



# HAMLETTER



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**EVER WONDER WHAT LUNCH AT CAROL'S GARDEN RESTRUANT HAS ON THE MENU?**



Here are the participants in the Thursday, Oct. 17th Ham Brunch at Carol's Garden, located just north of Geneva Road on the east side of Main Street, Carol Stream. The time is 10:30 a.m., and here are the ladies, left to right: Connie Duffin, XYL of Jim, K9OSW (shown right behind her) Barb Briscoe, KB9YMG, and also XYL of Bob, KG9U, Joan Kerwin, XYL of Walt, N9FJB, SK Lorene Griffith, XYL of Spence, W9HZM, SK Helen Manning, XYL of Dick, W9BUW, SK, Ruth Schow, XYL, of Carl, N9GZR.



At the other end of the table, the men, clockwise from lower center: Carl Schow, N9GZR Bob Elz, N9IRY, Bob Briscoe, KG9U, Gene MacAleer W9LIW, George Reichert, W9GRW, Jim Dunning, N9OSW was missed in this shot, but picked up behind his wife Connie in the ladies' photo.

# From the President's Gavel

by Bob Fairbairn, KE9AWCRA President



Hello again all. I hope that you received the roster and October hamletter in the mail. I have to take some of the blame for any delays, my apologies. As I write this the telltale signs of fall and winter are around us. There is a chill in the air, but yet the sun is still a warm. This time of year is always a tickler to the antenna builders to get that new piece of wire in the air or a little more aluminum on the tower. Experimenting with antennas is one of my favorite parts of this hobby. I am still waiting for the trees to grow a bit more for that 80m loop! Along with the change in weather is a change in the noise level on the bands, which seems to be falling already. With the fall comes the season of contesting. I have found that I am a lousy contester, but it is fun to catch a new one now and then during the busy times or to practice those operating skills. For those of you, who do not really like the rush of the contest, check out the WARC bands. Twelve and Seventeen meters are a lot of fun and exhibit some neat propagation patterns. I have a simple fan dipole in the attic that does the job for me.

At the November meeting we have our annual auction, so come for some real fun and maybe that little widget you have to have! Be sure to bring the one that I want.

I will keep the business meeting short to give us more time for the auction.

See you at the meeting, 73, Bob KE9A

## WCRA Staff

### Elected Officers

President	Bob Fairbairn	KE9A	630: 682-3424
Vice President	Steve Peterson	N9OA	630: 742-3581
Secretary	Robert Mitalieri	N9EF	630: 510-9783
Treasurer	Kim Wiese	N9XE	630: 545-9950
Custodian	Roberto Beltramelli	WA9E	630: 668-5688

### Volunteer Committee Chairs

Club Call Trustee	Tom Geletka	N9CBA	630: 289-2535
Christmas Party	Dale Kwarta	NJ9E	630: 858-8541
Club Awards	John Truitt	W9LQL	630: 682-0304
Club Truck			
Elmer/Know-Code	George Reichert	W9GWR	630: 871-1786
Elmer/Know-Code			
Field Day	Frank Krozel	KG9H	630: 653-9090
Field Day	Dale Kwarta	NJ9E	630: 858-8541
Hamfest	Bruce Plantz	K9OZ	630: 604-0157
Chaplin	Harry Sheaffer	W9AXI	630: 483-2044

Historian

Interference

Refreshments

Refreshments Steve Peterson N9OA 630:742-3581

Membership Kim Wiese N9XE 630:545-9950

Membership Robert Mitalieri N9EF 630:510-9783

Membership Retention Robert Noles N9XS 630:372-7036

Public Relations

Public Service Joe LeFebvre N9WRO 630:587-8059

VHF/HF Awards Peter Barr W9UF 630:971-8581

### Amateur License Staff

Training Classes Jack Feldman KA9HEL 630: 515-0377

Novice Instructor

Nov/Tech Instructor Robert Mitalieri N2EF 630: 510-9783

General Instructor Pat Byrne K9JAU 630:858-1959

Extra Instructor

Volunteer Exam. Harry Kamer K9HK 630: 953-0519

### WCRA Repeater Administrative Board (RAB)

Trustee/Tech Adv Tom Geletka N9CBA 630: 289-2535

Chairman Don Motz, Jr. N9NYX 630: 665-7757

Secretary Doug Totel W9NJM 630: 469-3001

Tech Advisor Gary Henle N9VLL 630: 736-9102

Member George Henry KA3HSW 630: 830-6659

Member Larry Schroeder KA9KDC 630: 665-3228

### WCRA Radio Nets

Sunday 8:00 pm 145.390/(-600) Net Control: Rotates

Sunday 8:30 pm 224.140/(-1.600) Net Control: Marty  
KA9RCC

Tuesday 8:00 pm 145.390(-600) ARES Net

Tuesday 8:30 pm 444.475/(5.0) UHF Net

### WCRA Repeaters

145.390/ 144.790 103.5(1A) or 107.2(1B) PL Encode/Decode

224.140/222.540 Carries Access - SKYWARN Service Liaison

444.475/449.475 114.8 Hz(2A) PL Encode/ Decode

145.310/144.710 WCRA, W9CCU-1 Full Duplex Packet Repr

### HAMLETTER

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# WCRA Meeting Minutes

by: Robert Mitillieri  
N9EF  
WCRA  
Secretary



## WCRA Minutes from the October 11, 2002 Meeting

The business meeting was called to order at 19:35 by the President, **Bob KE9A**, and introductions were made by the board and all attendees. A motion was made by **Bob, W9TIE** to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by **Joe, N9WRO**; a vote was taken and the motion was approved. The President announced that the Hamletter and roster were mailed to all members. Tonight's program will be a presentation on Amateur Radio and Emergency preparedness, given by Joe, N9WRO. Next month's program will be an auction.

Suggestions for future programs should be forwarded to **Steve, N9OA**. Treasurer, **Kim, N9XE** reported on the club's financial position. Custodian, **Roberto, WA9E**, has an extra key for the PO Box. Roberto has agreed to assume responsibility for the club's audit. Hamfest, **Bruce K9OZ**, reported that tickets are available for the WCRA Hamfest to be held on January 26, 2003 at the Kane county fairgrounds. **John, K9FID** is in charge of ticket sales. Bruce reported that this Hamfest will require more assistance than those in the past. The club will be handling parking and ticketing. **Jon, KC9OO**, the chairperson for volunteers. Truck, Steve, N9OA, reported that the truck has been requested for JOTA at Hummer Park in Downers Grove. RAB, **Larry, KA9KDC**, reported that the cables and antennas for the new tower have been delivered. The side arms are being fabricated and the antennas will be install soon after the side arms are complete. Larry also reported that the 440 repeater has been functioning fine. Training, **Jack, KA9HEL**, reported that COD will be more flexible with the minimum class size requirements if we will be willing to have the class in rooms other than K144. Christmas Party, **Dale, NJ9E**, suggested choices of White Fence Farm or House of Plenty (in Sugar Grove). Dale mentioned that White Fence Farm is more spacious. A motion to accept the committee reports was made by **Marty, N9NTM** and seconded by **Paul, KA9RVS**. A vote was taken and the motion was carried. Announcements: Roberto, WA9E, reported that the Secretary of State will have new ham plates in November. New Business, Bob, KE9A, asked for volunteers to label, stamp, and mail the Hamletters. Bob also mentioned that next year's budget is almost ready. He is just waiting for the insurance info. Roberto asked about a field trip to the Motorola museum. Bob, KE9A, will look into it. A motion was made by Marty, N9NTM, to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Jack, KA9HEL. A vote was taken and the motion was carried and the meeting was adjourned at 21:35.



The Club has three computers available for transfer to club members who wish to own them. They are free and functional, but are older models which the club will no longer maintain. Contact Roberto Beltramelli (WA9E) to submit your request to have one or more. You may also contact Peter Richey (N9HDW) with technical questions.

Make	Model	S/N	CPU	RAM	OS	Video	HDD	Floppy
IBM	8530	none	286	640K	DOS 5	VGA	20 MB	3.5" 730kB
IBM	8530	none	286	640K	DOS 5	VGA	20 MB	3.5" 730kB
CompuAdd 212 A002	352420	286	1 MB	DOS 6	VGA	40 MB		5.25"1.2 MB

(A:) 3.5"1.44 MB (B:)

Each of the IBM 8530 computers has a monitor. The CompuAdd 212 A002 does not. See picture on page 5. No keyboards

## ANCHORS...ANCHORS...ANCHORS

### BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

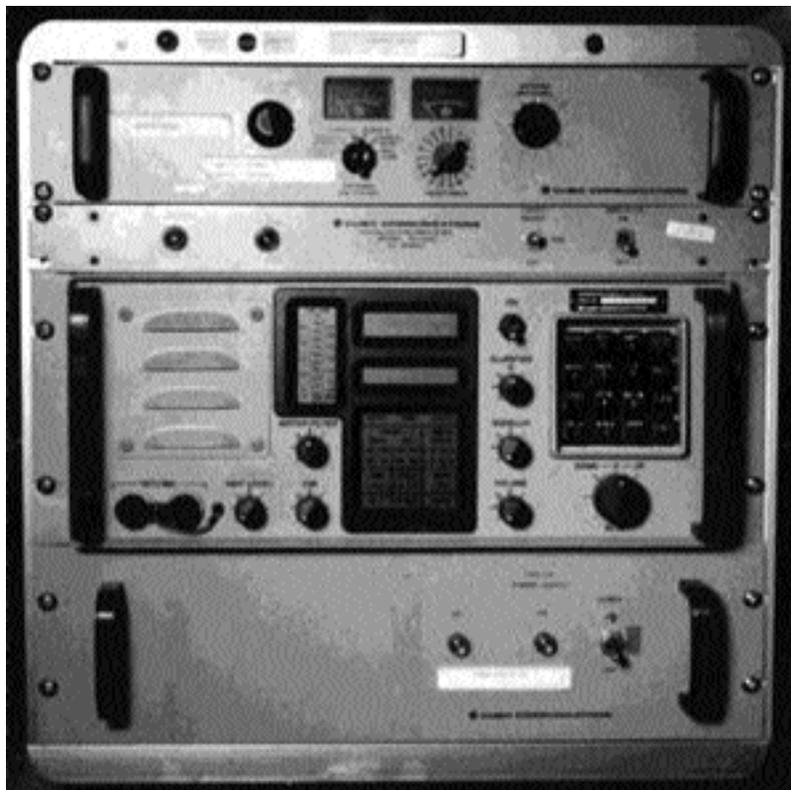
**FOR SALE:** A nearly complete ham HF station in one package. Just plug into wall and antenna and go!  
\$1,650.00

Cubic Communications RT-1393 Field Transportable HF/SSB Transceiver RT-1393/USQ is a solid state transceiver capable of continuous coverage from 1.6 - 30 MHz in 100 Hz steps (284,000 "channels" is Cubic's claims). It offers simplex and semi-duplex modes and operates in the USB, LSB, ISB, CW and AM modes. Filter bandwidths are 2.4kHz, 1.8kHz, 500Hz and 6kHz for AM operation. 100 channels can be programmed into memory which lends itself nicely to the scanning of favorite frequencies. Power output is 100W PEP. Power requirements are 20-32VDC or 115/230VAC.

**SYSTEM INCLUDES:**

ST-3MR Antenna Matching Unit: select and manually tune among several antennas, including balanced and unbalanced lines (built-in balun), PR-8252 Receiver Pre-Amplifier, PS-7013 Power Supply: provides required voltage for operation of radio. Wired for 115V operation.

All parts are mounted in a small 19" rack. Legs have been added to the bottom of the rack to raise it to desk level. A microphone is included. Operating and service manuals included. This system regularly sells for \$2,200 at surplus. I can be reached at [w9srb@arrl.net](mailto:w9srb@arrl.net) (email) or call (630) 462-7365 and leave a message. Thanks, Steve



## ANCHORS...ANCHORS...ANCHORS...

I am offering two model 28 teletypes. Both in good working condition. They are the full keyboard models, transmit and receive with full cabinets. All manuals are included as are many spare parts. Also a very ample supply of roll paper now hard to locate. One unit has three speeds.

Also a Flesher TU-170 Teletype Terminal Unit to connect the TTY's to either HF or VHF/UHF transceivers. A bargain in a nutshell. These units have seen many years service in my shack.

This entire package is yours for the pickup. No parting please. Take it all and enjoy. I could include some 2100+ TTY pix on CD if interested along with the program to run them.

73, W9LIW

Gene (Mac) McAleer

3N531 Broadview Ave.

Addison, IL 60101-3001

H/P 630-627-9207

Computers offered by club to a good home.





## Activities on the HF Bands

by:  
Peter Barr  
W9UF

So far this fall, it seems to be a fairly active hurricane season. I'd like to remind that the USA Hurricane Watch Net is now active on 14.325 kHz handling potential emergency messages. A clear frequency will be very helpful during these important nets.

John, W4NU has been in Kuwait since July and has been active as W4NU/9K2. He only operates on Sundays (usually two Sundays per month due to his job demands) and can usually be found after 1800z on or around 21.250 kHz until about 2300z before moving onto 20 meters (14200 kHz) as the band opens up to North America. He will be here until at least the first of the year. His QSL Manager is Nancy, NK4U.

Vladimir Bykov, UA4WHX has wrapped up a few

months of operating and 18,000 QSOs total from 18 countries in North America. Between May 29 and September 2, 2002, he was on as V31BV, TG4/AC4LN, TG4/UA4WHX, YS1/AC4LN, AC4LN/HR2, AC4LN/HR1, H7/AC4LN, AC4LN/TI2, HP8/AC4LN, HP1/AC4LN, AC4LN/6Y5, HI8/AC4LN, AC4LN/HH2, 9Y4/AC4LN, 8R1/AC4LN, 8P9/AC4LN, 8P9BV, J6/AC4LN, J73/AC4LN, J8/AC4LN and AC4LN/J3. He has previously operated, as well, as VK8VB and JT1FDC. Vladimir says all the paperwork is in order for all the operations, QSLs have been ordered and he expects to start sending our cards as early as late October. QSL via Vladimir M. Bykov, 426000 Izhevsk, P.O. Box 2040, Russia. Cards sent to his AC4LN address prior to September 25th have been collected and will be answered. Additional cards sent to AC4LN will be collected in January 2003 and will then be answered. Vlad says he is willing to share info with others wanting to get licenses in these places. He can be contacted at ua4whx@mail.ru.

As this is written, the TXØ Chesterfields Islands operation has not yet happened, although so late breaking news has been released to the DX community. The 425 DX News states that the Italians were reportedly planning to operate on CB and the so-called "freeband," presumably meaning the spectrum between the legal 11 meters and the 10 meter ham band (and, perhaps, unfortunately, into the 10M CW ham band). If this occurred, the operation would not count for DXCC. If you were lucky enough to have worked them, hold onto your QSL until the legality of the operation is established, afterward. 425 DX News reports that one of the Italian ops tried to operate illegal freeband from TI9 earlier this year until expedition leaders explicitly prohibited it.

Every couple of year, there is a trouble spot in the world where it becomes next to impossible to get QSL cards into. This usually occurs when the local postal workers discover that the envelopes arriving from around the world (In particular the U.S.) often contain currency. Some obvious rules of QSLing of course are no call-signs or see-through envelopes. But no matter how careful we are occasionally there are problems. One of the current problem areas is Mongolia. Not extremely difficult DX, but not your every day white-bread DX country either. If it's your first 'JT' contact, that card is going to be important. If you are going to mail your card direct, the hams in Mongolia say the best method is to address the envelope as usual, add: VIA CHINA or VIA JAPAN at the bottom.

Ken Claerbout, K4ZW is offering another option. For those who are interested, he will act as a collection point for cards. Cards sent to him must include an SAE and greenstamp (US dollar) or NEW style IRC per call-sign. (The old style (small) IRC's are no longer good in Mongolia.) Please do not include multiple call-signs in a single envelope and do not put US postage on the return envelope, as the replies will be mailed from Mongolia. At the appropriate time, he will box up the cards up and ship them, probably to JT1BG for distribution, via registered mail or DHL. The latter is very reliable but more expensive. This will ensure that your cards get into country. From there it is up to the guys to distribute the cards and answer them. It's Ken's personal opinion that

they do care about answering QSL's. A number of them have printed some very nice cards. Others have printed several different styles of cards for those who have had multiple QSO's.

What Ken asks in return, is a small donation to help defray the cost of shipping. Combining cards and using a secure shipping method will ensure delivery and achieve some economies of scale. Ken will ship the cards every couple of months depending on the volume received and of course once he has enough to cover shipping expenses. He cannot guarantee you will receive a card. That's up to the guys on the other end. Ken's not trying to profit by doing this, nor would it be possible. Consider this an experiment. If it works and there is sufficient interest, he'll keep it going. If not, then at least it was worth a try.

Andy Chadwick,G3AB will be in Freetown, Sierra Leone from November 7 for several weeks. He plans to be QRV as 9L1AB on all bands from 6 to 160 meters mainly on CW. QSL via G3AB, Andy Chadwick, 5 Thorpe Chase, Ripon, North Yorkshire HG4 1UA, ENGLAND. You may send an e-mail request for bureau QSL cards to Andy @ g3ab.net. . A Web page has been set up at <http://www.g3ab.net/911ab.htm>.

David,DU1/N2NL will be on from the Philippines in the CQWW CW, November 23-24. He'll be single op all band low power. His plans to operate from KHØ had to be changed.

Scotland's DX Association, the GMDX Group, will have the GM5A station on the air from the Stirling and District Amateur Radio Club in CQWW. They plan to be a multi-multi entry.

Look for Thailand activity with HS4BPQ/9 will be single op - all band low power. QSL via E21EIC. Look for him on 1834 and 3524 as well as higher bands. E2ØHHK will be single op single band low power, QSL via E21EIC. E2ØNTS will also be single op single band low power, QSL via E21EIC

Larry,XW1LLR will be multi-single low power from Laos, joined by Champ,E21EIC whose Laotian call is XW1IC. QSL to CBA..

Charlie,NF4A, Paul,N4PN, and Tom,N4XP will be in Croatia for the Contest in late November. They plan to arrive in Zagreb on November 18. Before the contest, look for them daily from the 9A1A club station in Jarun, near Zagreb. They will be using their own calls - 9A5PC (NF4A) 9A4PN (N4PN) and 9A/N4XP (N4XP). QSL via their home calls. The guys will be operating during the contest with the 9A1A group. The Americans will be returning to the U.S. on November 25.

C53M will be the Gambia CQWW call for a large group of operators. C56R will be the call used before and after the contest. Operators will be DL9GFB, LA6FJA, NØDY, OH3BHL, OH9MDV, OH9MM, YL1ZF, YL2KL, YL2LY and YL3CW. They hope to have at least one directional antenna on each band, 80-6M. Their web page is <http://www.qsl.net/kudxc/c53m>.

Members of the local STARS radio club will operate from St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands (NA-106) during their anniversary tour using the callsign K9V from December 2-8th. Operators will be Joe,WF9V, William,WV9WW, Ron,W7FLE, Stacey,WG9J and Tom,W9AEB. Activity will be on 160-6 meters CW/SSB/PSK. QSL via WF9V.

Members of club stations LX5A and LX4B plan to operate special event station LXØLT between November 30 and December 8. The team will put this special call on the air for 24 hours a day in a Marathon to help generate financial support for scientific research against genetic illnesses. The group has three sponsors who will donate one cent each (three cents total) for each QSO! A goal of 20,000 QSOs has been set. Operators include LX1AQ, LX1RQ, LX1KQ, LX1TI, LX1EA, LX1ER, LX1JH, LX2RH and possibly others. Look for activity on 10-160 meters on CW,SSB, RTTY and other digital modes. For complete details check out their web page at <http://www.qsl.net/lx0lt>. QSL either via the bureau or direct to LX1RQ.

Ken,K6TA/P4ØTA and Kay,K6KO/P4ØK plan to be QRV from Aruba between December 3 and 17 including operations in the ARRL 10 and 160 Meter Contests. The two will operate from the P49V super station with two complete stations on HF plus activity on 6 meters, including a beacon. During the ARRL 160 Meter CW Contest Ken will be single-op as P4ØTA. During the ARRL 10 Meter Contest he and Kay will multi-single as P40K. Outside of the contests they will concentrate on the WARC bands and hopefully 6 meters. QSL both calls via WM6A.

Fred, F5IRO will be stationed on Reunion Island for about 4 months. Plans are to make several trips to Juan de Nova (AF-012). It's not exactly clear at this time how many trips and for how many days. While on Juan de Nova he will use the call FR5KH/J. He will be mostly on CW. QSL via F6FNU.

The Japanese Amateur Radio League (JARL) continues to celebrate their 75th anniversary with special event station 8J1OGA through January operating from the Ogasawara Islands (JD1). The islands are located about 1,000 kilometers south of Tokyo. See the October issue of The WCRA Ham Letter on line for more information.

Here's a reminder that Guantanamo Bay does not have a QSL bureau. Cards must be sent direct to the operator or the designated QSL manager. Bill, W4WX/KG4DX is the QSL manager for the following stations: KG4DX, KG4GC, KG4PK, KG4WD, KG4KD, KG4FD, KG4AU, KG4JY and KG4CQ. He does have a database of KG4 calls, so if you need assistance in locating a QSL route of someone that has operated from GTMO send an e-mail to w4wx@bellsouth.net.

### **DXCC NEWS. Bill Moore, NC1L ARRL DXCC Manager, reports the following:**

7O/OH2YY - The DXCC Desk has received evidence that the Yemen operation by Pekka Ahlqvist, OH2YY in May 2002 was conducted with written, government approval. Credit for QSOs with 7O/OH2YY between May 4 and May 11, 2002 (inclusive) will be given effective immediately.

7O1YGF - (Update) No evidence traceable to the Yemeni government has been received by the DXCC Desk to date. DXCC credit for this operation will be given only after such evidence has been presented to ARRL.

9UØX - The operation by Baldur, DJ6SI last month was approved for DXCC credit.

### **DX Potpourri**

Well known Dxr, Dr. Hrane, YT1AD plans to do some traveling through South African, Reunion and Rodriguez Islands from November 15 to 19. He may be QRV from Reunion Island.

Dave, KB2FB/DU7 lives on the Far Western tip of Panglao Island (OC-129), the Philippines where he is QRV all bands except 160M using an Icom 775DSP, putting out 200 watts. Dave is putting up a long wire in the future to be able to get on 160. He likes to be on 80M between 1200-1500z if it's open, and 15 or 20 earlier.

Jimmy, W6JKV and Mike, K6MYC plan to operate from Grenada October 31 through November 10th, concentrating on six meters. Jimmy thinks it should be a good QTH for both Europe and the U.S. with a good view from 40 degrees counter-clockwise to 330 degrees, and with a good antenna and good power level.

Henri, F6EAY (ex J28FF) is now in Kabul, Afghanistan. He is on a work assignment here for several years and is awaiting his call sign. QSL via F6ITD.

Rudi, ZS6DX has been authorized to use special call ZSØ2AM (yes, ZS zero-two) for the next year. QSL via ZS6DX.

Leo, W3LEO is now active from Portpatrick in southwest Scotland until November 16. His call sign is MMØLEO. Leo is using an Icom 706 (100 watts), an R-5 vertical and a 40 meter dipole. QSL via W3LEO.

Starting around the beginning of November Mario, ex EY8TM will be in the Monrovia, Liberia area. He expects to be QRV as EL2TM for about 3 years. QSL via F6FNU.

Clemens Bopp, DL2GAN expects to be operational from Martinique from November 8 to 28 as FM/DL2GAN. Most likely the best times to look for him will be from 11-12Z and from 02-03Z. He will be QRV on 10, 15 and 20 meters CW and SSB. QSL via DL2GAN.

Joe, G3MRC is currently QRV as 7Q7BP and expects to be active from Malawi "until at least early next year". QSL via G3MRC, Brian J. Poole, 18, Grosvenor Avenue, Kidderminster, Worcs., DY10 1SS, ENGLAND.

The popular #CQDX chat room for DXers has a new address. Please reconfigure your IRC client to connect to irc.radiochat.org. Information about the room and software configuration instructions can be found at <http://dx.qsl.net/cqdx>.

On October 21, 2002, the postal symbol for the province of Newfoundland and Labrador was changed from NF to NL. Canada Post will continue to recognize NF for a period of six months after implementation of the new symbol.

TIME	DATE	CONTEST/EVENT NAME	BAND	MODE
0000z 2400z	Nov. 1 Nov. 7	Hungary QRP Contest	80-10 Meters	CW
1200z 1200z	Nov. 2 Nov. 3	Ukrainian DX Contest	80-10 Meters	CW,SSB & RTTY
2100z 0300z	Nov. 2 Nov. 4	ARRL Sweepstakes	160-10 Meters	CW
2100z 0300z	Nov. 2 Nov. 4	Running of the Bulls QRP Contest	80-10 Meters	CW
0900z 1700z	Nov. 3 Nov. 3	High Speed CW Contest	80-10 Meters	CW
*Mandatory off time 1100-1500z				
1100z 1700z	Nov. 3 Nov. 3	DARC Digital Contest "Corona"	10 Meters	Digi-Modes
2300z 2300z	Nov. 8 Nov.10	Japan Int'l DX Contest	80-10 Meters	SSB
0000z 2359z	Nov. 9 Nov.10	Worked All Europe DX Contest	80-10 Meters	RTTY
1200z 1200z	Nov. 9 Nov.10	OK/OM (Czech/Slovak) DX Contest	160-10 Meters	CW
1600z 2200z	Nov.15 Nov.15	Romania Int'l PSK-31 Contest	160-10 Meters	PSK-31
1200z 1200z	Nov.16 Nov.17	Bulgaria DX Contest	160-10 Meters	CW
2100z 0300z	Nov.16 Nov.18	ARRL Phone Sweepstakes	80-10 Meters	SSB

2100z	Nov.16	RSGB	160 Meter	
0100z	Nov.17 Contest		160 Meters	CW
0000z	Nov.23	CQ WW		
2359z	Nov.24	DX Contest	160-10 Meters	CW
1700z	Nov.23	LI/NJ "Doghouse"		
2100z	Nov.23	QRP Sprint	160-10 Meters	CW

That's it for me this month. I'm a little late due to a busy office schedule, but hopefully this will be of some help as you scour the bands. Special thanks this month to The Daily DX, DX-NL Newsletter, ARRL, OPDX and the SK3BG Contest Service for information used.

Until next month,

73 es Good DX

## FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT'S GAVEL

Greetings, members and friends of WCRA from your friendly neighborhood vice president. The program for the November meeting is so very exciting. We will be holding an auction, and yours truly will pretend to be an auctioneer. My auctioneering skills all by itself should make for a fun meeting. December is likely to be forgone in the stead of a holiday party. January will belong to Bruce, K9OZ (k9oz@arrl.net) for the hamfest. February should be a radio monitoring presentation. Stay tuned for further information as it develops.

As always, contact me if you have any ideas for a program. 73, Steve, N9OA

## HAMFEST CHAIRMAN REPORTS:

The Hamfest Committee toured the Kane County Fairgrounds on Saturday, October 19. Plans are being firmed up, and it appears we have plenty of room for close to 400 tables. Tables are being sold and reaction from commercial and flea market vendors to the new site is positive.

Due to the venue change, we will need more manpower the day of the Hamfest than we needed the past three years. We are looking for people who want to volunteer to help the day of the hamfest. Anyone interested, contact John Baker, KC9OO. Tickets are also available for advanced sale. Anyone interested in ticket sales should contact John Wiley, K9FID.

## TRAFFIC HEARD ON THE NET

I wish to commend Don Motz for his dedication and desire to make the hamletter the best that it can be. I found great humor in his plea for material to publish. Luckily, I live northwest of Don, so if his bodily functions run amuck, I'll be safe as long as I do not encounter a wind from the south/southeast. But seriously, how does one publish a newsletter, with nothing but blank pages? I for one, have never made a submission, but I have always read what others have. So Don, you have my admiration, and thanks, for making a nice newsletter for us to read every month.

Tom N9WBW

A college graduate applied for a job at the Central Intelligence Agency.

Together with several other applicants, he was given a sealed envelope and told to take it to the fourth floor.

As soon as the young man was alone, he stepped into an empty hallway and opened the packet.

Inside, a message read:

"You're our kind of person. Report to the fifth floor."

Seen on: Cleanlaugh List <cleanlaugh@cybersaltlists.org>

I am sending this message to all WCRA members for whom I have email addresses. Please be assured that mass mailings of this sort will be very few. At the last meeting there was a bit of confusion about email lists, especially the Hamletter mail list vs. the WCRA mail reflector. I'll attempt to clarify the purpose of the different lists.

Don, N9NYX, maintains an email list for the purpose of notifying members that the most recent copy of the Hamletter has been posted on the Web - that address is <<http://www.WheatonHamfest.org>>[www.WheatonHamfest.org](http://www.WheatonHamfest.org) - follow the links to obtain the Hamletter. Remember that, even though we have resumed printing the Hamletter, the printed copy is a much more abbreviated version than is available on the Web site. If you are not receiving email from Don, please contact him with your email address. His email address is <<mailto:donlin@xnet.com>>[donlin@xnet.com](mailto:donlin@xnet.com).

The WCRA email reflector was created to provide a place for WCRA members to post notes of interest to other club members, including items for sale. Unlike the on-the-air nets, there is no restriction on listing prices. Many members have refrained from subscribing to the reflector due to bad experiences with other mail lists (lots of noise, little content). The WCRA reflector has very few postings (last month there were 3!)

Only WCRA members may subscribe to the reflector. I personally look up every subscription request and attempt to match the email address against the club roster. If I can't find a match, I send an email to the requestor asking for their call sign and then I look that up in the roster. Not one spammer has ever succeeded in subscribing to our list. I also prevent spammers from harvesting email addresses from the list by preventing anyone (even subscribers) from obtaining a list of subscribers.

Some members may be concerned about obtaining a virus though list postings. Messages posted to the list may not contain attachments and must be plain text only (no HTML). In addition to these precautions the list server has very good virus protection.

If you would like to subscribe to the list, go to <<http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/wcra>><http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/wcra> and enter your email address and a password. Please remember that the email address that you enter must be the address that you will use to post messages. So if you use an alias such as <[mailto:your\\_call@arrl.net](mailto:your_call@arrl.net)>[your\\_call@arrl.net](mailto:your_call@arrl.net) you will need to configure your email software to have this as the return address - this is not possible with all ISP's. If in doubt just use your normal email. Posting a message to the reflector is as easy as sending a message to <<mailto:wcra@mailman.qth.net>>[wcra@mailman.qth.net](mailto:wcra@mailman.qth.net)

If you have any questions or need assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me at <<mailto:n9ef@arrl.net>>[n9ef@arrl.net](mailto:n9ef@arrl.net)

Thanks & 73, Robert

**BIRTHDAYS OF NOVEMBER**



MARK	W9UZ	11-10-35
ROBERTO	WA9E	11-21-50
LARRY	KA9KDC	11-22-58
JOE	N9WRO	11-22-43
ROBERT	N9IRY	11-26-37

**BACK  
AGAIN**

**ANCHORS...ANCHORS...ANCHORS**

Pls put in hamletter:

Yeasu FT-50 dual bander \$175.00 and Icom IC-Q7A \$85.00. Contact Kurt KB9RTO@arrl.net

AN/GRA-4 Field Antenna System \$150.00

This field portable "kit" consists of 16 interlocking alloy sections, 12 guy ropes w/rings, 1 halyard, 1 counterpoise, 1 mast tip, 4 metal guy stakes (at least), one base plate, one base swivel stake, one isolator (insulator), and the carrier for transporting the kit. The mast is 45 feet high when completely assembled, and can withstand very high winds when correctly guyed. Excellent for hoisting dipoles and other wire-type antennas, for field day or otherwise. By using the isolator, the mast itself can also be used as a vertical radiator. I can be reached at w9srb@arrl.net (email) or call (630) 462-7365 and leave a message. Thanks, Steve

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## NOVEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- 1st of November: Monthly membership meeting at Wheaton College 7:30pm in classroom #138 in the Billy Graham Center. The Billy Graham Center is located on the South side of Seminary Avenue across from Old Main. Classroom #138 can be reached by entering the front of the building, turning right and then left when reaching the hallway. Proceed down the hallway until classroom #138. Program for the November meeting will be the annual club auction presented by N9OA.
- 5th of November: Club breakfast **every** Tuesday morning 7-9 AM, Glen Oaks Restaurant, Glen Ellyn
- 7th of November: Club brunch **1st & 3rd** Thursday at 10:30 AM, Carol's Garden, Carol Stream
- 15th of November: **DEADLINE FOR HAMLETTER SUBMISSIONS FOR DECEMBER.** Remember we are doing a limited printed edition. Please be prompt.
- 21st of November: VEC testing at the Helen Plum Library in Lombard from 6:30 till 8:30pm. One week early because of Thanksgiving.

### WCRA General Membership Meeting - November 1st - Wheaton College - 7:30 PM

WCRA was founded in 1948 and continues to be involved in all facets of Amateur Radio supporting the healthy growth of the hobby through diversification and participation. Our members have always been our most important asset and we would like to see you join us for our next meeting. Our business meetings are followed by a break for conversation, coffee, soda pop, and fat pills. This is followed by an amateur radio related program. We would like to see you there to share the enthusiasm.

## HAMLETTER

### Newsletter Address:

526 South Gables Boulevard  
Wheaton, Illinois 60187-4728  
eMail: donlin67@ameritech.net

### Club Mailing Address:

Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs  
P.O. Box QSL  
Wheaton, Illinois 60189

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