



PROSPECT HILL INTERMOD

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

www.wara64.org

FALL 2014

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SPURIOUS EMISSIONS

John Flood, KB1FQG

Greetings!

I hope everyone had a great summer! As I write this, the weather forecast is calling for some wet snow in a couple of days! It seems far to early for that! Lots of good news to report this fall! First of all is I'm happy to report that attendance at club meetings is up considerably with some meetings this year having 20 or more people. Some of you have thanked me saying it's because of me, however in truth, the thanks go out to all of you in attendance! Your time is valuable and I appreciate the time you devote the club!

Thanks go out to Glenn KB1SMN for organizing Field Day this year. Details are included within this newsletter. In my opinion what was done was in the true spirit of field day. A station was set up remotely with emergency power and several contacts were made. This is the essence of Field Day. The ARRL has unfortunately turned the event into a contest and the real purpose of this event is an emergency communications drill. Well done to everyone there. I hear tell that there were more hot dogs consumed than contacts made but that's fine! All you need to do is to make one contact to prove your setup would work in an emergency. The social event was better than any bonus points awarded! (I should note that this is my personal opinion and not that specifically of WARA! HI HI)

At our September meeting to kick off our "meeting season", after summer break, we were happy to welcome Phil Temples, K9HI, ARRL EMA Section Manager for an update of what's new at the League. Phil brought along and introduced his replacement, SM-elect, Tom Walsh, K1TW along with 'Bo' Budinger, WA1QYM the EMA Club Coordinator who gave us some insights as to what has worked well in other clubs. Thanks to all for visiting us and a special thanks to Phil for his many years of work!

On the very exciting news front, with some help from Phil, K9HI (yes the same Phil from the last paragraph) we have had a very generous donation of radio equipment. The family of Arthur Davis, W1HIT(SK), kindly donated to us, his radio station. Items of note are a Yaesu FT2000 with matching speaker and MD-100 desk microphone, a Yaesu FT-450D, a Yaesu FT2800M, and some assorted accessories. I have tested out the two HF stations with good results and we will now have our own club equipment for Field Day and other event uses!

The family wishes to remain somewhat anonymous but a copy of this newsletter along with a thank you will be sent to them!

Additionally, Fred Johnson, KC1GA, a no longer active ham, donated his station to us consisting of a Kenwood TS-140 with PS-430 power supply and accessories, Thanks as well go out to him! This all was like Christmas in the summer!

That's all for now and I would suggest that you may consider becoming more active in the club. Elections for club officers are coming up, most likely in January, looking at the calendar for December. New Blood is often a good thing for a club and I'd love to see the meeting attendance and membership grow!

WARA AT NEAR-FEST, OCTOBER 2014

Eliot Mayer, W1MJ



Prior to this NEAR-Fest, my last visit was in May, 2013. I camped out there in my little tent, and temperatures dropped to the low 20s. My so-called +5 degree sleeping bag kept me alive but not very comfortable. The next morning, I was given a good tip – for cold weather camping, stuff your “winter” sleeping bag inside a summer sleeping bag for extra insulation. I actually remembered the tip this time around, and temperature only got down to 36 overnight, so I was comfy. Though for some reason, I still arrived home exhausted the next day.

WARA folks at NEAR-Fest, having just finished breakfast at the Deerfield Community Church on-site restaurant. Not shown in the next photo is John, KB1FQG. Besides being president of WARA, John has also taken on the task of organizing programs for NEAR-Fest.



John K1BOS, Glenn KB1S, Eliot W1MJ, Bob K1REM, Ron KG1T



Carl, WA1ZCQ

Carl WA1ZCQ, once a regular on 04/64, still checks in by Echolink. He is very active in QRP circles, especially NEQRP (newenglandqrp.org). Every NEAR-Fest, Carl erects a really high and long end-fed wire. This time he invited me to plug my Go Kit into the antenna, which I gladly accepted. Below is my old friend William K1WD brushing up on his CW at this station:



William, K1WD

NEAR-Fest is a fun event, held twice per year at the Deerfield, NH fairgrounds. For more info, see www.near-fest.com.

FIELD DAY ON THE HILL

Ron Senykoff, KG1T

This year on June 28th and 29th, the Waltham Amateur Radio Association conducted a successful Field Day operation from the top of Prospect Hill, in Waltham, MA. This is the same location which is home to the WARA repeaters.

Atop the hill is a small park with a pavilion that is open to the public. As it is a public park, WARA was able to reserve the pavilion for the daytime only on both days, during which we set up, operated, and consumed Chicago Style hot dogs. No ketchup was to be found on the premises! Ketchup is not allowed on hot dogs in Chicago, for those who are not familiar. Celery salt, mustard, sweet relish, diced onions, tomato slices, a dill pickle spear and optional peppers are allowed, all of which were made available to visitors. Chicagoans get their vegetables from their hot dogs!



Hot Dogs, UR1DOG Photo by Glenn, KB1SMN

The weather was great and all who stopped by were able to spend some time if it was to operate or just socialize. We set up the Club's doublet antenna (a 450 Ohm ladder-line fed dipole good through 80 meters) using the hillside to our advantage. Antenna launching equipment was provided by Jeff, AB1VF which consisted of a wrist rocket and a fishing reel attached to a pole that could be stuck in the ground while shooting the weight over the trees. Very effective!



Glenn, KB1SMN Photo by Phil, K9HI

I provided a Yaesu FT-840 along with a tuner and balun to complete the station, which ran completely under battery power. This gave us some bonus points for operating 100% emergency power and made setup pretty simple. W1NED, NQ1H, and KG1T operated



for a grand total of 30 QSOs: 24 Phone and 6 CW. This put our final QSO to hot dog consumption ratio at 30:24 / 5:4. For a while we exceeded in hot dog consumption but then Ned W1NED went wild and made a bunch of QSOs surpassing the number of hot dogs consumed! Our setup seemed most effective on 40 meters which is where we operated for the duration.



Ned, W1NED

Photo by Ron, KG1T

We were visited by a few ARRL coordinators (*Section Manager Phil Temples, K9HI, Bo Budinger, WA1QYM and Tom Walsh, K1TW*) and who, although declining hot dogs, did have a nice time observing our setup before moving on to check out other clubs' Field Day operations.



W1MHL

Photo by Phil, K9HI



Ron, KG1T

Photo by Glenn, KB1SMN

Operation was under the W1MHL club call sign where we were a class 1A station by the ARRL. Point breakdown: 100 for Emergency Power, 100 for Set-up in a Public Place, 50 for Submitted via the web, 24 for the phone contacts and 12 for CW (with a x2 multiplier on QSOs for battery) gave us a grand total of 322 Points! Low by competitive Field Day standards, but plenty of points for getting out there, having a good time, and making some contacts with equipment set up in the field.

Special thanks go to Glenn KB1SMN who not only coordinated the Field Day, but provided all necessary hot dog cooking apparatus, as well as a generator should we have needed it. We look forward to doing this again next year and hope to see you there!

WARA OFFICERS

PRESIDENT – John Flood **KB1FQG**
VICE PRESIDENT – Richard Amirault **N1JDU**
TREASURER - Bob Martinson **K1REM**
ASSISTANT TREASURER - Eliot Mayer **W1MJ**
SECRETARY- Ron Senykoff **KG1T**

LATEST INTERNET NEWS LINKS

[Hams share love of amateur radio, Quad-City Times.](#)

[Amateur Radio Operators Get Their Own Day, October 18th is Ham Radio Day in Paris TX.](#)

KB1KTT “SK”

William Meaney, KB1QMY

I just wanted to take a minute to reach out to the members of WARA regarding my dear friend, now SK (silent key) Al Melanson. Not only was he friend but a long time member of WARA who sadly passed away a few months ago.



He was a great guy, smart, funny, loved ham radio and flying model airplanes. Not only was he hard working but liked to help others like fixing their car, truck and even been known to help with home projects.



I met Al through two close friends, and grew up in his neighborhood. He always had time for everyone, he was outgoing, helpful, caring and he always wanted to help you no matter what. I know he always liked helping with WARA club (donating his computer for our EchoLink) events such as Field Day at the Clay Center.

He was a true friend that will be missed. I hope he is somewhere working some good DX and logging some great HF contacts.

WARA MEETINGS

The Waltham Amateur Radio Association would like to thank Boston Properties for the use of their conference room. Attendance has increased since we moved from the Waltham Public Library and we credit this to the spacious conference room provided by Boston Properties. Be sure to visit <http://wara64.org/meetings.htm> for special guest speakers and meeting schedule updates.

W.A.R.A. REPEATERS

Input	Output	PL in	PL out	Call
6m off	6m off	6m off	6m off	off
**146.04	146.64	136.5	136.5	W1MHL
223.34	224.94	none	none	W1MHL
444.075	449.075	88.5	none	W1MHL
902.1375	927.1375	131.8	100	W1MHL

**2 Meter [EchoLink](#) Node 490278
2 Meter [Apco P25](#) NAC is 293



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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 not) at any time, for the next issue of PHI!



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



WALTHAM AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

www.wara64.org



MEMBERSHIP AND CHANGE OF ADDRESS 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. Your membership dues help support these repeater expenses, as well as help to keep you informed about club activities and other aspects of ham radio. Individual membership is \$20 annually. Family membership (members all in same household) is \$30.00 annually. If you cannot afford the annual dues, please send what you can. If you are inclined to donate more, we will put it to good use. You can join or renew at www.wara64.org/membership.htm or complete this form legibly, and return it to:

Waltham Amateur Radio Association, PO Box 411, Waltham, MA 02454

Member 1:

Name _____ Call Sign _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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

Email (for newsletter) _____

Member 2:

Name _____ Call Sign _____

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

Relationship to Member 1: _____

Email (for newsletter) _____

For additional family members please attach their information to this form

Payment Enclosed:

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Family membership for _____ year(s) @ \$30/year nominal: \$ _____