



# HAMLETTER



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Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs

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## Hamfest Update

### Mid-Winter Hamfest Sunday, January 25, 2004

Fall is here, that means our January Hamfest is only a few months away. That means it's time for preparations to kick into high gear. The hamfest will be held January 26 at the Pheasant Run Convention Center. This new venue should be very popular. The buzz I've heard at various hamfests has been very positive, both from vendors and attendees.

As for preparations, tickets are printed and have been on sale for a couple months. It's time to get serious about ticket sales, so someone will have tickets for sale or consignment at the November club meeting. If you can't make the meeting and still want tickets, contact Mary James, K9GAL at mmaryj@aol.com or 630/968-1844.

As for tables, Bill Hollister, K9WH, has been busy on commercial sales and reports good response to the new venue. We have gotten some flea market table requests already, based on our flyers. The main mailing for flyers will go out in early November, then the fun really starts. Mike Wolff, AB9AX, is doing double duty as flea market chair and club president. If you'd like to help Mike on flea markets, let him know.

Publicity is being handled by Mary and myself. We have done a mailing with free tickets to all area clubs, and are notifying QST and CQ. We are also preparing the ad for January QST. We've been certified with the ARRL for months and listed on their web site.

The committee will meet in November, hopefully at the location. I'm still working on setting that up. If that fails, we will meet at my home.

One key committee position that is open is worker recruitment. John, KC9OO ably handled that last year, but he would like to pass the baton. This will be a little simpler this year, as the venue will set up and tear down the tables as part of the rental. That means our worker needs are ticket sales, door guards, etc.

If you'd like to be involved at the committee level, please let me know at k9oz@aol.com.

Here are the committee members as I have them listed. If I've omitted someone, let me know.

Bruce,	K9OZ	Chairman
Mary,	K9GAL	Publicity and tickets
Bill H.	K9WH	Commerical vendors - with assistance from
....		
Mike	AB9AX	Flea market - with assistance from ...
Jack	KA9HEL	Treasurer
Kurt	KB9RTO	Logistics
Tom	N9WBW	Move-in Move-out coordinator
Doug	W9NJM	Prizes/AV
Peter	N9HDW	AV etc
Ken	N9HQ	Security -- \$\$\$ transfer
Tom	N9CBA	Web site
Janie	AE9JG	VE coordinator
Robert	N9XS	
Worker coordinator		open

**IN THIS ISSUE:**

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# From the President's Gavel

by Mike Wolff, AB9AX WCRA President



Happy Fall All!

Well, it is here, the leaves are half gone from the trees, and contest season is upon us. The weekend of 10/25 and 10/26 has come and gone, following a sizeable solar flare. Did you get on the air during the weekend? It was still amazing. I spent most of that weekend putting up a new Hustler 5BTV on the roof of my garage. I was happy to get on the air after dark and hear a little DX on 10 meters, a bit more on 15 meters, lots of it on 20 meters, and a wild time late Saturday night on 40 meters working split into Europe. The new antenna needs to be tuned some more, but I was able to do some DXing with it that simply was not happening on the G5RV. I'm not going to write a review for the antenna here, but I think it is going to do what I want it to do, and fill some of the voids in low-band DXing that are inherent to a doublet only 35 feet off the ground. In any case, more wire in the air in the form of radials will probably make things even better.

Not all was well with all of our folks on that weekend. George (KA3HSW), an active SSTV'er on 20 meters was again frustrated by those that demonstrate poor operating practices by knowingly interfering with SSTV transmissions in progress. The sad truth is, some out there are willing to cross the line and knowingly cause interference with another ham's QSO in progress to 'run' a frequency in a contest. Certainly,

## WCRA Staff

### Elected Officers

President	Mike Wolff	AB9AX	630: 778-1070
Vice President	Steve Peterson	N9OA	630: 742-3581
Secretary	Robert Mitiieri	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 Kwart	NJ9E	630: 858-8541
Club Awards	John Cheney	N9MWF	708: 848-2885
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 Kwart	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 Mitiieri 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 John Cheney N9MWF 708: 848-2885

### Amateur License Staff

Training Classes Jack Feldman KA9HEL 630: 515-0377

Tech Instructor Mike Wolff AB9AX 630: 778-1070

Tech Instructor Robert Mitiieri 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

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# WCRA Meeting Minutes

by: Robert Mitilieri  
N9EF  
WCRA  
Secretary



## WCRA Meeting Minutes for the October 3rd 2003 Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 19:39 by the President, **Mike AB9AX** and introductions were made by the board and all in attendance. There was a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting by **KC9BJJ**. The motion was seconded by **N9NYX**, a vote was taken, and the motion carried. Mike reported that **Dorwin, KB9YYT** has a new baby girl. The next board meeting is 10/19 at 2:30 at Giordano's in Glenn Ellyn. The Vice-

President, **Steve, N9OA**, reported that tonight's program is show and tell. Next month's program will be an auction. Secretary, **Robert, N9EF**, mentioned that he designed a new WCRA web site and sought member's opinions before he replaced the old site. The new web pages will be available for viewing after the business meeting. Treasurer, **Jack, KA9HEL**, reported that the truck was the biggest expense at \$1295. **N9LIN** asked about Vicki's generator. Jack said that he was giving Roberto a check to buy a replacement. Hamfest, Mike AB9AX, mentioned that another Hamfest committee meeting was coming up. RAB, Don, N9NYX, spoke with COD, they are ordering the stand-offs for the antennas. **Roberto, WA9E**, mentioned that there may be a possibility for another site. Don said that the RAB looks into all possibilities. Training, Jack, KA9HEL, mentioned that so far only one person has registered for the Tech class. VE, Mike, AB9AX, reported that one person passed the Tech exam and one passed the General written at the last VE session. Hamletter, Don, N9NYX, mentioned that he is using Quark 6 to create the Hamletter files. The original file was in black & white but Don changed some settings and posted the color version. Don also mentioned that he is always looking for input for the Hamletter. There was a motion to accept the committee reports by N9NYX. The motion was seconded, a vote was taken and it carried. Old Business: John, N9LIN asked where we stand with the by-laws. Mike, AB9AX, said that he will have a copy of the proposed by-laws at the next meeting after he shows them to the attorney. Don, N9NYX, said that he can place a copy of the by-laws in the electronic version of the Hamletter. Mike mentioned that the IRS sent a notice that we owe them a penalty or an explanation as to why we do not have to pay. Mike will mail an explanation tomorrow. We received a bill for \$1200 from the CPA, Mike has requested an itemized bill. KC9BJJ asked if the CPA said that we needed an audit. Does the completion of the forms qualify as an audit. There need to be procedures in place to prevent this from happening again. Mike said that the changes in the by-laws will address this. A motion was made by W9NJM to adjourn the meeting, it was seconded by **N9GLZ**. A vote was taken and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 20:32.

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### FROM THE PRESIDENT'S GAVEL

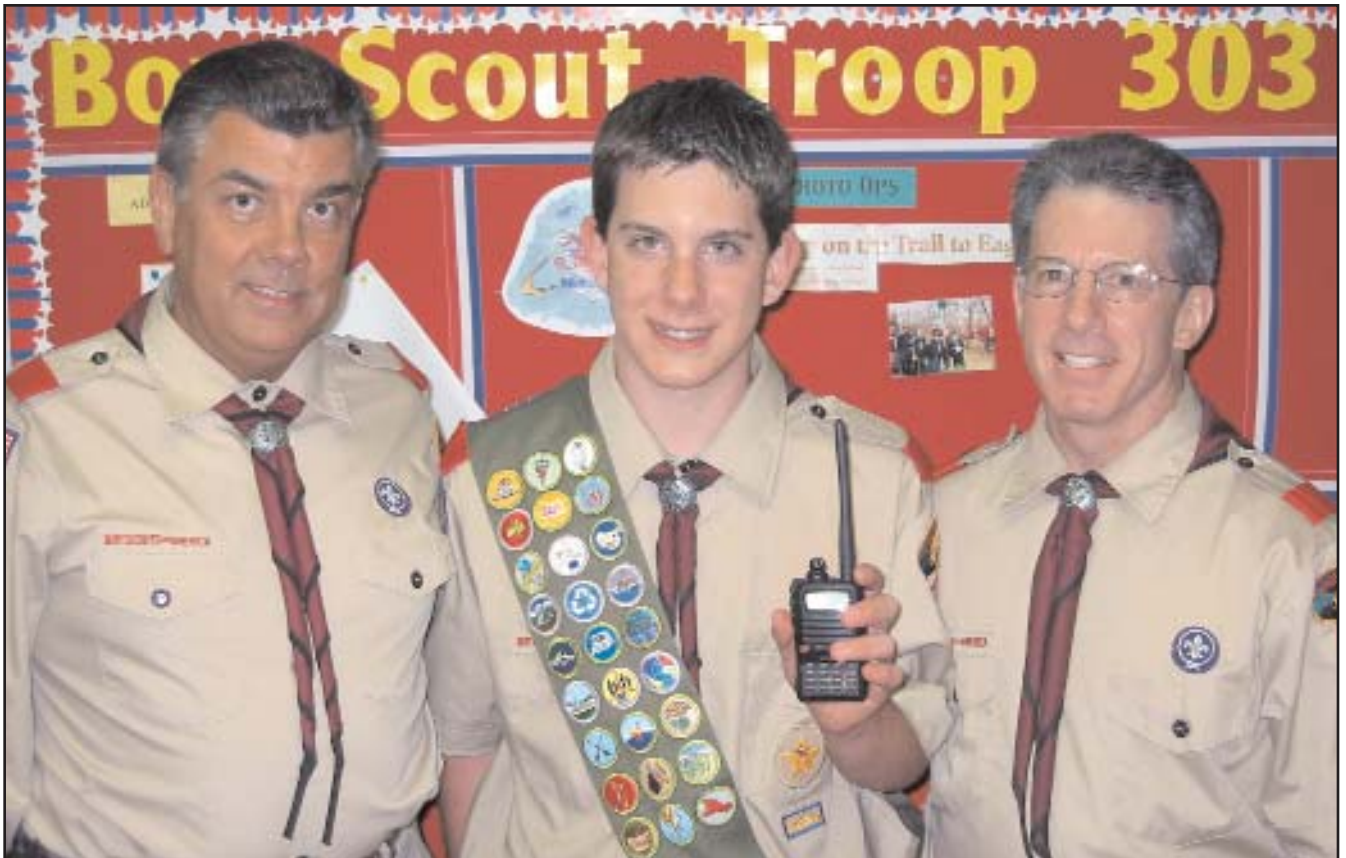
there are contesters and non-contesters in the hobby, and many strong opinions both pro and con, but what George related to me goes beyond strong opinions, and into the realm of illegal operation. Certainly, contesting is a competitive 'sport' amongst those that participate in such. However, for an operator to move onto frequencies that are internationally recognized for SSTV use per band plans (not exactly legally binding, but a gentlemen's agreement nonetheless), and knowingly interferes with non-contest QSOs in progress demonstrates a problem. The problem is commonly perceived to be with contesting, but really is a character flaw in the individual that existed long before the operator was licensed. An application of the Golden Rule and a radical application of common sense on the bands would generate more good will and less quibbling amongst our ranks. Also, consider that such malevolence as was demonstrated to George and many other SSTV'ers this past weekend can carry some serious legal consequences for an operator, as this type of operating is likely to be interpreted as malicious interference.

# QST Review

WCRA Members Make QST “Up Front” Pages(page 20)

That great combination of Boy Scouts and Ham Radio pushed Frank, KG9H, and son Brandon, KC9DNH, to page 20 of this month’s issue. They are joined by Troop 303

Asst. Scoutmaster, Jess, also a ham—KC9DLJ. Good looking trio, and the magazine arrived just in time for the annual Jamboree on the Air. The picture is reproduced below.



“Destination Shanghai” takes you “on tour.”(page 51)

What an adventure to be the guest of the local ham radio shop—the only one in this city of 14 million, with 94 club stations. New Jersey resident Ray Jacobs, W2RJJ, planned such a trip with the help of his wife, Ming, who happens to call Shanghai here home town. Ray takes you around the city and into a classroom, where he tries to convince some students to become “hams of the future.”

WFOY(Fountain of Youth) Becomes an Artifact(page 56)

The pioneer AM station built in St. Augustine, Florida, has been saved from extinction! A group of Hams discovered that the station soon would discontinue operation in the marshland. The signal performance(due to ground conductivity) had been sensational, with results far greater than was to be expected from the 135 watts put out by a Collins 20V-2 transmitter. You’ll enjoy the story of how the Collins equipment will be moved over to 160 meters for a museum demonstration station.

## **QST REVIEW** Cont

“Ham Radio in Space” Anniversaries in November (page 59)

First Ham to operate from Space? That was 20 years ago and the call was W5LFL, Owen Garriott. November 30th, 1983. Another notable date was November 1988, when there was a action from space station “Mir”. There are lots of good pictures of notable space-to-ham events recorded in this article.

Broadband over Power Line(BPL) Controversy Continues (page 84)

The FCC is getting an earful of opinions about BPL. If you’d like to add your two cents’ worth, the article will tell you how to make your voice heard.

“Morse Code Forever!”, or “Ancient History” which is it? (Page 85)

The FCC isn’t about to rush into a decision on dropping the Morse Code requirements, and you have plenty of time see the controversial comments on the web. The article tells you where to find them.



## **FROM THE PRESIDENT’S GAVEL** Cont

I am pro-contesting; however, I cannot always condone the actions of other persons that participate in such, nor would I call them like-minded. Nevertheless, the bottom line is, we are licensed operators in the Amateur Radio Service, and we have been given privilege to operate amateur radio stations. Like any privilege, a set of responsibilities comes along with that privilege. A large part of being a responsible operator is knowing and following the rules. In fact, the FCC rules include references to good engineering and operating practices, so I encourage you to join me in attempting to demonstrate good engineering and operating practices on the air. A lot of it is common sense, and another large part of it is developing good habits. Good habits are reinforced by practice, so get on the air and practice good habits that are derived from good engineering and operating practices!

See You on the Bands,

Mike - AB9AX

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## **Letter to the Editor**

Dear Editor:

I am puzzled about the WCRA reference to our being a “Public Service Club” of the ARRL. How do we, as individual members, get into the public service, and is that the same as “Emergency Service”?

Puzzled

Dear Puzzled:

Very good question, and Public Service and Emergency Service are important parts of our Club’s activities.

Our “Public Service Club” rating is maintained only if we are serving the community by communications assistance at Community events, parades, and other special events. (Continued on page 13)

*The By-Laws reproduced below need to be approved by the membership as soon as the membership makes changes and votes to approve those changes. Please read through these changes and come to the membership meeting with your proposed changes. Ed*

## **WHEATON COMMUNITY RADIO AMATEURS BY-LAWS**

### **ARTICLE I NAME**

The name of this corporation shall be Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs.

### **ARTICLE II PURPOSES**

The purposes of this Corporation shall be:

- A. To furnish the interests of Amateur Radio through active participation therein.
- A. To improve radio proficiency.
- A. To develop public relations.
- A. To prepare for any communications emergencies.
- A. To aid in the training and development of future Radio Amateurs.

### **ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP**

A. **Classes of Membership** - Classes of membership shall be FULL and Associate. FULL membership requires the holding of an amateur radio license. Associate membership shall be assigned to those interested in amateur radio, but not holding an amateur license at the time of their application. Associate members shall not have the power or right to hold a Club office. FULL members who allow their licenses to lapse shall automatically become Associate members. If a member allows his or her license to lapse while holding office, he or she may retain such office upon approval of the Executive Board.

A. **Meetings** - Regular meetings shall be held on the first Friday of each month except December, unless changed by the Board of Directors, with notice to the membership. The Annual Meeting shall replace the regular meeting in April. Special meetings of the membership may be called by the Board of Directors or by a majority of the FULL membership upon at least ten (10) days' written notice (by Email and/or mail) to the FULL membership.

C. **Quorum** - A quorum shall be the FULL members present at any regular scheduled meeting.

C. **Dues** - Dues for the respective classes of membership shall be set in the amount determined by the Board of Directors, as may be necessary for the operation of the Club. The Board of Directors at a regular meeting of the Club shall submit proposed changes to the existing dues. Adoption of the proposal may not be voted on until the next, or a subsequent meeting of the Club, prior to which time the Secretary shall notify the entire voting membership in writing and/or Email, of the proposed changes. Adoption of the proposal shall require a two-thirds affirmative vote of voting members present at the meeting set for such vote.

Students and retired members' dues shall be one-half the otherwise applicable rate. The total dues payable by all FULL members in one family household shall be one and one-half times the FULL member rate.

All dues are payable by the end of January of each year. Dues of members joining during the year shall be assessed on a semi-annual pro-rated basis after July 1, up to the following July 1. The dues of members on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States shall be suspended for the duration of their service. Upon completion of their active duty their membership may be retained by payment of dues for the current year on a semi-annual pro-rated basis.

C. **Forfeiture of Membership** - Members may be dropped from membership if:

1. The annual dues are not paid by the April meeting of each year.

1. A written resignation is submitted.

1. The members' operation or station license is suspended or revoked by the Federal Communications Commission.

1. Undesirable conduct.

a. If a FULL member desires to formally accuse another member of undesirable conduct, he/she shall provide the Club President in writing FULL details of such conduct, and concurrently furnish the accused member with a copy of such accusation.

a. The Club President shall refer such accusation to the Board of Directors for consideration. If it is determined that further action is warranted, a hearing of the accusation shall be held in an executive session of the Board of Directors, but not less than twenty-one (21) days after written notice of such hearing is received by the accused member. The accused shall have the right to appear and be assisted in his/her defense at such hearing or by any WCRA FULL member.

a. Within ten (10) days of such hearing, the Board of Directors shall determine if the accused's membership has been forfeited. The accused shall be given written notice of the decision.

a. The decision of the Board of Directors may be vetoed within six (6) months thereof out of the following procedure:

i A petition for veto signed by at least ten (10) FULL members shall be submitted to the Club President at a regular meeting.

ii The Club President shall read the petition to the members in attendance and schedule a vote on the petition for the next regular meeting.

iii A two-thirds majority vote of FULL members present at such meeting shall be required to pass the veto.

#### **ARTICLE IV OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

A. **Election of Officers** - Election of officers shall take place at the annual meeting each year, by a majority vote of the FULL members present. Officers shall serve for a term of two (2) years or until their successors are elected. Each term of office shall begin on May 1 of the year in which elected.

B. **President** - The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club, and conduct them according to the rules adopted. He/she shall enforce due observance of the By-Laws, decide all questions of order, sign all official documents adopted by the Club, appoint committee chairpersons, and perform all other duties pertaining to the office of President. At the expiration of his/her term, he/she shall turn over everything in his/her possession belonging to the Club to his/her successor.

C. **Vice President** - The Vice President shall assume all the duties of the President in his/her absence. Additionally, he/she shall make arrangements for the location, refreshments and necessary clean-up pertaining to all Club meetings, and perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Club President and as otherwise provided in these By-Laws. At the expiration of his/her term, he/she shall turn over everything in his/her possession belonging to the Club to his/her successor.

D. **Secretary** - The Secretary shall keep a record of the attendance and the proceedings of Club meetings, carry on all correspondence, read communications at each meeting, and arrange for written meeting notices to each member. At the expiration of his/her term, he/she shall turn over everything in his/her possession belonging to the Club to his/her successor.

E. **Treasurer** - The Treasurer shall receive and receipt for all money paid to the Club, keep accurate accounts of all money received and spent, and pay bills with Board of Director approval. At the end of each Quarter he/she shall submit an itemized statement of disbursement and receipts. At the expiration of his/her term, he/she shall turn over everything in his/her possession belonging to the Club to his/her successor.

F. **Property Custodian** - The duty of the Property Custodian shall be to keep control and cost data, in a bound book provided by the Club for that purpose, on all equipment owned by the Club. Such equipment may be loaned to Club members by him/her, but only for stated periods of time. The member borrowing equipment shall sign for it in the record book. Members shall be required to return equipment to the Property Custodian at the time specified, and shall not lend it to other members or non-members. It shall also be the duty of the Property Custodian to keep the equipment in good operating condition, requesting any assistance needed from the Club members. Where amounts greater than the approved budget are required to repair equipment, authorization must be approved by a majority of voting FULL members present at a regular meeting. At the expiration of his/her term, he/she shall turn over everything in his/her possession belonging to the Club to his/her successor.



G. **Removal from Office** - A proposal of removal from office of any officer shall be discussed at the meeting when such a proposal is made, but actually cannot take place until the next regular meeting. The Secretary shall notify the membership in writing of the proposed action. Adoption of the proposal requires a two-thirds affirmative vote of the members holding FULL membership present in order to remove an officer from office.

H. **Board of Directors** - This Board shall consist of the five (5) officers of the Club, of which the Club President shall preside as Chairperson. It shall be authorized to suggest policies, new projects, programs, appoint committee chairpersons, and to carry on such business as may be required in the general operation of the Club. Board of Director meetings will be announced and all FULL members may attend, except during executive sessions. An executive session of the outgoing and incoming Board of Director members shall be held not later than twenty-one (21) days following the annual meeting. A quorum shall be a majority of the Board of Directors.

H. **Vacancies** - Interim vacancies in elected offices shall be filled by a majority vote of the Board of Directors until the next annual meeting at which regular elections are held. The Board of Directors shall promptly make appointments to fill any interim Committee Chairperson vacancies.

## **ARTICLE V COMMITTEES**

This organization shall be operated under the following standing committees:

C. **Program Committee** - This Committee shall consist of up to three members, and the Vice President as Chairperson. It shall be the duty of this Committee to provide programs and refreshments for the regular meetings.

C. **Training Committee** - This Committee shall consist of not less than three members. It shall be the duty of this Committee to plan and execute a training program for future amateur radio operators. Schedules of meetings shall be set up with members of the Club serving as instructors.

C. **Public Service/Emergency Committee** - This Committee shall consist of up to four members. Subject to the approval and authorization of the Club, it shall plan and build equipment for emergency use and shall conduct such trials as are necessary for the work of the Club as an emergency unit. The Chairperson shall schedule and coordinate public service and emergency events and exercises. He/she shall maintain close liaison with the ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator to further Club participation in the Amateur Emergency Radio Service, and also coordinate activities with agencies such as the DuPage County Office of Emergency Management.

C. **Public Relations Committee** - This Committee shall consist of up to three members. It shall publicize the meetings, programs, public exhibits, field days, and other work of the Club to help the public understand the Club's activities.

C. **Field Day Committee** - This Committee shall consist of not less than three members. The Chairperson may select additional members required for this Committee. He/she shall coordinate activities in connection

with Field Day, as authorized by the Club, including the provision of food for the Field Day workers.

C. **Interference Committee** - It shall be the responsibility of this Committee to handle all interference complaints referred to it or to the Club. This Committee shall consist of up to three members.

C. **Hamfest Committee** - It shall be the responsibility of this Committee to handle all Hamfest related items and issues necessary to run the annual Hamfest. The Treasurer shall be a member of this Committee. The Chairperson shall be in charge of coordinating the subcommittees used for this event.

C. **Other Committees** - The Board of Directors may form other committees in furtherance of the interest of the Club, to include, but not limited to, such topics as Membership, Health & Welfare, Club Newsletter, Christmas Party, Club Historian, and Annual Picnic.

## **ARTICLE VI CLUB STATION LICENSE TRUSTEE**

The Trustee of any Club station license assigned to this Club must have the following qualifications:

- A. Be a FULL member of WCRA in good standing; and
- A. Shall possess a valid radio amateur license of General Class or higher.

The Board of Directors shall appoint the Trustee, and has the power to remove the Trustee from office. The Board of Directors shall have the responsibility for maintaining the validity of the Club station license.

## **ARTICLE VII REPEATER ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD**

The Repeater Administrative Board (RAB) shall administer the operation and maintenance of all Club repeaters.

C. **Organization** - The RAB shall consist of five members: Chairperson, Trustee, Secretary and two (2) standing members.

C. **Meetings** - The RAB shall meet not less than four times per year, on a quarterly basis. The Secretary of the RAB shall keep minutes of all business conducted, for future reference. The RAB shall not conduct its routine business at the regular Club meetings; however, the Club President will ask, at each regular meeting, if the RAB has a report to give.

C. **Selection of Members** - The RAB members shall be FULL members of the Club, and shall be selected according to the following rules:

1. Each fiscal year the Executive Board shall appoint two members to the RAB, each to serve a two-year term. Reappointments shall be allowed. If any RAB member resigns, the Executive Board shall appoint a member to serve for the balance of the term of the member who has resigned.

1. The Trustee of the Club's repeater license shall serve for an indefinite period. The Executive Board shall have the authority to replace the Trustee at any time, consistent with Article VI of the By-Laws. The Trustee of the Club's repeater license shall be a member of the RAB.

1. No member of the Executive Board shall serve concurrently as a member of the RAB.

1. Upon appointment of a member to the RAB, the Executive Board shall ask for a vote of confirmation from the Club members present at a regular meeting.

D. **Administrative Functions** - The RAB's administrative functions shall include the following:

1. Establishing guidelines for usage of WCRA repeaters.

1. Repeater maintenance.

1. Planning and implementing new repeater features.

E. **Requesting RAB Action** - Any FULL member may request RAB action by submitting his request, in writing, to the WCRA Secretary at a regular meeting. The request shall be read into the Club minutes and sent to the RAB for action. The request shall not be discussed until the RAB reports on the request.

E. **Reports** - The RAB shall report to the Club on each request for RAB action, on or before the third regular meeting following submission of the request. Furthermore, the RAB shall report to the Club on any operational or functional changes made in any Club repeater, at the regular meeting immediately following implementation of said changes.

G. **Vetoing RAB Action** - Any RAB action may be vetoed according to the following procedure within six months of said action by:

1. A petition for veto signed by at least ten (10) FULL members shall be submitted to the Club President at a regular meeting.

1. The President shall read the petition and schedule a vote on the petition for the NEXT regular meeting.

1. A two-thirds majority vote of FULL members present at the regular meeting immediately following submission and reading of the petition shall be required to pass the veto.

## **ARTICLE VIII INDEMNIFICATION**

### **Indemnification of officers, directors, employees and agents; insurance.**

A. The Club may indemnify any person who was or is a party, or is threatened to be made a party, to any threatened, pending or complete action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (other than an action by or in the right of the Club) by reason of the fact the he or she is or was a director,

officer, employee or agent of another Club, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection with such action, suit or proceeding, if such person acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of the Club, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful. The termination of any action, suit or proceeding by judgment, order, settlement, conviction, or upon a plea of nolo contendere or its equivalent, shall not, of itself, create a presumption that the person did not act in good faith and in a manner which he or she reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the Club, or with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, that the person had reasonable cause to believe that his or her conduct was unlawful.

A. The Club may indemnify any person who was or is a party, or is threatened to be made a party, to any threatened, pending or completed action or suit by or in the right of the Club to procure a judgment in its favor by reason of the fact that such person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the Club, or is or was serving at the request of the Club as a director, officer, employee or agent of another Club, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection with the defense or settlement of such action or suit, if such person acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of the Club, provided that no indemnification shall be made in respect of any claim, issue or matter as to which such person shall have been adjudged to be liable for negligence or misconduct in the performance of his or her duty to the Club, unless, and only to the extent that the court in which such action or suit was brought shall determine upon application that, despite the adjudication of liability, but in view of all the circumstances of the case, such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for such expenses as the court shall deem proper.

A. To the extent that a present or former director, officer or employee of a Club has been successful, on the merits or otherwise, in the defense of any action, suit or proceeding referred to in subsections A. and B., or in defense of any claim, issue or matter therein, such person shall be indemnified against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection therewith, if that person acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of the Club.

A. Any indemnification under subsections A. and B. (unless ordered by a court) shall be made by the Club only as authorized in the specific case, upon a determination that indemnification of the present or former director, officer, employee or agent is proper in the circumstances because he or she has met the applicable standard of conduct set forth in subsections A. or B. by two-thirds of the majority of the members entitled to vote.

B. Expenses (including attorneys' fees) incurred by an officer or director in defending a civil or criminal action, suit or proceeding may be paid by the Club in advance of the final disposition of such action, suit or proceeding, as authorized by the Board of Directors in the specific case, upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of the director or officer to repay such amount, unless it shall ultimately be determined that such person is entitled to be indemnified by the Club as authorized in this section. Such expenses (including attorneys' fees) incurred by former directors and officers or other employees and agents may be so paid on such terms and conditions, if any, as the Club deems appropriate.

A. Any indemnification provided by the Section shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which those seeking indemnification may be entitled under any by-law, agreement, vote of members or disin-

terested directors, or otherwise, both as to action in his or her official capacity and as to action in another capacity while holding such office, and shall continue as to a person who has ceased to be a director, officer, employee or agent, and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors and administrators of such a person.

A. A Club may purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the Club, or who is or was serving at the request of the Club as a director, officer, employee or agent of another Club, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against any liability asserted against such person and incurred by such person in any such capacity, or arising out of his or her status as such, whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify such person against such liability under the provisions of this Section.

A. If a Club indemnifies or advances expenses under subsection B. of this Section to a director or officer, the Club shall report the indemnification or advance in writing to the members entitled to vote with or before the notice of the next meeting of the members entitled to vote.

## **ARTICLE IX AMENDMENTS**

Amendments to the By-Laws or Articles of Incorporation may be proposed and discussed at any regular meeting. Proposed amendments may not be voted upon until the next regular meeting, prior to which the Secretary shall notify the membership in writing of the proposed amendment. Adoption of an amendment requires a two-thirds affirmative vote of the members holding FULL membership status who respond to the opportunity to vote. Voting members may vote an amendment by proxy.

### **Letters to the Editor** continued

So you and other members must be willing to volunteer to provide help for this important work.

How does this happen? First, Public Service: Our Public Service Chairman circulates a volunteer workers board for the specific event, and you SIGN UP! That's how we maintain our rating.

Second, Emergency Service; Joe LeFebvre, N9WRO, our P.S. Chairman wears two hats. He also is the Ham Radio Liaison with the DuPage County Office of Emergency Management. As Lieutenant LeFebvre, he is in charge of training a group of Volunteers for service in emergency work –weather disasters, floods, chemical spills—you name it. As a Ham and Club member, this takes additional commitment, for example, taking Weather Spotting Courses to qualify, as well as training courses in emergency communication techniques..

So you have two chances to help-- both Public Service and in Emergency Service, and Joe is the person to get you started in both cases. His number is 630-587-8059. He will welcome your call.

The Editor



## Activities on the HF Bands

by:  
Peter Barr  
W9UF

Two very dynamic centers of activity have emerged on the sun. NOAA Region 484 developed rapidly over three days in late October, and was responsible for a category R3 (Radio Blackout on the NOAA Space Weather Scales) major solar flare on October 19 at 16:50z. Region 484 is now one of the largest sunspot clusters to emerge during Solar Cycle 23, approximately 10 times larger than Earth. This region, which is nearing the center of the solar disk, continues to grow, and additional substantial flare activity is likely.

A second intense active region is rotating around the southeast limb of the sun. Though the sunspot group is not yet visible, two powerful eruptions occurred on 21 October as seen from the LASCO instrument on the SOHO space-

craft ([sohowww.nascom.nasa.gov/](http://sohowww.nascom.nasa.gov/)). These eruptions may herald the arrival of a volatile active center with the potential to impact various Earth systems.

Further major eruptions are possible from these active regions as they rotate across the face of the sun over the next two weeks. Agencies impacted by solar flare radio blackouts, geomagnetic storms, and solar radiation storms may experience disruptions over this two-week period. These include satellite and other spacecraft operations, power systems, navigation systems and more importantly (at least to me), HF communications.

Last month's 3CØV operation on Annabon Island came to an abrupt halt prematurely on October 4, when they were ordered to cease radio operation immediately by the military commander of the island. At 10:00 local time they were told they had "two to three hours to take everything down and be ready to leave." After dismantling the equipment and antennas and leaving nothing behind, all four operators boarded a plane to Malabo, the capital of Equatorial Guinea.

Franz Langner, DJ9ZB, one of the team members said the 3CØV crew first met with the governor of the island and the head of the military on their arrival there. At that time they were given approval to operate from both officials. The group was properly licensed and had a landing permit good for two years. A news update on their website said that even with the necessary documentation, military authorities frequently interrupted the DXpedition.

The 3CØV logs are safe and have now been loaded onto the 3CØV Web page, with the exception of phone contacts. As of October 26, these had yet to be loaded but were promised shortly. It is still unknown if the logs would be uploaded into the Logbook of the World database, as the DXCC Desk has not yet approved the 3CØV operation.

"Murphy" also struck October's Italian expedition to Maria Island in the Australs Islands - FO/IT9YRE, FO/I1SNW and FO/IT9EJW. First, a drop in the wind delayed the catamaran voyage while the group was still 80-100 miles away from Maria. Then two of the transceivers and one of the antennas were dropped into the ocean and lost during the landing. Then the generator failed to start and the ops were using a battery that was running out of juice. The team therefore made an early departure at 01:00Z October 5. They were also forced to cancel the follow-up operation to Hereheretue (IOTA OC-052).

Cal, WF5W and Paul, W5PF will arrive on Yap Island (OC-012) in the Federal States of Micronesia on November 22. They will operate as V63WC and V63PF respectively until November 29. The two will use 100 watt radios, wire dipoles for 30 and 40 meters and a 2 element SteppIR yagi for 20 thru 6 meters. Operation will be on CW and SSB with no digital modes planned at this time. Some limited operation in the CQ WW CW may be possible. QSL via W5PF

The French DXpedition team heading to Europa (FR/E) next month will be running 3 stations on 6 through 160 meters and will be QRV on CW, SSB and digital modes. The eight man team plan to be on this rare

island between November 22nd and December 6th. The team has a Web page at the following URL: <http://europa2003.free.fr>. Operators include F5OGL, F5JJK, TR8SA, F5IRO, FL1IWH, F5CW, F5PHW, F5KIN and FØCRS. Juan de Nova and Europa ranks between number 6 and number 8 on the major most wanted lists. This will be the biggest DXpedition ever to be mounted to the DXCC entity.

Charlie, WØYG is currently on Christmas Island (VK9X) and will be QRV until November 9. There was the possibility of his visit coinciding with a planned YL DXpedition to the same area, but Charlie believes the YLs did not plan for much activity on the lower bands. He plans to concentrate on the lower bands and RTTY for the U.S. Most expeditions to Christmas Island easily work into Europe, so Charlie will concentrate on North America. He has pre-shipped some gear to David, VK2CZ, who will arrive on Christmas a week before him and will unpack and set up. David is also taking antennas that Force 12 (the Antenna Company) is sending. Charlie says he can't be on 24 hours a day but will be on as much as practical. He does want to take a break to see the sights on the island. He definitely plans to operate when it is dark in both the U.S. and Christmas Island. Look for him on 1.826.5 and 3.506.5 listening up. He will try to post callsigns worked on 160M on the web cluster to cut down on duplicate QSOs. QSL direct to WØYG."

A facility used by scientists and Venezuelan marines on Aves Island (YVØ), is being rebuilt after hurricanes and more routine harsh weather have damaged it. The Venezuelan navy has promised that once the repairs are done a group of hams will be allowed to go there for an operation (even helped to go there), perhaps sometimes in the middle of next year. The last operation was in 1994.

Lee, N5PO plans to operate from Vietnam as XV2PO from November 25 through December 3. He will be QRV on 10 through 40 meters (no 12, 17 or 30 meters) CW only. Operations will be from the Kimdo Hotel in down town Ho Chi Minh City. Lee will participate in the CQ World Wide CW DX Contest as a SOAB entry. QSL via N5PO.

Hans, DL7CM announced he will be going back to Haiti for his 2nd DXpedition. He will be traveling with Sid, DM2AYO; Manfred, DK1BT and Juergen, DL7UFN. Activity is expected between January 28 and February 15. They will use special callsign 4V2ØØYH (Four Victor Two Hundred Years of Haiti). Look for them to be active on 6 through 160 meters CW, SSB, RTTY, PSK and SSTV. Three stations will be set up, with 2 of them QRV around the clock. Antennas will include a ground plane, 3 element 5 band beam, HF9V and a 4 element 6 meter yagi. They will have a Web page, which will include a log search at <http://www.qsl.net/dl7cm/haiti2.htm>. QSL via DL7CM.

Vlad, UA4WHX has moved on to Western Kiribati and now active as T3ØVB. Look for activity on 10 through 40 meters SSB and CW. He is using a barefoot rig and a homebrew vertical. More stops are in the plans as he travels, but he doesn't want to announce them publicly in case he can not get to these locations. QSL is via UA4WHX.

Hans, PAØVHA and Jack, PA3BAG will be on RTTY and SSB respectively from Mauritius, 3B8, using 3B8/"home call". They will be on the air November 3-9 and 15-24. In between these stints, on November 10-14, they will be on from Rodriguez as 3B9/"home call". QSL via PAØVHA. Another operator in the same vicinity will be Jose, 3B8/ON4LAC now operating until November 23 and December 17-27. He will be on Reunion operating as FR5/ON4LAC November 26-December 15. He expects to be on SSB, RTTY and PSK31. QSL to his home call.

Kees, PAØCJH will be using the callsign 9G5JH from Ghana November 4-18 on 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10, mostly SSB. QSL to his home call.

Well known DXpeditioner Rob Snieder, PA2R (ex-PA5ET), will lead an international team of 21 operators to activate Banaba (T33) for two weeks during April 2004. Banaba (formerly Ocean Island), is one of the many islands in the Republic of Kiribati (Micronesia) and currently ranks 26 on the European most-wanted list. The small, sparsely populated island is accessible only by sea.

The Banaba operation has been issued callsign T33C. The expedition will be a major effort, featuring 24 hour a day operation. CW, SSB, RTTY, PSK, and SSTV will be used as appropriate on all bands 160 through 6 meters

and AO-40. There will be seven separate HF stations featuring Elecraft K2/100 transceivers and ACOM1000 amplifiers, including a dedicated station for the digital modes and another for 6meters. Operations on 20 meters and above will use StepIR yagis, while low band stations will use a variety of transmitting and receiving antennas, including loops and beverages. Logs will be transmitted daily to Australia and published daily on the World Wide Web.

If propagation is favorable, T33C should be easy to hear. Members of the group will also activate Tarawa (T30) during WPX SSB. There may also be limited operation from Nauru, Fiji, and other island nations after the Banaba expedition. The history of Banaba during the past century has not been a happy one. Phosphate mining has destroyed most of the arable land on the island. During WWII, the Japanese military occupied the island and enslaved much of the population. Following WWII, many Banabans were relocated to Rabi Island in Fiji. Banaba is governed by the nation of Kiribati and by a Council of Elders that resides on Rabi. The DXpedition plans to bring school supplies for the islanders and to hold a medical clinic. Team members include a physician, nurse, and pharmacist, all of whom are hams. The DXpedition Team will travel by air to Fiji, and then to Tarawa, Kiribati. From Tarawa, the expedition will go to Banaba by chartered vessel. Because of severe weight restrictions on flights to Tarawa, most of the equipment is being shipped ahead by container from Rotterdam.

Martti Laine, OH2BH reports an era is coming to an end. The highly successful and well-known EA8BH, EA8AH and EA8EA callsigns from Martti's contesting QTH in the Canary Islands went QRT after last month's CQ WorldWide phone contest. EA8BH was on 80 meters single band, EA8EA was on 15 meters and EA8AH ran 40 meters. If you happened to any of them QSL to their individual home calls. EA8BH via OH2BH, EA8EA via OH2MM and EA8AH via OH1RY. The station is being dismantled and Martti, Ville and Pekka have been looking at other options for their warm-climate contest station.

Monk Appollo, SV2ASP/A, in the unusual and separate DXCC entity of Mount Athos, Greece is expected to be on the air now "in a big way." George Varvitsiotes, K6SV (check George's vanity call) has been heading up a project to get new radio equipment to Apollo to replace his broken gear. George left for Greece October 14th to hand deliver a new Icom IC-756 ProII and power supply donated by Icom. George also planned to install previously donated antennas, while there. He also planned to be on in the CQWW SSB as J43GRC from southern Greece, along with Xenofon, SV3BEF; Dimitris, SV3BEH; and Vangelis, SV3BEG. They were multi-operator, low power with a tribander and wires. QSL via K6HRO.

A Hungarian team of operators plans to be on from EA6, the Balearic Islands, November 2-9, including the Hungarian QRP contest using the callsign EA6/HA5RT/p. Look for them on 3.511 using 10 watts. On other bands, look for Laci, EA6/HA6NL/p; Zsolt, EA6/HA6PS/p; Tibor, EA6/HA6ZV/p; and Sanyi, EA6/HA7JJS/p. They prefer CW but will do some digital modes also. QSL via their home calls.

Han, DS2GOO; Chae, DS5BSX; Rye, DS4NYE and possibly others will be on Soan Island, Korea (AS-085) November 1-4, signing home call stroke four or possibly D90HE/4. They will have barefoot (100-watt) rigs and wire antennas. QSL to their home calls. There will be a post-operation log search on line.

The long-awaited TXØAT Chesterfield Islands QSLs are now starting to show up. This does count for DXCC. The operation was in October, 2002. You can send an e-mail to iz7atn@vodafone.it if you think your card is overdue.

An address for 9V1GO has recently been announced. 9V1GO is Bob Marshall-Read, Potong Pasir Avenue 1, Block 115, Flat 11-882, Singapore 350115, SINGAPORE. Remember, no callsigns when mailing for DX QSLs.

IOTA participants to not submit QSLs for checking during November. Dan, W4DKS says the RSGB will not accept updates this month while they update the master database. Dan expects to receive the updated software in mid-December and prefers that you keep your cards and submit them at that time so he doesn't have to hold them.

Remember, 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

Expect to see less and less 10 meter propagation as time goes on. If you are currently hold a Technician Class license and have been taking advantage of HF privileges, now is the time to take the step to that next upgrade. We're really not expecting too much activity above 15 meters this season. While 10 meters will occasionally open during the lower parts of the sunspot cycle, in those years there is so little activity in that part of the spectrum that nobody notices.

While on that subject, with the solar cycle declining, it's more important than ever to keep an eye on propagation and strike while the iron is hot. Perhaps the most useful propagation page for Amateur Radio Operators can be found at <http://dx.qsl.net/propagation/>.

### WHAT'S ON THE WEB

The June and July 2003 DXCC listings have been posted on the DXCC home page. It is <http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc/listings/2003/index.html>.

The XZ7A Myanmar DXpedition web page is [www.qsl.net/dl7df/xz7a](http://www.qsl.net/dl7df/xz7a).

You could win a FREE registration to the 2004 International DX Convention. All you have to do is design the winning logo for 2004. The logo contest is open to everyone and the winner will get a free registration to the 2004 Convention. See the convention web site for details: <http://www.scdxc.org/visalia>.

David, AH6HY is back home from his DXpedition to the Turks and Caicos Islands. For those who want to have a look at what the place looks like check out his Web page at <http://www.qsl.net/ah6hy/turkscaicos.html>.

### APPROVED FOR DXCC CREDIT:

Chesterfield Island- TXØAT (October 2002); Timoe Liste- 4W2DN; Afganistan- YA1D, YAØJ, YA1RS; Iraq- YI/KV4EB

### DX POTPOURRI

Laurent, F8BBL will be operating under the special callsign of TM7W from November 16-30, including the CQ WW CW DX Contest. QSL via the bureau to F8BBL.

Chak, JT1CO in Mongolia frequents 80 meters CW starting about 1Ø:ØØz.

Norbert, S79NS in the Seychells spends a lot of time on CW on 7.050 listening around 7021 between 19:ØØz to 21:45z. In the Seychelles, 40 meters is only 25 KHz wide, from 7.050 to 7.075. QSL via DL2RNS.

DJ6QT is on the air now as "home call"/CT3 from Madeira until December 1. QSL as instructed.

Ingo, CU2/DH5ST/p will be on from the Azores November 9-23. He will be on Sao Miguel (IOTA EU-ØØ3), 80-10M CW and SSB. QSL to his home call.

Chris, GM3WOJ will operate as ZL1CT/4 will be from Stewart Island (OC-2Ø3), New Zealand, January 11-16, 2004. He will be on 40 and 20 CW and SSB with 400 watts to verticals. QSL via N3SL.

On October 3rd the DX community lost a real legend when Danny Weil, VP2VB became a Silent Key. The old-timers will remember that Danny started his DXpeditioning in the mid 1950s and went through the early 1960s. During this time frame, he sailed around the world in part on three different yachts (Yasme I, II & III). Stops were made in close to 30 DXCC Entities. Danny was 85 years old. You can find out more about this legend at <http://www.qsl.at/>.

A new prefix, never before used was put on the air last month by a group of Swedish scouts during Jamboree on the Air (JOTA). SCØUT was heard throughout the weekend October 17-19. Did anybody locally work them?

Jim,K1NA will be active from PJ5NA on St. Eustatius from mid November to early December including the CQ World Wide CW DX Contest. He will be making a few trips to the island during the winter months, so if you don't catch him now there will be other chances..

Look for Eddy,3W22S in Vietnam on the bottom of 17 CW between 13:00 and 14:00z.

Iraqi nationals, Mazin,YI1MAR and Mohammed,YI1MAZ like 20 meter phone around 16:30z. Keep an ear around 14.200 to 14.222.

### CONTESTS

Time	Date		Contest	Band	Mode
0000z	Now Thru		AO-40		
0000z	November	17	Birthday Bash	AO-40	All Modes
2100z	November	1	ARRL CW		
0300z	November	3	Sweepstakes	160-10	CW
0000z	November	8	Worked All Europe		
2359z	November	9	DX Contest	80-10	CW
0700z	November	8	Japan Int'l		
1300z	November	9	DX Contest	80-10	SSB
1200z	November	8	Czech/Slovenia		
1200z	November	9	DX Contest	160-10	CW
0000z	November	15	ARRL Phone		
2400z	November	17	Sweepstakes	160-10	SSB
0000z	November	29	CQ World Wide		
0000z	November	30	DX Contest	160-10	CW
0000z	December	5	ARRL 160 Meter		
0000z	December	7	Contest	160	CW

Thanks to Bernie,W3UR, The Daily DX, OPDX and the ARRL for information used this month.



## 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



The names that appear in this Birthday Corner are current club members or those paying a very high extortion amount to the editor. 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.



Ken, N9HQ, was in Redmond, Wash., recently and stopped to visit ICOM.

### Amateur Radio Toy Store

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10 A.M. to 5 P.M.  
Monday — Saturday

## NOVEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- 4th of November Club breakfast **every** Tuesday morning 7-9 AM, Glen Oaks Restaurant, Glen Ellyn
- 6th of November Club brunch **1st & 3rd** Thursday at 10:30 AM, Carol's Garden, Carol Stream
- 7th 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 is on the first floor at the rear of the building on the west side. This months program will be the club auction.
- 15th of November DEADLINE FOR HAMLETTER SUBMISSIONS FOR OCTOBER. Remember we are doing a limited printed edition. **Please be prompt.**
- 20th of November VEC testing at the Helen Plum Library in Lombard from 6:30 till 8:30pm.

### WCRA General Membership Meeting - November 7th - 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: donlin@xnet.com

### Club Mailing Address:

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P.O. Box QSL  
Wheaton, Illinois 60189

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