



HAMLETTER



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WCRA MEMBERS TAKE PART IN TOPOFF 2

from Wayne Kiser, KF9JC

As the sun was rising on Thursday, May 15, some members of WCRA were getting ready for the widely-publicized disaster drill called Operation TOPOFF 2. DuPage County's Office of Emergency Management (OEM) concentrated on a bioterrorist attack simulation which involved distributing nearly 3300 antibiotic doses to those caught in the attack. These activities, which took place at the county fairgrounds, kept radio operators and support personnel busy.

WCRA members who work in a paid on call basis managed various aspects of the drill. Joe LeFebver, N9WRO; John Cheney, N9MWF; and Kurt Rubin, KB9RTO, were among them. Bruce Dillingham, KA0DSF; and Wayne Kiser, KF9JC, operated the radio consoles in MACH 1, the county communications vehicle, and at the Emergency Operations Center (OEC), passing traffic.

John Zeilstra, N9PPO, and Janie Gallina, AE9JG, were among the amateurs that worked with the Salvation Army. Janie coordinated communications between the emergency site and a command post at Midway Airport. She says, the exercise was "very organized and very well thought out."

But WCRA members were not the only names you might recognize. Among the dignitaries involved were County Board Chairman, Robert Schillerstrom; Homeland Security Department Secretary, Tom Ridge; and Illinois Governor, Rod Blagojevich. In a news conference, Ridge said that lessons learned here will make other U.S. cities safer.

The event, which cost \$16 million nationally, was not the first TOPOFF. An earlier exercise was conducted two years ago.

ALONG THE PARTY LINE.....by THE POSTMAN

(Editor's Note: The third party who "reads the mail" could be called a postman, so we're looking for ham gossip. If you have an item that you think would be interesting for our readers—send it in!)

K9ZE(Ron) and XYL(Susan) were in town over the weekend of May 2-4 to attend a wedding. Ron is the former Hamletter editor, and Susan was the Club President.

John Boughton, retired club member, has set up his station in the desert and can be heard from his new location on 40 meters. Give him a call.

Bob, WB9FEA, took spill recently and injured his back. So he was hamming from a prone position. Latest report is that he's moving about again, and is targeting a full recovery by the time Field Day comes around. Get well soon, Bob.

Another Health & Welfare note; George Hanna (WB9FOQ) who has been "out and about" after recovering from a stroke, had a set back recently. He was checking his mailbox and fell, breaking his arm. Now in rehab at Alexian Brothers, we hope he'll be back in circulation soon.

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QST REVIEW—MAY 2003 ISSUE

by Jim Ward, W9DHX

(Editor's Note: With the \$4.99 price tag on the ARRL magazine, some of you might want to pick it up at the Library...these are some of the articles our reviewer thought would interest you. Ed.)

This is the "annual Antenna Issue", featuring three articles on (1) how to make a go-anywhere antenna out of two broomsticks and some wire (2) a portable 15-meter beam called the "Black Widow", and (3) a homeland security VHF/UHF discone—good for home security applications.(pages 33 to 41)

The lead article is on the merging of wired networks and radio-IRLP(Internet Radio Linking Project). Coming out of Vancouver British Columbia, this is a revolutionary change in ham communication akin to the move from AM to Single Sideband! Heavy reading and a challenge if you

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From the President's Gavel

by Mike Wolff, AB9AX WCRA President



Greetings all! Spring is in the air, and summer is just around the corner. By the time the Hamletter has been published, Dayton 2003 will already be a memory... Contest season has pretty well wrapped up for now, and Field Day is rapidly approaching. Hamfests seem to be somewhere within a reasonable drive about every other weekend, and more public service events are coming up as well. Its time to execute on any antenna ideas that came to mind in the doldrums of winter, unless you are swayed by the superstition that an antenna put up in good weather simply does not work well. Nonetheless, what a great time of the year to be a part of our wonderful hobby!

I did send an e-mail to those whom I was able to find e-mail addresses for regarding some upcoming opportunities for WCRA to get some publicity, and serve in a public service capacity. Because of the short time frame within which we as a club needed to react to these opportunities, I thought it prudent to put the word out as quickly as possible, and e-mail seemed to be the best avenue for this. If you would rather not be contacted in this manner, please let me know, and I will remove you from my list.

Some other good news is that things appear to be back in motion over at College of DuPage
(Continued on page 3)

WCRA Staff

Elected Officers

President	Mike Wolff	AB9AX	630: 778-1070
Vice President	Steve Peterson	N9OA	630: 742-3581
Secretary	Robert Mitilieri	N9EF	630: 510-7816
Treasurer	Jack Feldman	KA9HEL	630: 515-0377
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			
Club Truck			
Elmer/Know-Code	George Reichert	W9GWR	630: 871-1786
Elmer/Know-Code	Charlie Matthews	WB9SGD	630: 665-4506
Field Day	Frank Krozel	KG9H	630: 653-9090
Field Day	Dale Kwarta	NJ9E	630: 858-8541
Field Day	Peter Richey	N9HDW	630: 260-9447
Hamfest	Bruce Plantz	K9OZ	630: 604-0157
Chaplin	Harry Sheaffer	W9AXI	630: 483-2044
Historian			
Interference			
Refreshments	Steve Peterson	N9OA	630:742-3581
Membership			
Membership	Robert Mitilieri	N9EF	630:510-7816
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
Tech Instructor	Mike Wolff	AB9AX	630: 778-1070
Tech Instructor	Robert Mitilieri	N9EF	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

Editor	Don Motz, Jr.	N9NYX	630:665-7757
Photos	Larry Schroeder	KA9KDC	630: 665-3228
Features	Peter Barr	W9UF	630:971-8581
HAMLETTER	24 HOUR FAX		630:665-7757
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WCRA Meeting Minutes

by: Robert Mitillieri
N9EF
WCRA
Secretary



WCRA Minutes from the May 2, 2003 Meeting

The business meeting was called to order at 19:35 by the Vice President, **Steve, N9OA** and introductions were made by the board and all attendees. A motion was made to approve the minutes of the April meeting. The motion was seconded, a vote was taken and the motion was approved. Vice-President, Steve, N9OA, reported that tonight's program will be on weather spotting, next month's program will be on Field Day. Steve also mentioned that July's meeting will be the second Friday due to the July 4th holiday Treasurer, **Jack, KA9HEL**, gave

the Treasurers report. Custodian, **Roberto, WA9E**, reported that repairs to the horn and gas gauge on the truck were needed. The draw from the auxiliary tank has some problems. Roberto will be filing an insurance claim for damage to the 220 machine. Hamfest, **Bruce, K9OZ**, reported that Pheasant Run will be the new home of the WCRA Hamfest. Flyers will be printed next week. Elmer, **George, W9GWR**, reported that there were three students remaining in the Know Code class. Public Service, **Joe, N9WRO**, reported that Trails Day will be on 6/7. It is uncertain whether or not WCRA's services will be needed. Field Day, **Dale, NJ9E**, reported that Field Day will be held on 6/28 and 6/29 at Panfish Park. A new member of the Field Day committee is **Peter, N9HDW**. The Porta-Potties are confirmed. Frank gave a report on the station captains. Still needed: captains for 80 SSB, 20 CW, and 10 CW. Also needed: someone to handle publicity, an ATV station, APRS and PSK31, a chairperson for the food committee, assistance for gasoline runs. Peter mentioned that each station needs a computer running the CT logging program (which is now available for free). We can receive 100 points for publicity in the media, 100 points for a public information table, 100 points for a QRP station. We need someone to run the GOTA station. VE Program, **Mike, AB9AX**, reported that the next session will be on 5/22 in the Helen Plum library. Hamletter, **Jim, W9DHX**, had some suggestions for columns: a gossip column, letters to the editor, articles of interest from recent issues of QST. Announcements: There will be an estate sale of the equipment of **K9KPM (SK)** on 5/10 at 1107 Woodrow Ave in Lombard. **Judy, N9TDU**, will be selling some of **John's, W9LQL (SK)**, equipment tomorrow, 5/3, from 9-3 at 1304 Brighton in Wheaton. New Business: Dale, NJ9E made a motion to allocate \$800 for Field Day, **Frank, KG9H** seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried. A motion was made to accept the committee reports, the motion was seconded and carried. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded. A vote was taken and the motion was carried and the meeting was adjourned at 20:10.

(From The President's Gavel)

regarding the WCRA 2 meter and 1.35 meter repeaters. Apparently, the station manager had been waiting for negotiations to finish up with wireless internet and cellular carriers interested in using the C.O.D. tower as a site for commercial purposes. Now that Comcast has decided to offer a cable-based broad band internet service in Glen Ellyn, the wireless internet market seems to have dwindled there, and the cellular carrier has also apparently lost interest. Though the details are not known at the time of writing, we know that the negotiation phase is done, and that one more obstacle is out of the way. I believe the R.A.B. will have more to report over the summer. I think we are all optimistic that the antenna work at the site could be completed in the next couple of months. In the mean time, if you have 70 cm capability, please try out our machine in Downers Grove. If you haven't, you are in for a treat! This machine covers the near to far western suburbs very well, and it is a real
(Continued on Page 4)

(From the President's Gavel continued from page 3)

pleasure to operate with it. If you can, get on it and see what it can do. With the recent commercial interests in our 70 cm spectrum, it would be good for the amateur community to show that there isn't any room for the commercial interests in 70 cm.

Lastly, I want to let you all know that the regularly scheduled meetings are shifted somewhat for June and July. For June only, our meeting will take place at the normally scheduled time, with a slight shift in location. Instead of meeting in room 138, the club meeting will be held in room 250 of the Billy Graham Center at Wheaton College. For July, the meeting has been pushed back a week to July 11th, as the first Friday in July is the Independence Day Holiday. This meeting will be back in room 138 at the Billy Graham Center. In August, we will resume our normal meeting location and date.

73,

Mike -- AB9AX

ALONG THE PARTY LINE.....by THE POSTMAN

Need a Powerpoint show for your organization? Roberto's daughter, Lauren(KBNDTE) and wife went to Thailand for the Boy/Girl Scout Jamboree and took a lot of pictures. Their travelogue was put into powerpoint by Roberto's son, Nick(KB9FFS). So it is a real family show. Phone is good in the Roster.

If you missed the e-mail address of our speaker for the May meeting it is radarrich@aol.com

(A reminder—"The Postman Depends Upon His Freinds" —send in your articles to the Newsletter Editor by e-mail).

LETTERS TO THE HAMLETTER EDITOR

by Nicely Dunn, N9ABC

Dear Editor:

I just got my ticket and have a 2-Meter Handheld, and have tuned it to the repeater frequency. However, when I try to access the repeater nothing happens. I have a friendly voice, and don't see why no one wants to talk to me.

Disappointed

Ed: Thanks for the letter You are missing the PL(private line)tone which "opens the door" to the repeater. Talk to your "Elmer"(the ham who helped you get your license) about this adjustment. You also need to have the "offset"
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QST REVIEW—MAY 2003 ISSUE

want to work the world on a handheld. It is five pages of copy, photos and charts. If you want to stay involved with what is happening in our hobby, this is a "must read."(p.28)

If you ever traveled to London and didn't take a handheld with you, then you should go back and try it again. A Notre Dame professor and avid ham(WD4MSM) gives the narrative on his radio-oriented visit to one of the world's great cities and the city's wonders as they relate to our hobby. Even if you aren't going to make the trip—its fun to read about his visit.(p. 43)

Old radios get mention—a review of the NC-173 and others like it by National. You collectors take note and turn green with envy!(p.88)

QRP fans can glory in the article on "The RockMite" , a \$25 kit from Small Wonder Labs. A special box for the kit comes from another source for \$23!(p. 86)

Finally, if you are plagued by "Spam" in your e-mail, the QST Editor has taken on the difficult task of telling you how to control it. First rule, NEVER respond to a SPAM message. Two pages of good advice(p. 42)



Activities on the HF Bands

by:
Peter Barr
W9UF

Special thanks to The Daily DX for the following report:

It appears that East Timor is off the air. As Thor Stefansson, 4W6MM says it, it "is well and truly QRT." A change of staff at U.N. headquarters in New York led to an official sending out a message saying that since the "UNTAET" organization's charter in East Timor expired May 20th of 2002, all ham radio operating authority also expired on that date. A successor organization called "UNMISSET" does not have the same telecommunications and other authority that UNTAET had; an emerging East Timor government is expected to take over responsibility for administrative things such as ham radio licensing, and it has yet to "take up the reins" on this.

Thor says East Timor now has its own telephone country code, leading him to speculate that it now has ITU status and "a callsign allocation is only a formality away." Thor is eager for this to happen as soon as possible. He wants to get back on the air because he realized the towers of the old site of the Portuguese Telecommunications antenna farm (MARKONI) by his house made it possible to put up a rhombic directly overhead. He bought 1,000 feet of two-conductor wire which had to be unraveled, a day-long job in hot weather, then two weekends up the 150-foot towers assisted by Dan, VK8AN and Peter, G3WQU. The rhombic is indeed up at 150 feet, pointed at 315 degrees, each leg approximately 350 feet. After all this work, Thor is now suffering from muscle cramps as he recovers. Inside his hamshack, an Emtron DX-2SP full legal power amplifier is waiting. He thinks he's going to finally be loud with the amp and big antenna.

Thor is scheduled to leave East Timor and UN service on June 30th so operating time is running out for him. G3WQU, mentioned above, has chosen to go for the comforts of an apartment house with air conditioning, satellite TV and a hot shower, so he will be moving and just using a vertical antenna at the new QTH, once Thor leaves. Says Thor, "The house will fall into the hands of the landlord when I leave. I will try to instruct him to protect the antenna and feedlines for future DXpeditions may want to use the rhombic. The Force-12 C3S will stay on top of the tower fixed on the USA." Thor requested the callsign 4U1ET for the UN mission in East Timor, but that now appears unlikely at best, given the response from UNHQ in New York.

Previous operations from East Timor with the 4W callsign prefix were under a United Nations provision allowing authorization and administration of ham radio operations by the United Nations "during clearly defined transitional periods in the absence of a national government." That period officially ended, according to UN officials, on May 20th, 2002. Consequently, all valid operations from East Timor now appear to have been limited to the period of March 1, 2000 and May 20, 2002.

After that date, licenses apparently have to be issued by the newly-created Ministry of Transport and Communications in East Timor, led by that bureau's minister, Dr. Joao Carrascalao. Apparently no licenses have yet been issued by Dr. Carrascalao.

Mark, YI/NG5L is using a Harris Radio "manpack" for his Iraq operation with a 20M dipole. He initially started with a vehicle radio and 75 watts. "That went away and I've requested an IC-706 from home, but I don't know if my girlfriend is going to make that happen. I have nothing but time here to operate, but 20W just isn't much fun on this Harris rig right now." Mark expected to be on from Baghdad by May fourth. Look for him on 14.240.

A sixth operator has joined July's week-long 7P8 Lesotho DXpedition. That will give the group even more expertise on CW and digital mode operations. The newest operator to join the group is Igor Zdorov, WØIZ, of Minneapolis, MN. Look for 7P8CF and 7P8TA to be the main phone ops, while 7P8MJ, 7P8NK, and 7P8DA,

7P8IZ will be mostly CW and digital modes. This all modes, all band operation is being sponsored by the Texas DX Society and the Lone Star DX Association. . QSL routes for the July 18-25th 7P8 DXpedition are as follows:

7P8CF--K5LBU--Frosty	7P8NK--VA7DX--Neil
7P8TA--WW5L--Tom	7P9DA--K4SV--Dave
7P8MJ--W5MJ--Madison	7P8IZ--WØIZ--Igor

QSL each call individually since there won't be a main DXpedition callsign. A web page will be announced later. ADDED NOTE: K4SV and VA7DX will also be operating from Swaziland, 3DA after 7P8, but callsigns have not been issued yet.

Danny, MØGMT and Oliver, DJ9AO plan to be on the air from Cambodia from August 2 to 19. They will be operating from the "DX-shack" hotel in Sihanoukville. Licenses and callsigns will not be known until the end of June. They hope to be active with two transmitters, at the same time. Danny is creating a web page and promises more details to follow, around the end of June. Check my July column, I'll have more then.

Look for Francois, F8DVD to be active from Djerba Island (AF-083), Tunisia, using the call sign of the Djerba Scouts Radio Club, 3V8SM. Plans are to be QRV on the HF bands on SSB only from June 23 to July 4. QSLs for this operation only go to F8DVD. If sending via the bureau please write "via F8DVD/71" on the card. Direct QSLs go via Francois Bergez, 6 rue Liberte, 71000 Macon, FRANCE.

Andre, F5PEZ will be using special call TM1JNM to celebrate the 2003 French Mills Day on June 15th. Look for activity on SSB on the HF bands. QSL via F5PEZ either direct or via the bureau.

Robert, S53R arrived in Baghdad, Iraq on May 1 (see last month's column). He is with the first UN team back in the capital since the evacuation before the hostilities. S57CQ joined VK4KMT in Erbil, North Iraq, during the last week of April. They are trying to secure a valid license, but until there is an interim government formed this could be rather difficult. Bruce, WD4NGB has put together a Web page with pictures and other information on the UN WFP workers that are now in or soon expected in Iraq. Check out <http://www.wfpdx.org/>.

The National Hurricane Center's Amateur Radio station WX4NHC (formerly W4EHW) will conduct its 2003 hurricane season on-the-air station test Sunday, June 1, 1300-2200 UTC. The event will mark the first time the NHC uses its new WX4NHC call sign.

Amateur Radio Coordinator John McHugh, KU4GY, says the purpose of the annual station test is to check out all of the WX4NHC radio, computer and antenna equipment using as many modes and frequencies as possible. Some RFI monitoring also will be done. Several new operators will also receive hands-on training.

WX4NHC will operate on HF, VHF and UHF. Operation will follow this schedule: 1300z--3.911 and 7.268 SSB and 1400z UTC--14.325 MHz SSB, VHF 147.000 repeater/UHF 442.350 repeater; 1500z -- 14.070 MHz PSK31; 1700z--14.325 and 21.325 MHz SSB, IRLP Node 9210; 1800z--21.325 and 28.525 MHz SSB; 2000z--14.325 and MHz SSB. CW operation will be on 14.035, 21.035 and 28.035 MHz (times will vary).

Stations working WX4NHC are asked to provide a signal report, location and brief weather report. QSL cards are available via W4VBQ. Include an SASE with QSL requests.

The QRP WARC-Speed DX Challenge!

Sponsored by the Western Washington DX Club, the objective of this program is to work as many DXCC Entities as possible using QRP on the WARC bands (30, 17, and 12-meters) between 0000z June 1, 2003 and 2359Z May 31, 2004. QRP is defined as 5 watts output on digital (any data-transfer protocol) or CW and 10 watts PEP on SSB.

Certificates will be awarded for the top three totals from each CQ Zone in each of the categories below for working 100 entities on any single band.

This program recognizes achievement by zone - so you'll be competing against your peers!

Each month, results will be posted in the following categories:

17-meter CW, 17-meter Phone, 17-meter Digital, 17-meter Total
12-meter CW, 12-meter Phone, 12-meter Digital, 12-meter Total
30-meter CW, 30-meter Digital
Total CW, Total Phone, Total Digital, Total Overall

Enter as many or as few categories as you like. The Web site will just report what you enter each month - you're responsible for keeping the total up-to-date.

Here's the fun part - no QSL cards, no cumbersome paperwork! At the end of each month, WA7BNM will post a score submittal form on the 3830 Score Submittal Web page at <http://www.hornucopia.com/3830score/>. You enter your totals and the updated totals will be posted to the 3830 contest score reflector and CQ-contest reflectors (and forwarded to the DX and QRP reflectors, as well). At the end of the year, you'll be able to download your nice certificate!

The honor system applies. No padding your totals with the ones that you "almost" worked. No calling somebody at 100 watts (or more) and then asking for them to "stand by for my QRP signal".

This is not a contest! (Contests, by gentleman's agreement, are not conducted on the WARC bands.) It is no more a contest than the DXCC single-band awards or the DXCC DeSoto Cup. Competitive, yes, contest, no.

Kaoru, JA3MCA, Aru, JA0KNM, Jun, JJ1EQW and Kai, JE3NJZ will be active as homecall/JR6 respectively from Hateruma Island, Yaeyama Archipelago (AS-024), Okinawa, from June 6-9th. Their activity will be on both CW & SSB, 40-10 meters. Please QSL via their home callsigns by the Bureau or direct. Hateruma Island is an inhabited island in the south end of JA-land.

There are new dates for HK3JJH's SA-083 Morro Grande operation. It is now set for June 3-8, all bands but most activity on 20M. QSL direct only, with \$2, to P.O. Box 81119, Bogota, Colombia, South America.

Remember, the IOTA frequencies are:

CW 28.040 24.920 21.040 18.098 14.040 10.114 7.030 3.530
SSB 28.560 28.460 24.950 21.260 18.128 14.260 7.055 3.765

"Industry Canada" has authorized use of a special event prefix for the 50th anniversary of the National Library of Canada. Though July 27th, Canadians may use optional special prefixes, CK for VE stations, CJ for VA stations, CY for VO stations and CZ for VY stations.

DXCC Manager, NC1L, Bill Moore, reported yesterday that the following have been approved for DXCC credit: Market Reef - OJØ/JE1ZKC, OJØ/JH1ARJ, OJØ/AH7X and OJØ/JR4PMX. The dates were July 12-16, 2001. Afghanistan: YA1BV, YA1CQ, YA1JA - November 14, 2002 through March 31, 2003. Uganda: 5X1CW - License renewed through March 1, 2004. Nepal: 9N7DX - April 22, 2003 through June 19, 2003.

DX Potpourri

Larry, VQ9LA says "Just about every morning 14.085 RTTY 20M is very good for stateside contacts with Chagos." Look for Larry between , Ø13Ø-Ø3ØØz."

Ramesh, VU2RKS (YL), is now active on 20 and 15 meters as 5H9KR from Mwanza, Tanzania. She prefers QSLs direct via her Callbook address. Please remember to use Indian return postage or IRC's - no green stamps. Foreign currency is not allowed in India.

As a special thanks to those who served, Mr. QSL, Wayne Carroll, W4MPY has graciously announced that he will furnish QSLs, at no charge, to military personnel deployed to Kuwait and Iraq if the quantities are reasonable and there is a stateside shipping address. As announced last month, these contacts have been accepted by the ARRL for DXCC.

Look for the special event callsign VC3RCS to be active between June 1-30th to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the formation of the Royal Canadian Signals Corps. QSL via the operator's instructions.

Champ, E21EIC, will be back in Laos around June 3-23rd and will be active as XW1IC. His activity will

be on 160-10 meters, including the WARC bands using only 100 watts. He states the modes he will use are CW/SSB/RTTY. He will also be active in the All Asian DX Contest as a Single-Op/All Band/Low Power entry. QSL via E21EIC.

Here's what's on the web:

There was a story on NPR's "Talk of the Nation" on April 30th about Ham Radio. Visit the following Web page at: <http://discover.npr.org/rundowns/segment.jhtml?wfId=3D1248508>

For the 3-day Solar-Geophysical Forecast visit: <http://www.sel.noaa.gov/forecast.html>.

The best propagation page for Amateur Radio Operators is <http://dx.qsl.net/propagation/>.

Effective immediately, the Northern California DX Foundation (NCDXF) has a new and greatly improved Web site. Check it out at <http://www.ncdxf.org/index.html>.

Zrinko, DL/VE3ZIK (4N1DX), is the administrator of the Web site devoted to DXing and Contesting. Those interested can find it at: <http://www.contesting.info>. They claim to publish fresh DX/Contest news and QSL information every day. Also, at the end of the month they send a QSL information bulletin to. If your interested in subscribing, send an your request to zik@contesting.info.

Now, here is what's happening on the bands in the coming months. For rules and scoring, please consult your favorite contest website.

TIME	DATE	CONTEST/EVENT NAME	BAND	MODE
0000z 2359z	June 2 June 6	AGCW Activity Week	160-10	CW
1500z 1500z	June 7 June 8	IARC Region 1 Field Day	160-10	CW
0000z 2359z	June 14 June 15	ANARTS WW RTTY Contest	80-10	All Digital
0000z 2359z	June 14 June 14	Portugal Day DX Contest	80-10	Phone
1100z 1400z	June 14 June 14	Asia-Pacific Sprint	15&20	Phone
0001z 2359z	June 15 June 21	FISTS Straight Key Week	160-10	CW
0000z 2359z	June 21 June 22	All Asian DX Contest	160-10	CW
1800z 1800z 1400z 1400z	June 28 June 29 June 28 June 29	His Majesty, King of Spain Contest Marconi Memorial	160-10 160-10 160-10	Phone Phone CW

1800z	June 28	ARRL		
2100z	June 29	Field Day	All Bands	All Modes
1800z	June 28	QRP ARCI		
2300z	June 29	Milliwatt Field Day	All Bands	All Modes
0000z	July 1	RAC		
2359z	July 1	Canada Day	160- 2	CW/Phone



LETTERS TO THE HAMLETTER EDITOR

adjustment setting properly 600 down for transmitting. Good luck, and congratulations on your license.

Dear Editor:

I just wanted to blow off steam about some common "dis- courtesies" by repeater users.

First, the blow-hards who talk so long they time out the repeater. Second, (and some are the same people as No. 1), who think they are the only ones on the air, and don't listen for other stations who might want to join in the QSO. Finally, those hams who don't have an external antenna and think they can put out a 5 watt hand-held signal that can be read by the repeater from 35 miles away.

Sincerely,
Irritated

Ed: Enough said!

Dear Editor:

Since you have a direct line to the Repeater Board, can you update us on when the WCRA repeater(145.39) will be back on the original tower location? The temporary location is doing a great job, but a strain on the private life of the Club Member who is hosting it.

Impatient

Ed: This is not a simple answer. The latest word is...

(This is a sample of a new column we hope that you readers will continue by emailing your letters and comments along to thr editor.)

BIRTHDAYS OF JUNE



Dennis	KE9VG	06-04-45
Sam	N9IER	06-04-18
Paul	N9TKX	06-12-82
Don	K9VGN	06-13-26
Ruth	KA9RZG	06-20-49
Jon	KC9OO	06-26-49

As a reminder, the FCC database no longer provides date of birth as it once did. If you do not see your name appear in the list of birthdays and would like to be included please forward this information to the editor.

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A Note from the Editor:

I will share a couple of items with all of you. We have introduced some new material from you, the reader. If more of you will take the time to jot down your thoughts and comments the Hamletter will have a much wider appeal. Secondly, as of this writing the club has 86 members of which 14 do not have email addresses. Two of these are harmonics of KA9KDC and KB9FYL and two are a married couple. I will mail out eleven copies to the remaining individuals. Use of the electronic Hamletter saves the club printing and mailing costs but does not allow those with email to receive a copy via snail mail. Feedback by email to the address on the last page would be appreciated.

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JUNE CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- 1st of June: The Starved Rock Radio Club's Hamfest at the Bureau County Fairgrounds at 8 am.
- 3rd of June: Club breakfast **every** Tuesday morning 7-9 AM, Glen Oaks Restaurant, Glen Ellyn
- 5th of June: Club brunch **1st & 3rd** Thursday at 10:30 AM, Carol's Garden, Carol Stream
- 6th of June: Monthly membership meeting at Wheaton College 7:30pm in classroom #250 in the Billy Graham Center. The Billy Graham Center is located on the South side of Seminary Avenue across from Old Main. Classroom #250 can be reached by entering the front of the building, turning right and then left when reaching the hallway. Proceed south down the hallway until stairway up to classroom #250. Program is on Field Day.
- 8th of June: Six Meter Club Of Chicago's 46th Annual Hamfest at the DuPage County Fairgrounds @ 8am
- 15th of June: **DEADLINE FOR HAMLETTER SUBMISSIONS FOR JUNE.** Remember we are doing a limited printed edition. **Please be prompt.**
- 26th of June: VEC testing at the Helen Plum Library in Lombard from 6:30 till 8:30pm.

WCRA General Membership Meeting - June 6th - 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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