



# HAMLETTER

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Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs

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## Hamfest coming – quickly

If you haven't heard by now, the annual Mid-Winter Hamfest is scheduled for Sunday, January 23 at the Pheasant Run Mega Center, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sunday January 23.

While the old days of everyone having to set up tables on Wednesday night and tear down and clean on Sunday afternoon are long gone, we still need help to stage this major fund-raising event for the club.

### Workers

Peter, N9HDW, has agreed to serve as worker coordinator for the club. He will be looking for volunteers at the January meeting, and the next two weeks. We need ticket sellers, door guards, and people to help with the Chinese fire-drill that takes place between 5 a.m. and 8 a.m., also known as setup. If you're interested in helping out, contact him at [n9hdw@yahoo.com](mailto:n9hdw@yahoo.com) to get on the sign-up sheet.

### Ticket sales

In past years we had a couple go-getters who hit every club meeting in the Chicago area and sold hundreds of advanced tickets. Unfortunately, go-getters retire and move to Wisconsin, so we are in dire need of ticket salesmen. If you would like to attend another club meeting, York, DuPage, Wafar, Schaumburg, etc. in January and peddle tickets, get in touch with our ticket chairman John, N9NA at [jfsiepmann@hotmail.com](mailto:jfsiepmann@hotmail.com). Last year I went to the Schaumburg meeting and sold over 30 tickets. We'll be looking for volunteers at the January meeting for this important task.

### Table sales

As I'm writing this, table sales are lagging behind last year. I've learned not to panic, as a bunch of last-minute tables will come in the next two weeks. But we need more tables. Talk it up on the air and among your friends. Tables are available at \$25 each, early entry tickets are \$6 each. Get a friend and get a table together. We need more table sales. Anyone who wants tables contact John Faber, WT9Y at [wt9y@arrl.net](mailto:wt9y@arrl.net) or via our hotline at 630/604-0157.

(See page two)

**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			
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

We are looking for a new President to step forward and fill this page on a monthly basis with his or her words of wisdom. Are YOU that person? Pay, benefits, and time off are among the best in radio club history. Make your interest known to a board member.

## Thanks

This marks my third, and final, year as hamfest chairman. I plan on remaining active on the committee, but it's time for me to step aside as chairman. John Faber, WT9Y, has indicated he will take over next year, so this year has been a training exercise for him. Next year he can negotiate the contract, write a budget, pull together meetings, write articles for the Hamletter, etc. etc.

I want to thank the other committee members who have given me hours and hours of help, lots of advice, and great support as I put these three hamfests together. I especially want to thank that go-getter who moved to Wisconsin, Bill Hollister, K9WH. Without his efforts in getting the big vendors to return year after year, I'm not sure we'd have a hamfest. Without the money we've raised the past three years, well over \$10,000, I'm not sure we'd have a club.

Bruce, K9OZ

## WCRA Meeting Minutes

by: Mary James  
K9GAL  
WCRA  
Secretary

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The minutes of the November Meeting appeared in the December issue of the Hamletter.

## JANUARY QST ISSUE REVIEWED

By Jim Ward, W9DHX

This 160 page issue is made to order for Senior Hams. It's the Annual Vintage Radio Issue and there are five articles to delight the reader who can "remember when?"

Page 39 is the cover story about the author, Stu Cohen, building a Johnson Ranger kit that was in a "never touched" carton. How did that happen? The purchaser apparently got cold feet after he ordered it. What an adventure 40 years later for Stu, N1SC.

That's preceded in time and pages by a story on the "tin lizzie" of the wireless world. What the Ford Model T did for the automotive history, the "crystal set" did for wireless. The masses could afford the crude radio receivers that had a "cat whisker" to seek out those hot spots on the magic galena ore. Read all about the early days of radio reception on page 33.

Another step back in history is on page 49, "The History of the Handheld." There's also an early "Jeeves" cartoon and several photographs from World War II. The original walky-talky developed into today's modern solid state handhelds

Human interest is covered with the story of an "old timer" getting back on the air after 35 years! Page 51 begins "Ham Interrupted-The Log of W9PMN". Fellow ham Richard Budd, W0TF, tells about the return to the hobby. Maybe it will help you convince another off the air ham to return.

The fifth story is one that brings back memories of your correspondent's experience of spotting a "12.50 One Tube Radio Kit" in the pages of Popular Mechanics. It was shipped by railroad freight from Brooklyn to Hampshire, Illinois, in 1933. I put it together, but what a hum; the detector and rectifier were in the same glass envelope.

(See page 8)

## Activities on the HF

### Bands

by:  
Peter Barr  
W9UF

The 3YØX - Peter I Island DXpedition team is gearing up for the much anticipated activation this month. The international team plans to board the former Chilean Navy 83-meter icebreaker, Antarctic Dream, in Punta Arenas, Chile on January 14th and set sail for Peter I Island. This will be only the third ever DXpedition to Peter I, one of the world's most isolated Antarctic islands. Peter I Island, which is located at 68 50' South 90 35' West in the Bellinghousen Sea. Once the team arrives off shore, around January 19th, the team members and equipment will be offloaded by helicopter to the icy island. When the team lands they will have to immediately set up multiple arctic-grade insulated shelters, which will be home

for approximately the next 16 days (January 20-February 4 estimated).

The stations will consist of nine Icom 756 Pro II transceivers, band pass filters and eight Alpha 99CS "special edition" amplifiers. The team has set a goal of 100,000 + QSOs, aiming for the same amount of QSOs in Europe, North America and Asia. Activity will be on 10-160 meters on CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK. Suggested frequencies are as follows:

CW - 1.822.5, 3.523, 7.023, 10.103, 14.023, 18.073, 21.023, 24.893, 28.023

SSB - 1.842.5, 3.750, 7.073, 14.190, 18.165, 21.295, 24.987, 28.475

Digital - 10.148, 14.088, 18.105, 21.100, 24.949, 28.092

The above frequencies have been chosen to allow the team to occasionally activate as many as three stations on one band at the same time, in order to take full advantage of openings. They are aware of the US General band and will listen there during appropriate times.

The 3YØX DXpedition will be relying on four pilot stations to pass information, news and suggestions. They are: Don Greenbaum, N1DG - North & South America - don@goldtel.net Klaus Wagner, DL1XX - Europe, Africa & Middle East - dl1xx@gmx.net Toshi Kusano, JA1ELY - Pacific Rim & Asia - ja1ely@bb.mbn.or.jp Lee Jennings, ZL2AL - Australia & New Zealand - leejen@paradise.net.nz .

Iridium Satellite, LLC has graciously agreed to be a sponsor of the Peter I DXpedition and has provided equipment that will allow the team to stay in touch with home, provide daily uploads of log information, and daily updates from the team including pictures of interest. They will have the ability to relay feedback from you about missed or unusual band openings, suggestions, and other timely information to help the team get you in the log. This is a huge undertaking and very, very expensive.

The Expedition website ([www.peterone.com](http://www.peterone.com)) has been expanded and now includes pages with basic information for the non-ham viewer. Information topics such as "What is a DXpedition", "Prior DXpeditions to Peter I", "Tell me about Peter I Island", etc. The idea is to help inform and interest others, outside the ham community, in our hobby and adventure. All the members of the team ask you to assist them in this regard: Talk to your local school, Boy or Girl scout troop, Kiwanis Club, Rotary, the local press, etc. about the Peter I website. Encourage them to follow along as the DXpedition unfolds.

Team members for the 3YØX DXpedition will include Ralph Fedor, KØIR; Bob Allphin, K4UEE; Gerard Jacot, F2JD; Bill Beyer, N2WB; Dave Anderson, K4SV; Bob Grimmick, N6OX; Erling Wiig, LA6VM; Andy Chesnokov, UA3AB; Eric Scace, K3NA; Hans Buerki, HB9BHW; George Nicholson, N4GRN; Carlos Nascimento, NP4IW/W6; Gordon Hardman, WØRUN; Martti Laine, OH2BH; Pat Hess, NK7C; Dr. Gary Stouder, K9SG; Alan Brown, K5AB; David Gemmell, VK4GL; Mike Dirksen, PA5M, Pertti Simovaara, OH2PM, and Hans-Peter Blaettler, HB9BXE.

This DXpedition is sure to be the most expensive ever DXpedition. Consider the fact that a 285-foot ice-breaker and helicopter will be at their beckon for 30 days. Each of the operators has already written a check total up to 74% of this DXpedition. The operators will also be taking 4 to 5 weeks of their time away from family and work. The team is now looking for support from the Amateur Radio DX community. They are set up to take contributions toward the Peter I DXpedition via PayPal and Credit Cards. You can also send a check. Please seriously consider supporting this activity by visiting their website at <http://www.peterone.com> and follow the directions. Be sure to include your callsign.

The QSL manager for this DXpedition will be K4YL, Mike Grose, P.O. Box 183, Flat Rock, NC 28731 0183.

A group from Europe will be putting on a DXpedition from both the North and South Cook Islands later this month. Look for ZK1WET, ZK1XMY, ZK1SDE and ZK1SDZ to be active from the South and North Cook Islands as follows:

January 31 to February 17 - Aitutaki Island (South Cooks)

February 17 to February 24 - Manihiki Atoll (North Cooks)

February 24 to March 3 - Aitutaki Island (South Cook)

The expedition team members will concentrate mostly on 17 and 20 meters although there will be activity on 10 through 160 meters. They will be mostly on SSB, but ZK1WET will be active on CW and RTTY. Antennas will include mono-band yagis for 10, 17 and 20 meters. Verticals will be used on the other bands. ZK1WET will also be active in the CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest. They will have double sided QSLs printed for each call. These double-sided cards don't do well via the bureau so direct QSLing is preferred via M3SDE.

A group of operators from Norway and Denmark will be on from Easter Island as 3GØYP (phone) and 3GØYM (CW and digital), January 8-18. They will be on 160-10M. For more information go to <http://home.online.no/%7ES-roabr/ladxg/>.

MD4K will be the Isle of Man callsign for David, G3NKC; Martin; G4XUM and Tim, MØBEW during the CQWW 160 CW event January 29-30. They will be in the multi-operator category. QSL via G3NKC.

TOØO will be on the air January 27-February 13 from Martinique, with Thomas, KCØW operating. He plans to be in the CQWW 160 CW contest January 29-30, single op high power. QSL to KCØW with a SASE.

VU3BPZ is now at Maitri Base in Antarctica and expected to be active as time allows. Maitri Base was established in March 1989 after the first Indian Station, Dakshin Gangotri, became buried in ice. "Maitri" is built on adjustable telescopic legs and has 25 single occupancy rooms as well as research, supply, power and general-purpose buildings. It is located on the East Antarctic mainland south of Capetown, South Africa and 90 nautical miles from the usual Antarctic coastline. It is only 5 km away from the Russian Novolazarevskaya Station.

Dr. Mario Pillon, IØQHM, continues to be active as IØQHM/KC4 from the Mario Zucchelli Station (WAP ITA-Ø1). After the operators at this base establish family connections on the air, they will then make an effort to make contacts with everybody else. They state that they will check-in regularly on 14.180 kHz from 183Ø-190Øz. However, due to limited time, Mario can only stay on the air for 30 minutes a day.

Manjurul, S21AM will be joined by Dave, EI3IO (<http://EI3IO.com>) from Char Dakhin Shahbazpur (Bhola) Island, in Bangladesh AS-140, February 4-7. They are requesting a special callsign. They will have two 100-watt rigs on the air, CW and SSB, all bands subject to antenna limitations. Already on the site is a 30M tall tower. They are considering half slopers for 160, 80 and 30. QSL via EI3IO, Dave Court, "Connogue," River Lane, Shankill, County Dublin, Ireland.or via the bureau. Logs will be uploaded to ARRL's Logbook of the World.

ZF2TJ will be the Cayman Islands callsign for well-known contesteer Jim Neiger, N6TJ (also known as ZD8Z over many years of operating, primarily in contests), from the station of ZF2NT during the ARRL DX CW contest February 19-20. Jim is going for his fourth decade of having a contest win. The following month, Jim plans to head back to Ascension Island. Look for him to be signing as ZD8Z starting March 22nd for 10 days, including the CQ WPX SSB Contest. He hopes for some good 160 meter openings while there. QSL for all oper-

ations (including ZF2TJ) via VE3HO.

CQ Amateur Radio magazine is inviting Amateur Radio operators around the world to join in its 60th anniversary by taking part in an on-air celebration during the first 60 days of 2005. CQ's first issue was published in January 1945. During the "CQ Gang" activity, from January 1 to March 1, 2005, any ham who has ever had an association with CQ magazine -- as a staff member, contributing editor, author, etc. -- as well as current subscribers to CQ, CQ VHF and Popular Communications magazines may sign "/60" (six zero not six oscar!) after his or her callsign. Certificates will be issued for contacts with enough "/60" stations to garner a minimum of 60 contact points, based on number of contacts times the number of different position multipliers (e.g., editor, columnist, etc.) worked. Shortwave listeners may also qualify by monitoring enough contacts for a minimum of 60 contact points. Endorsements will be issued for scores up to 600 points. In addition, CQ club station WW2CQ will be activated from various parts of the United States during the event period. A separate certificate will be available for working WW2CQ in all call areas from which it is active. Details on that portion of the activity will be released later. Complete rules for the CQ Gang 60th Anniversary activity are in the December, 2004 issue of CQ magazine, and by going to the magazine's website at <http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com> and clicking the link at the bottom of the home page.

## IOTA

Paolo, IK2QPR plans to be QRV as 8Q7PR from Dunikolhu Island in the Baa Atoll, Maldives (AS-Ø13) from January 9 to 17. He will be running 100 watts and a vertical antenna. Look for him on 10-40 meters CW and SSB. QSL via IK2QPR, Paolo Fava, via Bertani 8, 46100 Mantova, Italy.

John, KP2/KL7JR, informs OPDX that he has been active from St. Croix, USVI (NA-1Ø6), since late October on most HF bands. He will continue his operations through the end of April 2005. He will be concentrating on 10, 12, 15, 17 and 20 meters (40 and 75 meters too). He mentions that he checks into the 14.247 DX Net most days after 21ØØz. His E-mail for skeds can be sent to: [KL7JR@aol.com](mailto:KL7JR@aol.com). QSL direct via his CBA with a SASE.

9AØCI will be QRV again from Struga lighthouse on Lastovo Island (EU- Ø16) from May 14 to 21, 2005. Operators will be 9A6AA, 9A2WJ, 9A3KB, DJ3XG, DF9MV, DJ1MHS, DL5MFL, DL9CHR and DEØMST.

Jarda, OLØANT is currently active from the small Czech "ECO Nelson" station on Nelson Island, South Shetlands. He will be active until January 10, 2005. His equipment includes a battery powered Kenwood TS570D and a vertical antenna for the traditional bands (no WARC). Ham radio activity is not the primary reason for being on the island. QSL via OK1FOW, Jaroslav Jirus, Angolska 609, CZ - 160 00 Praha 6, CZECH REPUBLIC. Information about ECO Nelson can be found at <http://www.antarctica.cz>.

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

## ON THE WEB

The story and pictures of the recent V6O operation from Pulap Island (OC-155) can be found on the Web at: <http://www3.ocn.ne.jp/~iota/newpage90v6o.htm>

VK1AA operated the ARRL 10 Meter Contest and has a write up with photos at <http://www.clockmaker.com.au/ham/photos/arrl2004.html>.

Pictures of the recent A61AV/p operation from Sirat Al Khawr Island (AS-124) can be found at <http://www.mdxc.org/a61av-p>.

## DXCC NEWS

DXCC Manager NC1L, Bill Moore, says the ARRL has approved TN3S, Congo, for DXCC credit. The effective date for the TN3S operation was May 15, 2002.

Tom Meier, K7ZZ reports documentation for the DXCC Desk and LoTW have accepted his operations in the Pacific from October and November of 2004. The logs for T3ØT and V7/K7ZZ have been loaded on LoTW. Tom is still waiting for the color picture QSL cards to come back from the printer in order to reply to all of the direct QSLs that have been received. However, the labels have been printed and the cards should go out the day after they arrive from the printer.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

Bethpage, NY: ARRL NYC/LI Section, W2V. 12ØØz-2ØØØz Jan 9. Ham Radio University 2005. 14.277 7.277. Certificate. George Tranos, N2GA, PO Box 296, Bellport, NY 11713. [www.hudson.arrl.org/nli/hru2005.htm](http://www.hudson.arrl.org/nli/hru2005.htm).

Green Bay, WI: Bay Area Relay League, W4P. 12ØØz Jan 21-24ØØz Jan 23. Packers Ice Bowl Remembered. 14.260 14.070 7.280. Certificate. George Russell, WN8VIX, 2530 Sun Terr, Green Bay, WI 54311.

Davidsonville, MD: Anne Arundel Radio Club Jr, K1D. 14ØØz Jan 22-Ø2ØØz Jan 23. Celebrating 4th anniversary of a club dedicated to kids. 28.335 21.365 14.265 7.237. Certificate. Anne Arundel Radio Club Jr, 7901 Pepperbox Ln, Pasadena, MD 21122-6328. <http://ki3ds.org/specialevent.html>.

San Diego, CA: Challenger Middle School ARC, KI6YG. ØØØØz-23ØØz Jan 28. Challenger Middle School commemorates the 19th anniversary of the Space Shuttle Challenger tragedy. 28.475 21.375 14.275. QSL. Frank Forrester, Challenger Middle School, 10810 Parkdale Ave, San Diego, CA 92126.

Quincy, IL: Western Illinois ARC, K9E. ØØØØz Jan 28-2359z Feb 2. Eagles on the Mississippi at Lock and Dam 21, Quincy, Illinois. 14.250 14.085 14.070 7.250. Certificate. Robert G. Mitchell, 816 Long Dr, Quincy, IL 62305.

Buckhannon, WV: Barbour County Area Amateur Radio Club, WV8BC. 13ØØz-21ØØz Jan 29. Klondike Derby with the Allohok Council of Boy Scouts. 7.235 3.865. QSL. Steve Milligan, 11 Park St, Buckhannon, WV 26201. <http://wv8bc.tripod.com>.

Punxsutawney, PA: Punxsutawney Area Amateur Radio Club, K3HWJ. 14ØØz-21ØØz Jan 29. Commemorating Groundhog Day 2005. 14.240 7.240 7.125 146.715. Certificate. Sherman Hollopeter, W3QOS, Box 20, 216 E Main St, Big Run, PA 15715.

Certificates and QSL cards: To obtain a certificate from any of the special-event stations offering them, send your QSO information along with a 9\_12 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

Sorry, no contest information is available this month. Please consult your favorite amateur radio publication for January contests, or visit NG3K's contesting page at <http://www.cpcug.org/user/wfeidt/Contest/>.

## DX POTPOURRI

A group of Italian hams have planned a DXpedition to Somalia for February 3-17th and now has a survey on their web page. You are encouraged to fill out the survey with your needs for bands and modes (especially the topbanders). The Web page can be found at:  
<http://www.i2ysb.com/60/need.htm>.

Tibor, HG4I is using the special callsign HGØ5HNY until January 31st in celebration of the New Year. Activity is on all bands, including the newer ones, using CW, SSB, RTTY and BPSK. He will also be active in all contests this month. QSL via HG4I.

OHØI will be on from the Aland Islands in the CQWW RTTY WPX contest February 12-13. They will be multi-operator, multi-transmitter. QSL via OH3BHL.

Operators in Belgium will be permitted to use the double-O, OO, prefix during 2005. The special prefix marks 175 years of Belgium's existence.

All Austrian hams will be permitted to use the OE5Ø prefix to celebrate 50 years of independence. QSLing via the bureau should be no problem since Austrian hams may have various prefixes but only one suffix, e.g. OE1WHC, OE3WHC, OR5ØWHC.

Diya, YI1DZ says Echolink is up and running from Baghdad. All that's left, he says, is a backup power source. He says YI1IRQ-L should be working "24/7."

Rick Dorsch, PJ4/NE8Z will be on the air from Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles, February 4-13. He will be equipped with a Kenwood TS-680S, Ameritron AL-84 amplifier, Cushcraft R7 (40-10M) vertical, plus a Yaesu FT-857 and Cushcraft 3-element yagi on 6M. He plans to be mostly on CW and SSB on the WARC bands, plus 6M. QSL address: Rick Dorsch, P.O. Box 616, Hamburg, MI 48139.

LU2ZD located at Primavera Base, Antarctica will be activated in January by Henry, LU4DXU. His flight to the Antarctic Peninsula will be on the 7th or 9th of January. Primavera Base is only open during the Antarctic summer season.

Starting on January 17, 2005 the international postage rates in Canada will increase. The increase will be 5 cents. One US dollar is not enough to cover international mail from Canada. The current exchange rate (as of mid December) is \$1.18 (Canadian) to \$1.00 US dollar.

Happy New Year and Best DX for 2005!

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

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**QST REVIEWED** from page 3:

The article on page 92 details early kits of the 40s and 50s starting with a Heathkit Model for \$8.50 and up. You'll enjoy this trip down Memory Lane.

Moving forward, on page 60, check out "Echolink for Beginners." You've read about this Internet Based system of Ham Communications, but have you tried it? If you plan to, read this article first, and the process should be a snap. You need a sound card on your computer-or Echolink won't work. The author does a good job of telling you the simple steps needed to get a QSO going. No need to buy the program - it downloads free off the Internet.

Finally, a MUST READ - The Announcement of the WCRA Hamfest page 96. We'll see you there!

# THE BIRTHDAY MEMBERS OF JANUARY

GEORGE	W9GWR	01-03-45
SCOTT	KB9IYY	01-05-55
CAROL	KB9FYL	01-16-58
GARY	N9VLL	01-18-53

Remember that if you do not see your birthday on this monthly list it is because the FCC stopped including this piece of data several years ago and the editor does not have your information in his database. If you would like to see your birthday appear here please forward your information to the editor.

## JANUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- 4th: Club breakfast **every** Tuesday morning 7-9 AM, Glen Oaks Restaurant, Glen Ellyn.
- 6th: Club Brunch **1st & 3rd** Thursdays 10:30 AM Carol's Garden, Carol Stream.
- 7th: 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 month's program will be the Mid-Winter Hamfest.
- 15th: DEADLINE FOR HAMLETTER SUBMISSIONS for February. Remember we are doing a limited printed edition. **Please be prompt.**
- 23rd: Mid-Winter Hamfest at the Pheasant Run Mega Center in West Chicago 8am til 1pm.
- 27th: VEC testing at the Helen Plum Library in Lombard from 6:30 till 8:30pm.

### Next WCRA General Membership Meeting - January 7th '05 - 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

