as this is "Your Club Website! Please check back often.

www.wara64.org

ARLINE BERRY, W1LIO SILENT KEY

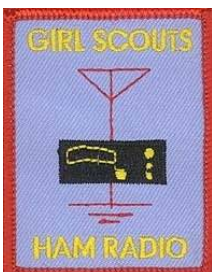
Dan Brown, W1DAN



Figure 1 Arline Berry at the 2006 WARS Field Day (photo by Harold KB1LTO)

Arline F. Berry, W1LIO passed away Wednesday, April 21, 2010. She was 89 years old. At her previous request there were no services. Arline was a mover and driver for the Wellesley Amateur Radio Society for many decades and was involved with amateur radio for most of her life.

Arline was a member of the WARS club for many years, a past president, net control operator for the WARS Net on Wednesday evenings as well as teacher of the club's radio classes. Last year she moved from her home in Medfield to an assisted living center in Franklin, MA. This ended many years of her sponsoring the WARS Christmas parties, the Waltham Amateur Radio Association's reunions as well as running the weekly WARS net.



Of note was her long-term support for the Girl Scouts since her youth. Arline's efforts reached local and national levels of the organization and included the creation and promotion of an amateur radio patch program. Girls would mail her a list of radio accomplishments and if the requirements were satisfied, she would mail a patch to them. There is an interesting ARRL page where Arline outlines the program

My suggestion is that a girl completes all of the outlined requirements for each age level, or have passed an FCC Amateur Radio license exam. A Patch Consultant, usually a ham, or the Leader, determines if the requirements have been completed--which is the process for passing a Badge. (<http://www.arrl.org/a-girl-scout-patch>)

Arline recently earned a 70-year pin from the Girl Scouts for her support. Arline's ham support exceeded the normal hobbyist level. W1LIO was seen at most ARRL New England Division conventions (i.e. Boxboro) promoting Girl Scouts or the YLRL organization. For a few years I brought Arline to the annual New England Division ARRL cabinet meetings so that she learned what the division's concerns and goals were.

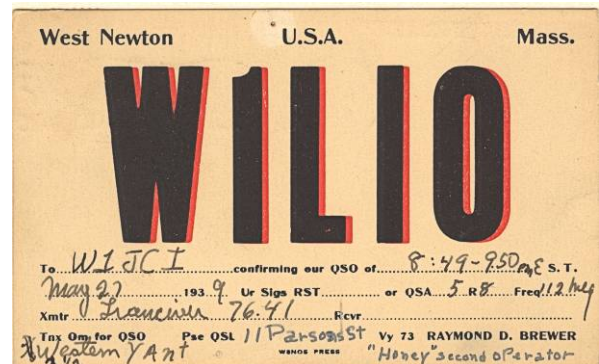


Figure 2 Ray's QSL in 1939 where "Honey" operated as a teenager

Arline's father Raymond Brewer was an early ARRL member (possibly a charter member?) in the 1930's, and had the call W1LIO until his death. In the 1990's, Arline finally obtained her ham license and eventually adopted her father's call.





W1MUC W1LIO W1GMS W1MGP Field Day
W1MIO W1MLN 1941

Figure 3 1941 EMARA Field Day Gang (Arline is second from left)

The spark in her ham career started early. Her dad would often let her (then called "Honey" - as seen on Figure 2) talk on the radio when she was a teenager. When she was 19, Arline joined the Eastern Massachusetts Amateur Radio Association in 1940 and attended their Field Day events as seen in Figure 4 and 5. Arline became the secretary of the Waltham Amateur Radio Association in 1941. WARA incorporated in 1938. Was she a charter member?

In an interview with W1LIO, Arline told me she brought 5 other women into the club and assisted in them obtaining their licenses.



Figure 4 Arline (right) copying code in 1941 (from www.wara64.org/galleries/g2/g2.htm)

Arline recalled the beginnings of World War II and the closing of the amateur radio bands by the FCC:

I was on the air on December 7th and they came on the air and told us to get off....I'll never forget that...I was talking with somebody and they came right on and...(interview 2003).



Figure 5 Field Day 1941 on Prospect Hill (Arline is top center)



Figure 6 Early WARA QSL Card

During the war, Arline worked at Harvard University's Radio Research department. She also spent time at MIT building power supplies and amplifiers. Interestingly, when Arline arrived for her first day of work at MIT, it turned out she already knew most of the people in the department as they all were hams from the area clubs! Arline's future husband Don worked at Harvard's Underwater Sound, and then at Radio Research. Arline later worked on internal antennas for airplanes at Radio Research. She told me she did not know theory well, but could build pretty much anything.





Figure 7 Arline and future husband Don in 1942



Figure 8 "Hobby Hill" the QTH of many get-togethers

After marriage, Arline and her husband Don initially lived on Ash Street in Waltham (the same street I lived on in the mid 1990's!), Later they commissioned a Techbuilt pre-fab house in Medfield in 1959 naming the modern-style home as "Hobby Hill". Here they began a family by having two sons and made the most of woodworking and amateur radio. Don was not a ham, but enjoyed shortwave listening, Hi-Fi (He was the chief technician of an early Boston Hi-Fi store), and the comraderie of local hams. However, in 1961, they moved to Seattle as Don got a job working for Boeing. They returned to their home in Medfield in the late 80s after his retirement.

After her husband passed away from Alzheimer's disease in the 1990s, Arline finally obtained ham her license as N1OMA in 1993. She renewed her radio activities with Running nets, sorting QSLs for the W1-QSL bureau where she pre-sorted cards alphabetically and managed the accounting of payment. She remained active in Women Radio Operators of New England and

Young Ladie's Radio League. In recent times, the Wellesley club enjoyed many WARS Christmas parties in her home and Arline always ran the amateur radio PR machine during Field Day.

With the Wellesley Amateur Radio Society, Arline was a member for many years, holding the Presidency and other board titles. She often promoted the club, assisted with classes and most notably running the Wednesday night nets on the W1TKZ repeater for many years. Many people knew her voice from the net. I interviewed Arline on tape in 2003 and she recently helped me with a school paper. Before she moved to Franklin, Arline gave me her photos of the EMARA, WARA reunions and WARS reunions and a few early photos as seen here. The WARA memorabilia will be donated to the Waltham club.

When Arline started having health problems, Pat W1HIV who lived nearby would often visit, assist her and run errands for her. Pat also helped to move Arline to Franklin and installed her ham station there. I wish to thank Pat for his hard work in assisting Arline. He did yeoman service. The passing of hams like Arline breaks the bond of continuity of early amateur radio with the present hobby. Many will miss W1LIO.



Figure 9 W1LIO at Hobby Hill in 2006





	TO	Confirming QSO Date		
	Time	VR SIGN RST		
	FREQ	RIG		
		ANT		
PLEASE QSL				
				
				
Arline F. Berry W1LIO 4 Forge Hill Rd Apt 116 Franklin, MA 02038				
TNX FOR QSO				

Figure 10 Arline's 2009 QSL Card

In an email, Jack N1TPU told me "Dan, am sorry to here that Arline has passed away. She was a back bone of WARS for many years and the club will miss a good ham."

Phil K9HI called me while in a Waltham club meeting to confirm the news. They are trying to re-assemble their archives as Arline was an early key member. I am interested in further information about Arline, her father, early EMARA and WARA history. Write to W1DAN at ARRL dot net. Thanks!

(Version 1, May 8, 2010, Dan Brown, W1DAN is the president of the Wellesley Amateur Radio Society. Copyright Dan Brown. This article may be freely distributed in its original PDF form as long as the author is credited.)

FIELD DAY 2010

Eliot, W1MJ

On June 26 and 27, WARA will be participating in the annual ARRL Field Day (FD). This will be our third FD joint venture with the Clay Center Amateur Radio Club (CC-ARC), a school club in Brookline. We will start setting up the operation at 9 AM on Saturday, the 26th, and operate several HF and VHF stations continuously for 24 hours, starting at 2 PM on Saturday.

If you are interested in participating in this year's FD operation, please contact W1MJ. If you don't want to sign up as a participant, please feel welcome to drop in for a visit. See www.wara64.org/fd/2010 for further details.

PHI NEWSLETTER STAFF

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Input	Output	PL in	PL out	Call
52.25	53.25	71.9	none	WA1HUD
**146.04	146.64	none	136.5*	W1MHL
223.34	224.94	none	103.5	W1MHL
444.075	449.075	none	none	WA1PBU
902.1375	927.1375	131.8	100	W1MHL

*Use PL to mute P25 transmissions.

**2 Meter EchoLink Node 490278

W.A.R.A. OFFICER WANTED

If you would be interested in taking the position of Clerk, aka Club Secretary, please step forward.

W.A.R.A. OFFICERS

PRESIDENT - Richard Amirault N1JDU
V. PRESIDENT - John Flood KB1FQG
TREASURER - Bob Martinson K1REM
ASSISTANT TREASURER - Eliot Mayer W1MJ
SECRETARY - Open



Forrest, KB1QXX, operates the GOTA station (for newly licensed and potential future hams). Now AB1LG, Forrest is president of CC-ARC and is co-chairing FD 2010 with Eliot, W1MJ.

Thank you to all who have contributed to this issue of PHI. We greatly appreciate the time you took in sharing your knowledge! We are always looking for articles and new material to publish. Please send in your photos, announcements, story or short article (Technical or Non Technical) at any time, for the next issue of PHI!

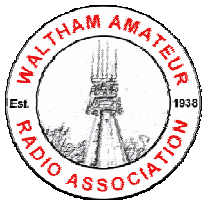


The Waltham Amateur Radio Association is affiliated with the A.R.R.L.



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PHI is YOUR newsletter. Please forward articles, stories,
photos, announcements and comments to
mark@k1kgg.net to be included in the next issue of PHI.





WALTHAM AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP FORM

The Waltham Amateur Radio Association operates repeaters on 6 Meters, 2 Meters, 220 MHz, 440 MHz, and 900 MHz. The repeaters are free and open for everyone to use. But repeaters have bills to pay, just as you do. A \$20 annual membership would help support these repeater expenses, as well as help to keep you informed about club activities and other aspects of ham radio. If you cannot afford \$20, please send what you can. If you are inclined to donate more, we will put it to good use. Please complete this form legibly, and return it to:

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

Name _____ Call Sign _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone # _(_____) _____ Are you an ARRL member? _____

Email _____

This year's donation enclosed (\$20 nominal): \$ _____

How would you like to receive our club newsletter?

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First Class Mail

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_____ Repeater Maintenance/ Construction _____ Speaker for Club Meetings

_____ Public Service Activities _____ Public Relations for W.A.R.A.

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