

Amateur Radio: A National Resource

METRO BOSTON



Ham Radio: From Brookline to the Space Station

This year the crew of the International Space Station are among the invited guests for the ham radio Field Day event at Larz Anderson Park in Brookline. Between the event start on Saturday, June 26 and its end on Sunday, June 27, Members of the Boston Amateur Radio Club and their new partners from Brookline's Clay Center Amateur Radio Club will have seven chances to talk to Astronaut Mike Fincke, KE5AIT, and cosmonaut Gennady Padalka, RN3DT. The chance to speak to space is welcomed by all. The Clay Center club is enthusiastic, since space research, a radio telescope, and involvement with the 2007 ham radio probe to Mars are activities already being planned by the club. One of the Boston Amateur Radio Club members, Brookline student Joe Recht, 15, is planning to be on the air all night to have the best chance of making contact.

For the general public there will be the chance to see what a ham radio emergency communications center looks like and how ham radio is leading the way in technology, education, and homeland security, including ham radio support planned for the Democratic National Convention in July. Visitors can even send messages via ham radio to friends and family.

The Boston Amateur Radio Club will be giving guided tours of the station from 2:00 to 8:00 PM on Saturday and from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM on Sunday. Information will be available on ham radio and its role in education, space and other scientific research, and homeland security. Other activities include sending messages via ham radio for visitors.

This event is part of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) Field Day exercise being conducted throughout the Western hemisphere. The ARRL, founded in 1913, is the world's largest ham radio organization.

For further information on Field Day contact: KA1MOM@aol.com or go to http://ema.arrl.org/FD

For further information on the Boston Amateur Radio Club go to http://www.barc.org/