



HAMLETTER

Published Monthly

Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs

Issue 502

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April 2005



ELECTIONS ARE COMING

The nominating committee has put together a full slate of candidates for the open positions. We even have two candidates for one position, so there will be a vote held during the meeting on April 1.

The nominations are:

One-year term as President:	Peter, N9HDW
Two-year term as Vice President:	Bruce K9OZ
Two-year term as Treasurer:	Ken N9HQ and Jack KA9HEL
One-year term as Property Custodian:	Kurt KB9RTO

If anyone else wants to throw their hat into the ring, contact Bruce, K9OZ at k9oz@aol.com or John, N9NA at jfsiepmann@hotmail.com.

REMEMBER TO VOTE! YOUR VOTE COUNTS!

My Fellow WCRA members:

Several weeks ago, I was approached and asked to consider running for club TREASURER. I was a bit hesitant at first, however, when I heard of the other nominees for President, Vice-President and Custodian (Peter, Bruce and Kurt), I quickly agreed. I believe that these members, along with myself, have the knowledge, experience and respect of our club members to make the needed changes that WCRA needs to forge ahead into the future. OUR club and that means ALL of us, not just the officers, need to make some changes and decisions in the near future to keep OUR club viable and headed in the right direction. I would therefore ask for your support and vote in the upcoming election on April 1.

Thank you for your vote of confidence,
Ken Kwasniewski/N9HQ



**WCRA Staff
Elected Officers**

President			
Vice President	Steve Peterson	N9OA	630: 742-3581
Secretary	Mary James	K9GAL	630: 968-1844
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	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 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 Serevice	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 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

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From the President's Gavel

by WCRA President

Field Day New Techniques and Technology Meeting

Friday April 1st, 2005

6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Event Location: Room 138,
Billy Graham Center, Wheaton
College, Wheaton

Phone: Peter N9HDW 630-260-
9447

Notes:

One hour before the regular
monthly club meeting in the
same room. Bring ideas for new
technology and techniques for
FD which is June 25 & 26 ,
2005. (Note: Peter N9HDW will
be absent for the 4/1/05 mtg.
Dale NJ9E will be leading.)
(Note: May mtg will be on
4/29/05.)



WCRA Meeting Minutes

by: Mary James
K9GAL
WCRA
Secretary

WCRA Minutes from the March 4, 2005 Meeting

Vice President and Acting President **Steve, N9OA**, called the meeting to order at 19:49 after presenting a program on Public Service. Board and attendees made introductions. Steve announced the club is still looking for a president, and then explained the open positions which will be voted on at the April meeting. Steve thanked **Pat, K9JAU**, for bringing refreshments. In his Vice President report, Steve said tentative programs for April and May are Hallicrafters radios and

weather spotting. Because of the college's graduation, the May meeting will be held on April 29. Steve acknowledged a recent upgrade of club member **Rich, K9MGX**, by presenting him with two tickets to the Michigan Hamfest on March 26. **Marty, N9NTM**, made a motion that the minutes of the last meeting be accepted. **Paul, KA9RVS**, seconded the motion, and it passed.

Secretary **Mary, K9GAL**, presented three new membership applications. Marty made a motion the new members be accepted, **Tom, N9WBW**, seconded the motion, and it passed. **Jack, KA9HEL**, gave the Treasurer's Report. Tom made a motion that the treasurer's report be accepted, **Kurt, KB9RTO**, seconded the motion, and it passed.

Don, N9NYX, reported on the Repeater Administrative Board. He said a cell phone company now has an antenna on the tower at College of DuPage. The wetlands issue continues to slow approval of the club's permit to put up its antenna. Don said the club is making progress because of the revenue coming in from the cell phone company. However, nothing definitive has taken place, and there is still no time frame for the antenna to go up. As newsletter chair, Don asked members to let him know if they are not getting the monthly announcement that the Hamletter has been posted on the website.

John, N9MWF, talked about the need to revive the tradition of giving awards for service to the club. This led to discussion about alternatives to brass medallions. John then went on to talk about upcoming Public Service events. He encouraged members to sign up to do communications at the 2005 Special Olympics and the MS Walk.

Hamfest Chair **John, WT9Y**, reported there has been a scheduling conflict at the current Hamfest site...Pheasant Run has asked the club to consider moving to a smaller facility across the street for Hamfest 2006. He will meet with a representative of Pheasant Run soon to work out the details and hopefully sign a contract. He said the Hamfest committee will have a follow-up meeting to Hamfest 2005 within the next month.

Peter, N9HDW, reported on Field Day, which will be held on June 25-26, 2005. **Gordon, AH6DA**, updated members on the VE program. Kurt made a motion that committee reports be accepted, Tom seconded the motion and it passed.

In Old Business, Bruce said he and **John, N9NA**, make up the Nominating Committee for 2005 elections com-

ing up in April. "We've got a slate," he said before announcing these nominees: Peter, N9HDW, for president; **Ken, N9HQ**, for treasurer; Kurt, KB9RTO, for custodian; and Bruce, K9OZ, for vice president. [Following the meeting, Jack expressed his desire to run for treasurer.] Peter will not be able to attend the April meeting, so he talked briefly about running for president. "Don't vote for me if you don't want the club to change," he said.

There was no New Business. Marty made a motion the meeting be adjourned, Kurt seconded it, and the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 20:49.

Trivia Corner 32: Geek-Talk...Abbreviations and Acronyms of the "Computer Age"

Jeff Ward, RRT

Acronyms seem to be part and parcel of the computer age. In the 1950's movie-comedy *The Desk Set*, Spencer Tracy introduces IBM's EMEREC (Electro-Magnetic Memory and Research Arithmetic Calculator) into Katherine Hepburn's corporate reference office/library. Some of Sounding's readers may remember punch cards and their first personal computer/calculator (a Bomar Brain® or similar device). The vendor's sales pitch was "Now you don't have to be a dummy anymore," pretty true for many of us non-math majors. The "chip" has changed all of our lives dramatically. Younger students/readers have grown up with the chip. In the hospital setting the intranet, world-wide web and computer-interfaces have become key in the technology of patient care and in data/record keeping. Besides becoming part of our cars, phones, music devices, watches, etc., our language also has been affected by the chip. I first learned PDA stood for a patent ductus arteriosus; today it's a personal data assistant. Some acronyms both roll off the tongue and conjure up images similar to Lewis Carroll's vocabulary in *Jabberwocky*. (first stanza below)

**"Twas brillig, and the slithy toves
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe:
All mimsy were the borogoves,
And the mome raths outgrabe "**

Over time many acronyms become imbedded into our vocabulary without the user recalling the origin of words from which it is composed (eg. Laser = light, amplification by stimulated emission of radiation). Our 21st century vocabulary now includes words that pertain to the web as well as to computer hardware and software.

Perhaps Carroll would appreciate the (editor's) following lines; a link will be provided with the correct answers to this issue's quiz-- to offer more comical "alternatives" for the usual definitions.

**The GUI FIFO rambled through the EULA,
He did a SLIP to URI the RAM and JPEG.
But DDR and API grabbed his FPLA,
So he had to Tiff and PING his IAG.**

This edition's will have to depart from the usual format of a matching quiz to provide adequate challenge.

Abbreviation or acronym Definition

- | | | |
|-----|--------|-------|
| 1. | DOS | _____ |
| 2. | JPEG | _____ |
| 3. | TIFF | _____ |
| 4. | RAM | _____ |
| 5. | RTF | _____ |
| 6. | USB | _____ |
| 7. | GUI | _____ |
| 8. | API | _____ |
| 9. | URL | _____ |
| 10. | HTTP | _____ |
| 11. | TCP/IP | _____ |
| 12. | PING | _____ |
| 13. | W3C | _____ |
| 14. | DNS | _____ |
| 15. | PCI | _____ |
| 16. | AGP | _____ |
| 17. | MPEG | _____ |
| 18. | MP3 | _____ |
| 19. | P2P | _____ |
| 20. | NTFS | _____ |
| 21. | FIFO | _____ |
| 22. | SMTP | _____ |
| 23. | GIF | _____ |
| 24. | SCSI | _____ |
| 25. | VGA | _____ |

Extra credit: shorthand & acronyms terms used in text-messaging, email , news group/list-serve postings, chat-room, instant messaging (IM'ing), cell-phones & PDA's.

- | | |
|---------------|-------|
| 1. IMHO | _____ |
| 2. IMX or IME | _____ |
| 3. IOW | _____ |
| 4. AFAIC | _____ |
| 5. BBN | _____ |

ANSWERS

Abbreviation or acronym

Definition

- | | | |
|----|------|----------------------------------|
| 1. | DOS | Disc Operating System |
| 2. | JPEG | Joint Photographic Experts Group |
| 3. | TIFF | Tagged Image File Format |
| 4. | RAM | Random Access Memory |
| 5. | RTF | Rich Text Format |

6.	USB	Universal Serial Bus
7.	GUI	Graphic User Interface
8.	API	Application Program Interface
9.	URL	Uniform Resource Locator
10.	HTTP	Hypertext Transfer Protocol
11.	TCP/IP	Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol
12.	PING	Packet Internet Groper
13.	W3C	World Wide Web Consortium
14.	DNS	Domain Naming System
15.	PCI	Peripheral Component Interconnect/Interface
16.	AGP	Accelerated/Advanced Graphics Port
17.	MPEG	Motion Picture Expert Group
18.	MP3	MPEG Lay 3 (Audio Compression)
19.	P2P	Peer-to-Peer (like Napster)
20.	NTFS	New Technology File System
21.	FIFO	First-In-First-Out
22.	SMTP	Simple Mail Transfer Protocol
23.	GIF	Graphics Interchange Format
24.	SCSI	Small Computer Systems Interface
25.	VGA	Video Graphics Array

Extra Credit

1. IMHO	In My Humble Opinion
2. IMX	In My eXperience (Also IME)
3. IOW	In Other Words
4. AFAIC	As Far As I'm Concerned
5. BBN	Bye-Bye for Now

Links:

Humors computer abbreviations

http://www.anvari.org/fun/Computer/Meanings_of_Abbreviations.html

BABEL's GCOAA (Glossary of Computer Oriented Abbreviations and Acronyms)

<http://www.cs.tut.fi/tlt/stuff/misc/babel.html>

Netlingo's listing of text messanging shorthand and acronyms

<http://www.netlingo.com/emailsh.cfm>

Acknowledgment: Thanks to Chuck Lantz and Thom Belda for assisting this LAME (Luddite* Aging Muddled Editor) with this issue's column.

***For a historical review of the etymology of luddite.**

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luddite>

Field Day New Technologies and Techniques

by Peter Richey N9HDW

Everyone is invited, club members, guests, and visitors, to the next meeting for Field Day New Technologies and Techniques which will be 6:30 PM 4/1/05 in the same location as the WCRA club meeting, room 138, Billy Graham building at Wheaton College on Seminary St, Wheaton, IL. The FD-NTT meeting is informal and lasts only one hour, plus you get first pick on a seat for the regular club meeting that follows!

On April 1, we'll be looking for plans and/or demonstrations of new things people are working on for this year's Field Day which will be June 25 and 26, 2005. So it's time to move beyond the idea stage and start working your idea(s), if you haven't already. You are encouraged to try that new innovation you've been thinking about and make it happen at this year's FD. And don't worry if you don't know or have everything you need for your favorite FD dream project. Ask! There's club members with lots of knowledge who can assist, advise, and more. You might be surprised who's been thinking about the same project you have been quietly considering. So share your idea and plans at this FD-NTT meeting, 4/1/05 6:30 PM. Due to my absence that evening, Dale NJ9E and Bruce K9OZ have agreed to lead the meeting this month.

Some of the plans that are brewing:

1. Networked QSO logging: N9HDW Peter Richey Peter demonstrated last time (3/4/05) networking the CT logging program so we could keep the entire club score dynamically in real time as FD goes along, instead of having to aggregate the QSO logs later. So that one is coming along nicely. K9OZ raised some concerns which will be addressed.

2. ATV Roving Reporter: W9DHX Jim Ward. Jim has interest in doing more with ATV (Fast Scan) than simply a stationary demo. He's looking for other hams interested in helping put on a live ATV broadcast from our FD stations to the other stations and WCRA FD welcome center. He has all the equipment, but needs others to help him run this.

3. Boy Scout Radio Merit Badge: UNASSIGNED A few persons expressed interest in hosting a MB session, probably on Saturday afternoon June 25 for Scouts looking to fulfill some (or all?) of their requirements for the Radio MB. There are club members who are either currently involved in Scouting as well as former Scouts and Scouters. Perhaps some of these would consider helping with this. Of course, talented hams without Scouting connections would be valuable, too. And there are others who are supportive of Scouting, many with experience in the program. We need to see if someone wants to organize the MB session which would mean getting the word out to some scouts such as KG9H's troop, KB9ZUM's troop or others. It would also mean having at least one person certified as a BSA Radio MB counselor to sign the scouts' cards. Beyond that, the scope would be up to those hosting this. The minimum would be to help the scouts fulfill their requirement to make contacts on the air, some real QSOs.

4. New 40m SSB Station Captain Wannabee: N9OBO Kevin Retzer With Mike AB9AX's moving away, a new 40m SSB station captain is needed. Kevin has expressed interest in this and will likely need input on what to do, what to bring, how to be effective. He'll also need volunteers to staff the station.



Activities on the HF Bands

by:
Peter Barr
W9UF

Under pressure from IARU societies in Europe, the ARRL announced late last month the immediate removal of all European Union member States from the DXCC country list. These currently include: Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, The Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom. Eventually, based on their election to the union, this move will also see the removal of Bulgaria, Croatia, Romania and Turkey. This move could come as early as June.

The change comes after years of complaints from European amateurs that they are at a geographical disadvantage to American hams as far as working DX. According to ARRL's DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, "Those of us in North America have the advantage of working in excess of sixty DXCC countries via transatlantic communications, while Europeans claim they can only count Canada, Greenland, Mexico, Bermuda and the United States. Hopefully, this change will even out the playing field and put an end to the bickering, once and for all." Geographically as well as for the purposes of DXCC, islands of the Caribbean are not considered a part of the continent.

The United Kingdom Six Metre Group's existing Worked all Europe Award (WAE) currently available for contacts above 50 MHz will be revamped to recognize and award those making future contacts with the EU member countries. The award will then be more like the Worked All States certificate (WAS) currently available through the ARRL. Additional information regarding WAE can be obtained from the UKSMG web site at <http://www.uksmg.org/europe.htm>.

Since the year 2000 the callsign OZ5HCA has been used one week in April to mark the birthday of the world famous fairy tale writer "Hans Christian Andersen". On the 2nd of April, this year, he would have become 200 years old, and therefore, the callsign OZ5HCA will be used during the entire month of April. The callsign will be used by members of the EDR Odense Branch, OZ3FYN. The EDR Odense Branch has been issuing the "Hans Christian Andersen Award" since the year 2000. This year will be the last chance to make QSOs for this award because it is the last time the callsign will be used. Applications for the award must be received before December 31st, 2005. The reason for the deadline is that each award is specially made and signed by the mayor of Odense. The rules can be found on the Web page at: <http://www.oz3fyn.dk/diplom-hcaGB.html>

Michael, PA5M and Pierre, HB9AMO arrived in N'Djamena, Chad (TT8) in mid March. They both already have their licenses in hand. Michael is TT8M and Pierre is TT8AMO. Both operators have moved to the eastern part of the country and will be there for approximately 2 months for work (to early May). Activity will be on all bands from 160-6 meters mainly during their evening hours and only during their spare time. QSL both TT8M and TT8AMO via PA7FM. Please keep in mind 1 USD does not cover postage outside Europe anymore. Request without enough return postage or SAE will be answered by the Bureau. Look for TT8AMO to operate only CW, while TT8M will do SSB and some digital modes later. Logs for both will be available on www.pa7fm.nl

An expedition to Rockall Island (EU-NEW) will leave the Orkney Islands (over 300 miles away) on June 11 arriving in the area of Rockall around June 14 and remaining there until June 21. Rockall Island (57° 36' 21" North 13° 41' 42" West) is located around 400 kilometers west of Scotland's Outer Hebrides Islands. The isolated uninhabited island sticks up about 65 feet above the Northern Atlantic and measures around 83 feet across and 100 feet wide. The Amateur Radio team will be led by Dave Wood, MMØALM, Dave Wood and assisted by

well-known and experienced island activator, Seamus "Jim" Cameron, MMØCWJ from the Hebrides. An all band operation will be primarily on SSB as MSØIRC/p. QSL via GØHXN. Few people have ever landed on this isolated rock, which is beyond the range of normal rescue helicopters.

The June 2005 DXpedition to Rockall Island will be the first ever-Amateur Radio operation and it will count as a new IOTA. You can learn more about the team at <http://www.therockalltimes.co.uk/rockall-ho/2005-team.html>.

Phil Trottet, F5LTB is a worker for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Phil, is now stationed in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo and was recently licensed as 9Q1TB. Look for him on 14115 most days from 0630 to 0700z and 1630 to 1730z. He can also be on 21.188 between 0700 and 1600z. Unfortunately working the low bands from Kinshasa is very difficult due to the strong QRN from the AC power lines. You can QSL to either Philippe Trottet, U.N.H.C.R., R.O. Kinshasa, Case Postale 2500, CH 1211 Geneva 2, SWITZERLAND or to Philippe Trottet, 9Q1TB, A.R.A.C., P.O. Box 2049, Kinshasa-1, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO.

CQ Amateur Radio magazine last month announced the introduction of a new operating award, the "CQ DX Field Award," recognizing achievements in contacting at least 50 of the world's 324 10x20-degree "grid fields." This is the first of three new programs to be announced by CQ over the next three months with the goal of revitalizing ham radio's core activity of DXing, or contacting stations in faraway places.

The CQ DX Field Award is based on the Maidenhead Grid Locator system, already popular among VHF DXers and contesters, in which the world is divided, based on latitude and longitude, into 324 10x20 degree "fields" and each field is broken up into 100 1x2 degree "grid squares" or "locators." CQ DX Awards Manager Billy Williams, N4UF, has calculated that there are 177 fields with which the active ham stands a pretty good chance of making a contact, noting that many fields are in Antarctica, the Arctic or wholly within oceans.

Williams estimates that a ham who has achieved the basic levels of the traditional CQ DX Award program and/or the ARRL's DXCC program - both of which require confirmed contact with at least 100 DX "entities" - will probably also qualify for the basic CQ DX Field Award level of 50 confirmed fields. Endorsements will be issued for each additional 50 fields up to 150, then in increments of 25 fields to a final level of all 324 fields.

Contacts made on or after January 1, 1980 (the year in which the grid system was adopted for amateur radio use) will count toward the new award. Complete details and rules will be published in the April 2005 issue of CQ magazine and posted on the magazine's website at <http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com>. In addition, Williams has developed an online cross-reference guide for converting countries to fields. It will be accessible at <http://home.earthlink.net/~bfwillia/gridfieldsx.html>.

IOTA

EU-023. Karl, OE3JAG, will be active from Gozo Island between May 2-6th. His callsign will be 9H/home call or 9H3JAG. Activity will be between (about) 1200-1600z. Operations will be QRP with a dipole or long wire and mainly on CW, PSK and RTTY on the WARC bands. QSL via his home callsign. Visit his Web page at: <http://www.oe3jag.com>

EU-045. Members of the MDXC, Roberto, IK8BIZ; Alfredo, IZ8DEP and Luciano, IK8RRY will be activated as

IBØCW from Ventotene Island (MIA: MI-118 and IIA: LT-011), April 2-4th. Activity will be on 80-6 meters, CW, RTTY, PSK and SSB. QSL via the bureau or direct to IK8RRY: LUCIANO LUONGO, Via Degli Innamorati No. 143, 80014 GIUGLIANO, NA, ITALY. Also, visit the following Web page at: <http://www.mdxc.org/ib0cw/>

EU-127. Members from the DFØCB will activate Helgoland April 15-17th. Activity will be SSB on 80, 40 & 20 meters.

EU-129. Andreas, DL5CW, will be active as DL5CW/p from Usedom Island March 29th through April 1st. QSL via the Bureau.

EU-131. Nicola/IZ3EBA and Enrico/IZ3EAY will be active as homecall/p from Lido Island, April 9th. QSL via their home callsigns. For more info, visit: <http://www.iz3eba.it>

Mark your calendar for TM4Z from Ouessant Island, EU-065 in the IOTA contest July 30-31. This will be a multinational team of operators. QSL via F6KHM, direct or by the bureau.

EU-131 Nicola, IZ3EBA/p and Enrico, IZ3EAY/p are on from Lido Island until April 9. QSL via their home callsigns. For more info, visit <http://www.iz3eba.it>

IOTA frequencies –

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

DXCC NEWS

Bill Moore, NC1L, ARRL DXCC Manager, has announced the following operations as approved for DXCC credit:

6OØCW - Somalia, from February 3, 2005 to February 17, 2005
A52CDX - Bhutan, October 24, 2004 to November 12, 2004
T6KB LRM - Afghanistan, current operation
TT8M - Chad, Current operation effective March 14, 2005
YI9GT - Iraq, from May 7, 2004 to February 8, 2005
YI9KT - Iraq, from May 7, 2004 to February 8, 2005
YI9KT - IRAQ - May 7, 2004 to February 8, 2005
YI9GT - IRAQ - May 7, 2004 to February 8, 2005
T6KB LRM - Afghanistan - Current operation
A52CDX - Bhutan - October 24, 2004 to November 12, 2004

The deadline to be listed on the DXCC Honor Roll, which will be in the August 2005 issue of QST, is March 31. Submissions must be postmarked by March 31st in order to be listed. Currently there are 335 entities on the DXCC list and you must have a minimum of 326 entities to be on the DXCC Honor Roll.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Santa Ana, CA: Anaheim Police Amateur Radio Club, K6O. 0000z Apr 1-2400z Apr 15. 60th Anniversary of the Battle of Okinawa in WW2. 28.450 21.350 18.150 14.250. QSL. Mark McMullin, KM6HB, PO Box 27271, Santa Ana, CA 92799.

Gig Harbor, WA: Peninsula Amateur Radio Emergency Team, KA7EOC. 1600z -2300z Apr 2. Gig Harbor Health and Safety Expo. 14.270. Certificate. Mark Yordy, W7BBO, 8914 149th St NW, Gig Harbor, WA 98329.

St Joseph, MO: Missouri Valley Amateur Radio Club, W0P. 1400z-2200z Apr 2. Start of the Pony Express. 28.350 21.350 14.250 7.250. Certificate. Missouri Valley Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 1533, St Joseph, MO 64502.

Tulsa, OK: Tulsa Health Department Amateur Radio Club, K5THD. 0000z-2400z Apr 2. Celebrating World Health Day 2005. 28.365 21.365 14.265 7.265. Certificate. Dave Cox, Tulsa Health Department Amateur Radio Club, 5051 S 129 E Ave, Tulsa, OK 74134. www.tulsa-health.org/k5thd.

Zebulon, NC: Triangle East ARA, WA4UQC. 1400z-2000z Apr 2. Scootworks Open House & ACS Relay for Life. 21.275 14.275 7.275 147.39. Certificate. Dave Hockaday, WB4IUY, 7804 River Dare Ave, Youngsville, NC 27596. www.TEARA.org.

Brampton, ON: Peel/Mississauga Amateur Radio Clubs, VE3XR. 1300z-1600z Apr 9. Ham-Ex Annual Hamfest. 14.265 7.240. QSL. Via bureau or direct to Jeff Richardson, VA3QSL, 36 Crawley Dr, Brampton, ON, Canada L6T 2S1. www.peelarc.org. Note: US postage cannot be used in Canada.

Green Valley, AZ: Green Valley Amateur Radio Club, N7GV. 1500z-2300z Apr 9. Community Emergency Awareness in the Best Snowbird Nest in the Southwest. 21.375 14.245 14.050 145.29. Certificate. Gene Schouweiler, W0KAD, 214 N Crocodile Rock Dr, Green Valley, AZ 85614.

Indian Orchard, MA: Titanic Historical Society, W1MGY. 1330z Apr 9-0527z Apr 15. Commemorating the 93rd anniversary of the Titanic voyage. 14.260 14.033 7.033 3.860. QSL. Titanic Historical Society QSL, PO Box 51053, 208 Main St, Indian Orchard, MA 01151-0053. www.hcra.org/titanic.htm.

Trento, Italy: Carabinieri On The Air (C.O.T.A.), I13CC. 0700z Apr 15-1900z Apr 17. XVI National Meeting ANC Associazione Nazionale Carabinieri. 28.500 21.280 14.280 7.070. QSL. Orlando Balisciano, IZ8DDG, Via Villa Bisignano, V Traversa no. 21, Napoli, Italy 80147. www.cota.cc.

Bossier City, LA: Shreveport Amateur Radio Association and 8th Air Force Museum, W5E. 2100z Apr 15-2300z Apr 17. 60th anniversary of the last combat mission flown by the 8th Air Force over Germany during WWII. 80-10 m SSB and CW; vintage 80 40 m AM/CW. Certificate. W5E, PO Box 37632, Shreveport, LA 71133. www.k5sar.com.

Bethlehem, PA: Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club, W3OK. 1700z-1900z Apr 16. National Library Week. 14.250 7.250 7.105 146.560. QSL. W3OK DLARC, RR 4 Greystone Bldg, Nazareth, PA 18064-9211. www.dlarc.org.

Blacksburg, VA: Virginia Tech Amateur Radio Association, K4KDJ. 1200z-0000z Apr 16. Tenth anniversary of the Virginia Tech Alumni Net. 21.350 14.260 7.260 3.980. Certificate. Virginia Tech Amateur Radio Association, 347 Squires Student Center, Blacksburg, VA 24060. www.vtara.org.vt.edu

St Louis, MO: Jefferson Barracks Amateur Radio Club, KØZFK. 1600z -2000z Apr 16. West Point of the West, Jefferson Barracks. 28.238 14.238 7.238. Certificate. Jefferson Barracks ARC, PO Box 6553, St Louis, MO 63125-6553. www.jbarc.org.

Topeka, KS: Local Amateur Radio Operators, NØG. 1400z -2200z Apr 16. 150th anniversary of the Kansas National Guard. 28.400 21.400 14.300. Certificate. Steve Hamilton, KBØJYL, 2503 SW Carlson Rd, Topeka, KS 66614.

Piscataway, NJ: Piscataway Amateur Radio Club, K2VOA. 1600z Apr 16-2400z Apr 17. Former Voice of America relay station WBOU. 21.370 28.370 14.270 7.270. Certificate. Bill Toth, 6 Rivercrest Dr, Piscataway, NJ 08854.

Broken Arrow, OK: Wayne Rumley Amateur Radio, W5R. 0000z Apr 22-0000z Apr 24. 50th anniversary of Rock and Roll. 21.250 14.250 7.250 3.850. QSL. Wayne Rumley II, WA5YNE, 12315 E 61 St, Broken Arrow, OK 74012.

Asheboro, NC: Randolph Amateur Radio Club, NC4ZO. 1400z -2000z Apr 23. Celebrating spring at the North Carolina Zoo in Asheboro. 28.400 21.350 14.260 7.275. Certificate. Butch Simpson, 6747 King Mountain Rd, Asheboro, NC 27205.

Norman, OK: South Canadian Amateur Radio Society, W5NOR. 1500z -2100z Apr 23. Commemorating the Oklahoma Land Run of 1889. 14.315. QSL. SCARS, PO Box 720993, Norman, OK 73070.

Farmville, NC: Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club, W4AMC. 1200z -2100z Apr 23-1200z -2100z Apr 24. 18th Annual Farmville, NC, Dogwood Festival. 14.045 7.275 7.125 3.875. QSL. Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 8387, Greenville, NC 27835-7207.

Gainesville, FL: Gainesville Amateur Radio Society, K4GNV. 1200z Apr 23-1600z Apr 24. 50 year anniversary of the Gainesville Amateur Radio Society. 28.325 21.325 14.325 7.235. QSL. David Price, PO Box 143215, Gainesville, FL 32614.

Jacksonville, TX: Cherokee County Amateur Radio Club, K5JVL. 1500z Apr 23-z0500 Apr 24. 4th Annual Drakes On the Lake. 21.375 14.275 7.275 3.875. Certificate. K5JVL, 840 Henderson St, Jacksonville, TX 75766. www.k5jvl.org.

Johnson County, NE: Lincoln ARC, KØKKV. 1700z Apr 23-1700z Apr 25. Activation of rare Nebraska County during the NEQP. CW up 35 kHz from band edge; General portion of SSB bands. QSL. Greg Brown, 10800 W Mill Rd, Malcolm, NE 68402. http://larc.unl.edu.

Wells County, IN: Grant County Amateur Radio Club, W9EBN. 1700z-2200z Apr 24. McNatt United Methodist Church Ham Radio Fellowship Event. 14.245 7.228 146.79. Certificate. L. B. Nickerson, K9NQW, 517 N Hendricks Ave, Marion, IN 46952. www.grantarc.com.

Beecher, IL: Hams of Beecher, W9B. 1600z -2300z Apr 30. Beecher Depot Railroad Convention. 28.340 14.270 14.040 7.270 144.49. Certificate. Gene Backlin, 26811 Greenbriar Dr, Monee, IL 60449.

Paris, TN: Henry County Radio Society, KE4HC. 1500z -2359Z Apr 30. Celebrating the 59th Annual World's

Biggest Fish Fry. 21.350 14.250 7.250. Certificate. Barry Sandefer, 4715 Guthrie Rd, Paris, TN 38242.

Toad Suck, AR: Faulkner County Amateur Radio Club, W5AUU. 1500Z-2200Z Apr 30. Toad Suck Daze Festival. 21.350 14.260 7.260. Certificate. Faulkner County ARC, PO Box 324, Conway, AR 72032. www.w5auu.org.

Manitowoc, WI: USS Cobia Radio Club/ManCoRad Radio Club, N9BQV. 1400Z Apr 30-2100Z May 1. WWII USS Cobia AGSS-245 sub radio reactivation. 14.243 14.043 7.243 7.043. QSL. Fred Neuenfeldt, W6BSF, 4932 S 10th St, Manitowoc, WI 54220. www.qsl.net/w9dk.

Various, International: Sub Vets Amateur Radio Association. 0000Z Apr 30-2400Z May 1. 9th annual Submarines On-the-Air. 2 6 10 15 20 40 80 m SSB and CW. Certificate. Jim Flanders, W0OOG, 1539 California Tr, Plano, TX 75023-4300. Certificate for contacting 4 submarines. w0oog.50megs.com/ . (QSLs from individual ships working event.) Bonham, TX: Fannin County Amateur Radio Club, K5FRC. 1500Z-2200Z Apr 16. Fannin County Emergency Response Fair. 14.270 7.275. QSL. Fannin County Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 684, Bonham, TX 75418.

Certificates and QSL cards: To obtain a certificate from any of the special-event stations offering them, send your QSO information along with a 9x12 inch self-addressed, stamped envelope to address listed in the announcement. To receive a special event QSL card (when offered), be sure to include a self-addressed, stamped business envelope along with your QSL card and QSO information.

CONTESTS

Time	Date	Contest	Band	Mode
1400Z 1400Z	April 2 April 3	Kid's Roundup Party www.ki3ds.org	80M-70cm	SSB/FM
1500Z 1500Z	April 2 April 3	SP (Poland) DX Contest	160-10	CW/SSB
1900Z 1900Z	April 2 April 3	QCWA QSO Party www.qcwa.org	160-UHF	CW/SSB
1600Z 1600Z	April 2 April 3	EA (Spain) RTTY Contest www.ure.es	80-10	RTTY
1400Z 0200Z	April 6 April 8	YLRL DX to NA YL Contest www.ylrl.org	160-10	CW
0700Z	April 9	Japan Int'l		

1300z	April 10	DX Contest http://je1cka.jzap.com/j1dx/	80-10	CW
1400z 0200z	April 13 April 15	YLRL DX to NA YL Contest www.ylrl.org	160-10	SSB
0000z 2359z	April 16 April 16	Holyland DX Contest www.iarc.org	160-10	SSB/CW
0000z 2359z	April 16 April 16	TARA Skirmish Prefix Contest 160-6 www.n2ty.org/seasons/tara_dxp_rules.html	All Digital	
1300z 1300z	April 23 April 24	Helvetia (Swiss) DX Contest www.uska.ch	160-10	All Mode
0600* 2359*	April 30 May 1	2GHz & Up WW Club Contest www.ham-radio.com/sbms	2 GHz-up	All

* Local Time

DX POTPOURRI

Duncan, EA5ON will operate GM7CXM/C6A while in Freeport Bahamas, May 26-30. It's a business trip but he hopes to get on 80-10M a bit, mostly SSB but some digital and maybe the WPX CW contest. He'll be on Grand Bahama, NA-080. QSL via EA5ON.

Tito, LU7EE will mark his 60th birthday on April 25th. To celebrate that and his 42 years in ham radio, he plans to be active for 60 hours with the special callsign L73E. He'll start up at 0000Z April 23 and go to 1200Z April 25th. Look for him on 1.815, 3.515, 7.015, 10.110.5, 14.015, 18.085, 21.015, 24.915, 28.015 CW and some SSB, on 3.550, 7.050, 14.150 and 28.910. QSL via: GACW, P.O.Box 9, Wilde, B1875ZAA, Argentina. For skeds and info: ay7ee2002@yahoo.com.ar

Paul, K4UJ, will be active from Grand Cayman as ZF2UJ, April 1-9th. Activity will primarily be on: 80m-CW, 40m-CW, 20m-CW/SSB, 17m-CW/SSB, 12m-CW/SSB and 10m-CW/SSB. He will only use 100 watts into a wire antenna on the north side of the island. QSL via his home callsign.

Hirota, JA0SC will be visiting Macao (XX9) and will be active on the digital modes as well as participate in the NVCG SSTV Contest during the first weekend of April. He will also operate before and after the contest between April 7-11th. Hirota will receive his callsign after his arrival in Macao. Look for him on 20, 15 and 10 meters SSTV and RTTY. QSL direct to his home callsign on QRZ.com.

Some members of Canary Islands DX Society will activate the special event station EF8CID to celebrate the "Canary Islands Day" between May 27-30th. QSLs will automatically be sent through the URE Bureau after their operation by Edu, EC8AUA. It is not necessary to send your QSL for confirmation. Direct QSLs can be sent via

the normal way. Activity will only be on 15 meters band and members are restricted to operate below 21.200 kHz.

On March 23rd, the CCK, Kenya's licensing authority, granted authorization to Kenyan Amateur Radio operators the use of both 30 and 160 meters. Alex, Z4DZ was first to take advantage of the 30 meter band appearing on the band that same day.

Look for special call sign ZW6FSM to be QRV from Fort Sao Marco, Brazil during mid-April. On April 17 and 18 activity will be on CW and on April 20 and 21 on SSB. They will be operating on 20, 40 and 80 meters. QSL via PY6KW.

During the first half of this month, Rene, DF9GR will be on the air as CP6/DF9GR from southern Bolivia. Look for him to be active on 10-80 meters on CW, RTTY and PSK from April 1st to 15th. QSL via DF9GR.

Hirota, JAØSC is planning to visit Macau and activate the digital modes from April 7 to 11. He will also participate in the NCCG SSTV Contest over the April 9-10 weekend. Hirota says that he will obtain his call upon arrival in Macau. Look for activity on 10, 15 and 20 meters RTTY and SSTV. QSL via JAØSC

April 1st through April 9th Paul, K4UJ will be active on Grand Cayman as ZF2UJ. His activity will be primarily on: 80 CW, 40 CW, 20 CW/SSB, 17 CW/SSB, 12 CW/SSB, and 10 CW/SSB. He will be running 100 watts and a wire antenna on the north side of the island. QSL via K4UJ.

Thanks to Bernie, W3UR and his Daily DX Bulletin©, Tedd, KB8NW and the Ohio/Penn DX Bulletin (OPDX), and the ARRL for information used this month.

Could your anchor appear here?

QST/APRIL/'05-DXPEDITION NEWS

By Jim Ward, W9DHX

MT. KILI EXPEDITION

This month's issue has a cover with Mt. Kilimanjaro in the background—it almost seems like the April Fool's Story—but no, it sounds authentic. A German ham, HB9BXE/5HIBP, put it all together and worked 50 stations on 15 meters before succumbing to the cold weather and altitude at 19,345 feet. What an experience Hans-Peter Blatter had. On this side of the Atlantic, Paul Schreier, AA1MI/hb9DST, did the translating. The article begins on Page 47.

CONTRAIL PROPOGATION – “UP FRONT”

In a page 20 story that could be a “Fooler”, Tom Taormina, K5RC, claims he can forecast propagation results by watching the airliners' contrail patters and focusing his beam in the same direction. He has a photo to prove it!

DXPEDITION TO INDIAN OCEAN CAUGHT IN A TIDAL WAVE

The Earthquakes and Tidal Wave in the Indian Ocean area complicated careful preparation for an expedition to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands on Dec. 26th, just as the event was winding down. Read about what was to be a simple wrap up of all the QSOs turning into an emergency event of mammoth proportions. Page 86 tells the story.

HONEYMOON DXPEDITION

What a pick up line—“Marry me and I'll take you off to romantic Belize on a honeymoon!” It worked for K4VU—and the story of their adventure is on Pages 42 through 44. Glamorous photos of sunsets and vistas from Mayan ruins. You too, can enjoy the good life of ham radio in Central America.

“NEW CHAPTER IN THE HISTORY OF AMATEUR RADIO...”

When Carl Schow told me about this article, I thought it might be the celebrated April Fool feature—FlexRadio's SDR-1000 sounded legitimate enough. It turns out that is for real. It is a Product Review by Steve Ford, WB8IMY, and the Editor of QST! Those are his words in the caption; he thinks it is the first “software defined radio” that you can buy off the shelf to cover HF and 6 meters. Read about it on pages 73 through 78.

FROM TiVo TO “WudeeSay”—INSTANT REPLAY FOR A QSO

Computer Science Professor and Ham John Hansen started in radio at age 10, and still has the open mind of a child. He saw his son using the TiVo device to replay Sponge Bob, and thought it would be a great idea for replaying a QSO to recapture slurred call signs and signal reports. He tells how to build such a device on pages 60-63.

RILEY HOLLINGWORTH SPEAKS OUT AT HAM RADIO UNIVERSITY

Most of us, who admire what Riley has done to enforce the rules of the air, have never seen the “Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement” for the FCC. His photo appears on page 13, reporting on his appearance at a special event organized in Long Island that was partly convention, and partly Seminar. Perhaps the West Suburban Radio Clubs could have a similar event and invite Riley

It's time to renew

Dear WCRA member:

It's that time of year again – time to renew. According to our records, you are a 2004 member of WCRA that has yet to renew in 2005. We want to make it as easy as possible to renew, so simply fill out this letter and return it with your check to: **WCRA, P.O. Box QSL, Wheaton, IL 60189**. Or bring this form and your check to the March 4th meeting.

Renewal deadline is prior to the annual election, which will take place at the April 1, 2005 meeting.

WCRA Renewal

Call on roster: _____ ARRL member? Yes ____ No ____

Dues:

Full Member	\$26
Student/Senior Citizen	\$13
Associate	\$13
Family	\$39

Please enter **only** information that has changed

New Call: _____ License Class: _____

New Address: _____

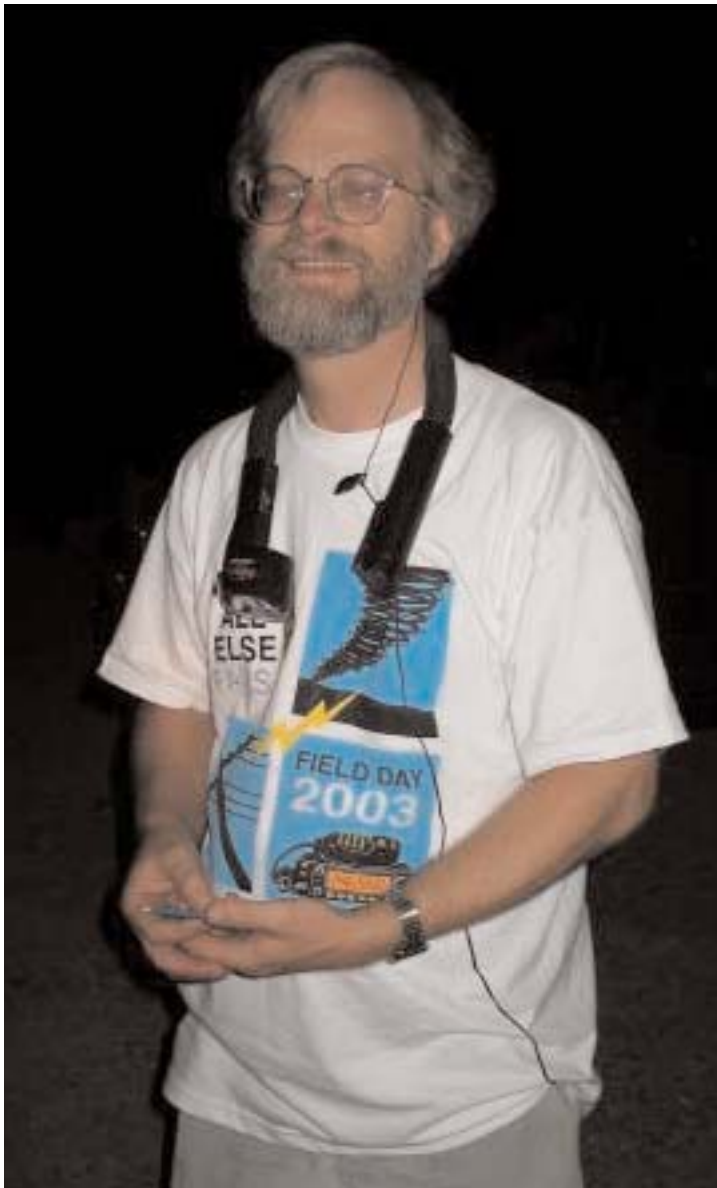
New Phone: _____

New e-mail: _____

Exclude from Roster: ____ Phone ____ e-mail

Please initial: _____ Today's date: _____

Please print this page and fill in blanks. Membership's lapse after the April meeting.



N9HDW Nominated for President in Club 2005 Office Election

by Peter Richey N9HDW

April 1, 2005, commonly known as April Fools' Day, will be an important marker in the Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs club. That is the date of our club officer election. This year several positions are up for election: custodian, treasurer, vice-president, and president. I am running for president for a one-year term to fill out the term left open by our former president, Mike AB9AX, leaving for new opportunities on the East Coast.

So that you might make an informed decision about whether you would want me as your president, permit me to tell you a bit about me. If you don't care about my bio, skip to the end of the article and read my stump speech.

== BIOGRAPHY ==

I've had an interest in radio since my youth. At 14 I built an AM broadcast band transmitter (100 mW) and ran a private radio station for my neighborhood and when I was at scout camp. In college I served as a disc jockey (using real records - in the Jurassic Pre-CDROM Era) and as the Chief Engineer of the college radio station WCCZ, (carrier current AM). IN the

1970's Citizen Band (CB) 27 MHz was my first licensed radio service. Back then one needed a CB license. I got mine as KAHF9165 in 1976. I was into SSB CB as well as AM, and even did some FM CB using Dutch rigs made by Radio Shack. My experimenting efforts included making full duplex AM CB work in the narrow frequency bandwidth of 11m. This led in 1980 to a full duplex, two radio, CB Autopatch where I built the control circuitry, even etching my own circuit boards and using primitive DTMF tone decoding chips.

Well, that pretty well beyond the limits of CB, so I got my Novice class ham license in 1982 as KA9NOB, having to pass 5 words per minute code. I wasn't real satisfied with the restrictions on Novice back then, being essentially limited to short range and CW. My interest then was longer range communication such as short-wave voice, and especially mobile voice such as FM repeaters. Not being much of a CW aficionado I let my Novice license languish unused until it was time to renew in 1987. Well, low and behold, the FCC re-did the license structure and requirements, and Volunteer Examiner program was now running so you didn't have to go to the FCC field office to take an upgrade test! And I married Amy in 1985. By the way, she proposed to over the air (CB) and I accepted. Now that's my kind of gal! I went back to college in 1989

and earned four AS degrees in 1989. I upgraded to Technician (now called Tech+) in 1987 and became N9HDW and joined the WCRA. Then I upgraded to General in 1988 and Advanced in 1989.

Amy got her Novice and then Tech+ licenses in 1989, too, receiving N9IVC. Our daughter, Samantha, was born in 1990. My joke then was that we should have named her WB9ABY. Funny, N9IVC wasn't laughing much at that one! I passed the Extra theory test twice in 1989 and 1990, but failed the 20 wpm code test thrice so I decided I was done upgrading. I would be an Advanced class ham permanently. Now that's kind of unique because one cannot earn today an advanced class license since it's no longer offered for upgrades.

In the early 1990's I was doing packet radio, and TCPIP networking over AX-25 packet radio at the, cough, blazing speed of 1200 baud, and 9600 bps (not kbps, just bps). Also fast-scan Amateur Television (ATV) was of interest so I worked out a full duplex ATV system from my car to our home QTH. But the range on that (1.2GHz and 440 MHz) was disappointing. Also I had pretty well built my dream ham shack in the house which could do 1.6 MHz to 1.2 GHz on most modes (SSB, CW, packet, ATV, FM, AM) and bands. I was also enjoying Shortwave Listening (SWL) especially for international news.

1996 - 1998 really disrupted my ham life because we were displaced from our home for 18 months due to fire, and most of my ham gear was trashed. While, replacing most of the gear that could be bought, my shack has never been the same since. 1998 - 2001 saw the increased demands of caring for and then grieving the passing of all three of my in-laws as well as the shock to our country of 9-11. Around 2000 I went on my first WCRA Field Day (FD) and enjoyed it, and starting helping as a FD co-chair the next year captaining computers and logging for the club. I've been bitten by the FD bug. It's a blast! I enjoy the camaraderie, and the chance to see so many different aspects of our hobby concentrated in one weekend: creative minimalist antennae, tower setup, beam antennae, QRP rigs in a backpack, PSK, ATV, CW, SSB, etc.! About 2001 I also joined the WCRA Hamfest committee assisting with the stage setup, and this past year requesting volunteer workers. My strongest current radio interest has been wireless internet data.

Last year I became a widower and a single parent when my XYL, Amy N9IVC, became a Silent Key.

== Stump Speech ==

Well, that's probably more personal history than you wanted, but I hope it gives you some sense of my ham background. Here's a synopsis of what I see for our club going forward. We have about 100 members. 50% of those directly helped with our hamfest this past year. I think that's great. We have a large over-40 membership. I see that as a wealth of experience and as a treasure and resource. We have 4 repeaters (2m voice, 2m packet, 220 voice, 440 voice) which are quite dependable. I think that's great. We have a club truck which serves as a mobile command post for events. That's a valuable resource, too. we have breakfast meetings, and a wonderful hamfest, yummy snacks at our club meetings. We have an excellent monthly newsletter. I hope you get my first point. As a club we have a lot of things I would call blessings.

Now for my second point.

We have things that could be improved. We seem unsure of what to identify ourselves as. Are we a repeater club? Are we an emergency service group? Are we an experimenter group? Are we aging our club out of a future? While we get new members, what is the median age of our membership? What's new? Are we doing the innovative things in ham radio?

I'm not going to answer those questions, if elected president. I will ask those questions and encourage us to answer them. Sometimes, there needs to be more of a spirit of encouragement in our club gatherings. Let's thank those who do sign-up and those who do help.

I'm going to encourage us to always talk and act in encouraging, welcoming ways.
Here's some examples:

1. If we don't think the volunteer response is high enough, let's ask the hard questions: Is the event or it's date a problem? Is the way we're running needing review? Are communicating, including listening?
2. When we give a committee report or speak in a club meeting, introduce ourselves and our topic a little. We should always remember that a visitor may be present who does not know us or what we're talking about.
3. Respectfully present your view, recognizing it's just that, yours. I see no need for swearing in club meetings. Accurate facts presented respectfully are far more likely to persuade me than bluster. We are an eclectic collection of hams. That's great. Let's embrace and thrive on that diverse richness.
4. Remember youth. If we structure our meetings, events, and calendar to be inclusive and attractive, young membership growth will follow. Right now that means people under 40!
5. Be open to trying something anew that didn't work before. Technology evolves (rapidly) and so does society. Something what disappointed years ago might be worthwhile today if done right.
6. Full-Empty. Is the glass half full or half empty? Your choice. I believe more enjoyment is had in our hobby and in life by seeing the blessings we have and being thankful for them. Work on the problems, cherish the good.

Some things need doing that I feel strongly about and will try to work:

1. When we have a club meeting, it should be effective and interesting, especially for program segments.
2. We need an identity that is current and reflects what we want to be known as.
3. Know and publicize our club goals.
4. Young members are the long-term future of our club. Programs must be designed to include them.
5. Run a balanced budget, but more than that our spending should match our goals.
6. Our executive board should meet regularly and effectively. General club members should know when the board meeting occurs and have opportunity to contribute. The board should lead yet listen.
7. Resolve the "College of Dupage Tower Fell Down" saga.
8. Resolve the "Do we need the truck" debate.
9. Persons leaving a meeting or event should feel it was worthwhile to have been there. And that they would do it again.
10. I can be wordy. (Naw! Really?)

Thanks for your consideration. I hope this gives you some insight.

73 de n9hdw
Peace,
Peter

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:
WE VOTE THIS FRIDAY
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.....

APRIL CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- 1st: 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 just east of Washington Street.. Classroom #138 is on the first floor at the rear of the building on the west side. Annual elections. Program on Hallicrafters radios. Weather Spotting for May(in April).
- 5th: Club breakfast **every** Tuesday morning 7-9 AM, Glen Oaks Restaurant, Glen Ellyn.
- 7th: Club Brunch **1st & 3rd** Thursdays 10:30 AM Carol's Garden, Carol Stream.
- 15th: DEADLINE FOR HAMLETTER SUBMISSIONS for April. Remember we are doing a limited printed edition. **Please be prompt.**
- 28th: VEC testing at the Helen Plum Library in Lombard from 6:30 till 8:30pm.
- 29th: **May club meeting will be held early because of Wheaton College graduation**

Next WCRA General Membership Meeting - April 1st, 2005 - 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@aol.com

Club Mailing Address:

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

First Class Mail

