



HAMLETTER

Published Monthly
Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs
Issue 506 Founded 1948 August 2005



Pictured here are two of the recent programs that club members enjoyed. Bruce, K9OZ, demonstrated pedestrian mobile for both CW and voice. He began by assembling a small CW station and then putting together a larger backpack mobile for voice using an antenna, gelcell battery, and an ICOM 817. After setting the station up and testing the possibility of contacts, the membership moved to the parking lot adjacent to the Billy Graham Center



Restoring Hallicrafters radios was the subject of the May meeting program given by Kirt Shore, KB9CBY.



DUCOMM tour conducted by Rich, N9DKO Saturday July 16, 2005



WCRA Staff

Elected Officers

President	Peter Richey	N9HDW	630: 260-9447
Vice President	Bruce Plantz	K9OZ	630: 968-1844
Secretary	Mary James	K9GAL	630: 968-1844
Treasurer	Ken Kwasniewski	N9HQ	630: 483-6946
Custodian	Kurt Rubin	KB9RTO	630: 7289307

Volunteer Committee Chairs

Club Call Trustee	Tom Geletka	N9CBA	630: 289-2535
Christmas Party	Ruth Kwarta	KA9RZG	630: 858-8541
Club Awards	John Cheney	N9MWF	708: 848-2885
Elmer/Know-Code	Charlie Matthews	WB9SGD	630: 665-4506
Field Day	Dale Kwarta	NJ9E	630: 858-8541
Field Day	Peter Richey	N9HDW	630: 260-9447
Hamfest	John Faber	WT9Y	630: 690-9608
Refreshments	Bruce Plantz	K9OZ	630: 968-1844
Membership	Mary James	K9GAL	630: 968-1844
Membership Retention	Robert Noles	N9XS	630:372-7036
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
Volunteer Exam.	Harry Kamer	K9HK	630: 953-0519

WCRA Repeater Administrative Board (RAB)

Chairman	Don Motz, Jr.	N9NYX	630: 665-7757
Secretary	Doug Totel	W9NJM	630: 469-3001
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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This publication uses QuarkXPress 6.5 and Photoshop 7.01



From the President's Gavel

by Peter, N9HDW WCRA President

Greetings from my RV ham shack "on the road" in New England! By the time you read this, KX9RJ and his son, and my daughter and I should have visited ARRL headquarters in Newington, CT and hopefully operated the outstanding amateur radio station there, W1AW. I've heard about this place for years, and it will be special to visit it.

On a different note, the Executive Board Vision Proposal was presented at the July club meeting. We'll vote on the proposal at the August club meeting which will be after the annual picnic at Herrick Lake. This is an intentional effort by the club leadership to clarify our direction and foster enthusiasm. The Board has been asking and listening to what club members see as important. The August vote will be an important milestone for our club as it will set the basis for our future plans, and how we use our resources. So note the date, 8/5/05, for the club picnic and Vision Proposal vote. Paper copies of the proposal will be sent to each current member as well as recently lapsed members. Plus the proposal will be posted on the web, and included in this Hamletter. Please read it and come to the picnic to vote and have a nice evening. Radio Direction Finding is the program for the evening. Please note the earlier starting time of 6 PM on August 5.

New this month will be paper short versions of the Hamletter mailed to each current member. This is in response to survey input requesting this. We'll still have the large hamletter on the web.

Thanks to all the members who helped out with the Wheaton July 4th parade! It went well and reflect-

ed so on the club, while helping the community.

Also, please express your thanks to the club leadership, both its officers and its committee chairs. Since becoming president in April, I have seen lots of improvement in many areas of the club. There is a new vitality, and its refreshing.

73 de n9hdw.

Peace,
Peter

WCRA Minutes from the July 8, 2005 Meeting



WCRA Meeting Minutes

by: Mary James
K9GAL
WCRA
Secretary

President **Peter, N9HDW** called the meeting to order at 19:30. As the board and members introduced themselves they answered the question: "How have you or will you participate in Club Public Service events and/or Emergency Preparedness?" **Joe, N9WRO** made a motion that the minutes of the last meeting be accepted. **Tom, N9WBW** seconded the motion and it passed.

In the president's announcements, Peter, N9HDW said the July meeting of the WCRA Executive Board will take place 7:30 p.m. July

11 at his house. The main topics of the board meeting will be the Vision Proposal and club picnic. He announced openings for committee chairs and members. The president reported on the June Executive Board meeting, namely progress being made on the Mission and Vision of the club leading up to the proposal and vote. He also reported on an "excellent" Field Day 2005.

Vice President **Bruce K9OZ** talked about a special club event, a tour of DuComm being planned for July 16 at 10 a.m. He reminded members about the club picnic/August meeting to be held August 5 at Herrick Lake's east pavillion. He said there will be food, fellowship and short program on Direction Finding and very quick business meeting. The event will run from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. The program for September will be Antenna theory and October will be CARMA on scanning. Secretary **Mary K9GAL** invited members to look through the club mail and to take an updated roster.

Peter presented the report forwarded to him by Treasurer **Ken N9HQ**. Custodian **Kurt KB9RTO** reminded members the club has property that can be loaned out. He mentioned a missing piece of equipment and said the club is in the process of fixing the club truck's generator.

In Health & Welfare, Peter said **Jim W9DHX** is recovering slowly from knee surgery and N9HQ is suffering from sciatic nerve damage. He announced funeral services for the ex-wife of George N9EJS.

Public Service Joe invited members to participate in the Glendale Heights parade to be held August 27 at 1 p.m. He asked volunteers to arrive by 12:30. John N9MWF thanked members who did volunteer work at the Lion's Club walk and Wheaton Fourth of July parade.

RAB **Larry KA9KDC** said everything is status quo. He pointed out that informative announcements have been added to the 2 meter repeater and explained the announcements will end if someone keys up during them

Peter presented more information on Field Day 2005. VE Program **Gordon AH6DA** and Hamletter **Don N9NYX** gave short reports.

A motion to accept reports was made by Tom, seconded by **Steve N9OA**. The motion passed. In general announcements **Doug W9NJM** told members about the Fox River Radio League's Hamfest. There was no Old Business.

In New Business, Peter read the Vision Proposal that had been drafted by the Executive Board based on a recent Membership Survey. He said the proposal will be published in the next newsletter, and then he read it. Members commented on the proposal, and offered suggestions for initiatives. Kurt conducted a drawing for door prizes and announced that donated prizes for future drawings would be appreciated.

Motion to adjourn was made by Tom, seconded by **Carol KB9FYL**. The motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned at 20:25.

The following mission statement and list of initiatives has been prepared by the board. We will ask the club to vote on general agreement with the mission statement and initiatives. If approved, the board will begin working to achieve the initiatives, with individual initiatives being presented for club approval in coming months.

MISSION STATEMENT:

The Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs is an eclectic group of radio enthusiasts who seek to enjoy and explore diverse aspects of the amateur radio hobby, and provide benefit to the communities in which we live.

We strive to serve all of our members in the best ways possible. Some of the many ways in which we do this we consider very important. These are our Key Purposes: Friendship, Emergency Preparedness, Club Meetings, Special Events, Public Service, Nets, Training, License Exams, Hamfest, and Repeaters.

We sponsor a hamfest annually to generate funds to pay for the club's expenses. It is important that this money be used in areas proportional to the club interests as expressed by the membership.

The equipment and resources the club retains are matched to the club's Purposes.

NEW INITIATIVES:

After surveying the membership, the executive board recommends we emphasize in the coming year and beyond the following new initiatives:

1. Maintain better communication with membership.

The club will continue to publish a web-based Hamletter, but will immediately begin mailing a condensed version to members that arrives in the mail a week prior to club meetings. This will encourage more participation in meetings and activities. Club meetings will be better focused with short business sessions followed by informative programs.

2. Assess and re-align as needed our equipment to match our Key Purposes:

Club vehicle: One of the biggest items in our inventory is the club truck. Some are real pleased with the current truck. Many are not. It consumes one half of our typical annual budget and costs between \$200 and \$500 per use in annual expenses. It is 39 years old. Future maintenance costs are hard to project accurately. They are at least not likely to decrease.

We need to honestly define what our expectations of a club vehicle really are independent of the current truck, and then objectively assess what we are willing to support. Then we need to match our objectives with appropriate action. The Executive Board recommends disposing of the current truck, possibly replacing it with a smaller, lighter, less expensive, more dependable vehicle, such as an RV trailer.

Form a Vehicle Definition Task Force (VDTF). This group will have a time-bound charter to compose and propose a definition of what the club needs for a vehicle.

Upon approval of the definition by the membership, a Vehicle Acquisition Task Force (VATF) would be formed and given the time-bound charter to locate and recommend a replacement vehicle to the membership. The goal here would be to replace the club truck with a financially viable solution.

3. Repeaters:

Our club repeaters consist of three voice systems and one packet radio system.

The voice systems are standard FM voice systems, Presently we do not have auto-patch, any form of linking including Echo-Link, and IRLP. Two of the voice repeaters have been "temporarily" located at members homes for about three years, and the remaining one is on a commercial building. The packet radio system is a full-duplex packet radio repeater located at a hospital in Hoffman Estates.

One of the dissatisfactions expressed by members is that our repeater coverage is significantly lessened since relocating them away from the College of DuPage tower which became unavailable three years ago.

We will be finding permanent locations for the repeaters to increase the coverage to serve a wider area.

It is recommended that the Repeater Advisory Board be increased in official size to provide more personnel in order that three main purposes may always be accomplished: maintenance, emergency solutions, and growth. Growth goals includes more repeaters when needed especially for additional communication modes such as ATV and satellite, new features on existing repeaters such as IRLP and Echolink, and new architecture such as meshed net systems.

A change in membership size of the RAB requires a club By-Law change.

Other Club Inventory:

The club owns a lot of equipment that sees little use during a year. We will be reviewing and likely disposing of such through sales, donations, etc.

4. Increase our capability in Emergency Preparedness (EP):

Create a Club Plan for EP utilizing the knowledge of the members of the club who are part of the county OEM to create a contact schedule (phone tree, etc.) and procedure for activating the club in an emergency. This is a much faster response plan than Field Day. This would include scenarios and definitions of what is needed and who's on call. An Interest Group would be formed and would hold regular practices and reviews with the goal of making the club an effective emergency resource.

5. Form Interest Groups:

So that every club member has at least one on-going group within the club to be part of that interests him or her. These will over time take precedence if not replace the former committee based form of club organization. Some committees will remain but it is likely that the interest groups will be the driving force in the membership in the future.

This is more than a word change from committees to Interest Groups. The emphasis is a change from one of duty to one of interest. Each member is encouraged to participate with enthusiasm in Interest Group(s) that appeal to the member's interest(s).

Interest Groups will be encouraged to give reports at club meetings on their activities and in the Hamletter, and to extend invitation to other members to participate in the interest groups, and will have the right to request funding allocations from the club to further the interest groups' success.

Picnic-Picnic-Picnic

Mark your calendars for Friday August 5 because you don't want to miss the WCRA Picnic. We've decided to bring the picnic back to give new and old members a chance to socialize and enjoy an evening at beautiful Herrick Lake.

The picnic is being held in the East shelter at the Herrick Lake forest preserve. Enter the preserve off Butterfield, just East of Herrick Road. Go to the east end of the parking lot and you won't be able to miss the shelter.

The club is providing the eats from Kentucky Fried Chicken. There is no charge to attend, and you're welcome to bring the XYL and Harmonics along. The picnic starts at 6 p.m. If you're one of those people who has to bring something, bring a dessert.

There will be a program on direction finding, with some hands-on time, following the meal. So be sure to bring a HT along, if you have one. There will be a short business meeting at the end of the picnic.

We would like to get a rough count of how many people are going to attend. Our guesses range from 50 to 200, so we'd like to get a more accurate number. If you're planning on attending, please send an e-mail to k9oz@aol.com with your call the number attending. If you're e-mail challenged, call 630/968-1844 and leave a message.

Program update

(Continued on Page 15)



**Activities
on the HF
Bands**
by:
Peter Barr
W9UF

Ira, KD4SLM/VP2E will be on from "The Valley" in the central part of the island of Anguilla starting August 1 for two to three weeks (weather and time permitting). Look for Ira on HF, VHF and UHF, SSB. QSL to his home call.. He travels with his Yaesu FT-857D and Yaesu ATAS-120 antenna. A four-element Yagi is possible.

Steve, VE7CT has plans for a mid-September Kure Island expedition. Steve says he is looking for "relay stations" with recording capabilities to join the team, able to record audio and pictures, likely JPEGs from the team as

well as from "the deserving," so that the operation can have more interaction with the DX community on a near-real-time two-way basis. Steve would like to have stations with a decent setup, in the Northeast, Central, and Southeast U.S. They would also act as pilot stations, giving feedback to the DXpedition - via the website and on the internet. The K7C web site is www.cordell.org. Click on "Kure Atoll," "contents," then "relay stations," for additional details. Those interested may e-mail Steve Wright, VE7CT, at _ve7ct_@shaw.ca.

KJ4UY/V47UY, Larry, and his wife will be at their second home in St. Kitts and Nevis in August the 19th through 26th. Larry has shipped ahead a tri-bander for 20, 15 and 10 and a WARC duo-bander, 17 and 12, to Karl, V44NK to install there. Larry hopes to get on from each of the two islands during this trip. He also hopes propagation will be better than last year. He will have six meters while on Nevis, but not on St. Kitts. He would like to do some 80 and 40 and maybe 160 from Nevis, but will follow the propagation, regardless. While on Nevis, he will have the six-meter radio on all the time. Larry says he'll be too busy socializing with his St. Kitts and Nevis friends to set up schedules but will be on the air when he can. QSL via KJ4UY with SASE. Larry says he and V44NK have something else up their sleeves for December.

Dave Vittum, W1DV/2 says he is not headed back to TL8 permanently but he and his wife are officers in a new non-governmental organization (NGO), which is drilling water wells, providing orphan care, and starting micro-enterprise developments in the Central African Republic. See www.icdinternational.org. for more on the group their working with. They expect to make two or three shorts trips to TL8 each year. Dave says he's not sure what his ham radio activity will be there, but did notice on his last trip that his antennas have not been stolen, as I think he said they had been previously. The next trip appears to be November 4-18. Dave is known in the Central African Republic as TL8DV.

Larry, VQ9LA has returned to Diego Garcia. He's reportedly spending most of his time answering a QSL card backlog, but he'll soon be busy on 160 and 30M until next May when he leaves the island. Larry says now will be the time to work him on the low bands because most VQ9s just get on 20 and it may be a long time before more lowband activity from VQ9.

IOTA

(Available from OPDX on web)

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

EI5DI, Paul, has an IOTA contest logging program. SDI (SD for IOTA) has been updated for 2005. He says it runs on any Windows software and is available as freeware from www.ei5di.com. You can get the manual for it from www.ei5di.com/sd/sd.pdf.

Logs for the current CY9SS activity, St. Paul Island, are now uploaded to www.cy9ss.com.

DXCC NEWS

SPECIAL EVENTS

Aug 4-Aug 6, 2000z-1800z, Bolingbrook, IL. Antique Radio Club of Illinois, W9R. 25 th Anniversary Radiofest. 14.255 21.355 28.455 146.97. QSL. James Novak, WA9FIH, 2335 South 2nd Ave, North Riverside, IL 60546-1308. www.antique-radios.org.

Aug 4-Aug 7, 0000z-0500z, Hannibal, MO. Hannibal Amateur Radio Club, K9P. Masters International Shooting Championship 20 th Anniversary. 14.258 7.258. Certificate. Robert G. Mitchell, 816 Long Dr, Quincy, IL 62305. www.ewingmissouri.com/w0kem/.

Aug 5-Aug 7, 1500z-0300z, Indianapolis, IN. Indianapolis Motor Speedway Amateur Radio Club, W9IMS. Brickyard 400 NASCAR Race. 21.340 14.240 7.240 3.840. QSL. Indianapolis Motor Speedway ARC, PO Box 18495, Indianapolis, IN 46218. www.w9ims.com.

Aug 5-Aug 7, 2100z-0100z, Alma, MI. Michigan Masonic Radio Club, K8M. Masonic Family and Community Festival. 14.270 7.270 145.580. Certificate. Benjamin Creech, K8LHR, 416 Sunset St, Plymouth, MI 48170. www.gl-mi.org.

Aug 5-Aug 8, 1400z-0400z, Canton, OH. Canton Amateur Radio Club, W8AL. Annual Pro-Football Hall of Fame Festival. 28.365 21.365 14.265 7.265. Certificate. Donald E. Perry, WQ8J, 968 Culverne Ave NW, Massillon, OH 44647. www.w8al.org.

Aug 6-Aug 6, 1200z-2000z, Indianapolis, IN. Indianapolis Repeater Association, W9Z. Kids Special Event at Broad Ripple Hamfest. 28.350 21.330 14.280 7.250. Certificate. Steven Wendt, 9559 Neptune Dr, Indianapolis, IN 46229. All operators 18 and under.

Aug 6-Aug 6, 1400z-1900z, Townshend, VT. West River Radio Club, W1RRC. Grace Cottage Hospital Day. 14.270 7.270. QSL. John Borichevsky, POB 8087, Guilford, VT 05304. www.westriverradio.net.

Aug 6-Aug 7, 0001z-1959z, Bristol, ME. Lincoln County Amateur Radio Club, K1LX. National Lighthouse-Lightship Weekend from Pemaquid Lighthouse, US#278, ARLS#589. 14.250. Certificate. John Peters, K2LOT, 154 Boothbay Rd, Edgecomb, ME 04566.

Aug 6-Aug 7, 0001z -2359z, Gulf Coast, TX. Central Texas Contest Group, WA5DTK. Operation from multiple Texas lighthouses--NLLW. 14.270 14.030 21.370 7.030/7.060. QSL. Barry Brewer, 603 Broken Bow Dr, Round Rock, TX 78681.

Aug 6-Aug 7, 0001z -2359z, Port Hope, MI. Milford Amateur Radio Club, K8S. National Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend from Pointe Aux Barques Lighthouse. 28.370 21.370 14.270 7.270. Certificate. Gary I. Sklar, 7296 Green Farm Rd, West Bloomfield, MI 48322.

Aug 6-Aug 7, 120000Z-2359z, St Augustine, FL. St Augustine Amateur Radio Society, N4AUG. LH 758 celebrating NA Lighthouse Activity. 14.270 14.030 7.265 7.030. QSL. SAARS, PO Box 860084, St Augustine, FL 32086. www.saars.net.

Aug 6-Aug 7, 1400z-1600z, Mathews County, VA. Middle Peninsula Amateur Radio Club, N4P. Commemorating New Point Comfort Lighthouse, USA-543. 21.360 14.260 7.260 3.960. QSL. William Sale, AE4RB, 6543 Belroi Rd, Gloucester, VA 23061. www.arlhs.net.

Aug 10-Aug 14, 1300z-2100z, Sycamore, IL. Amateur Operators of the NISPC, W9S. Steam Power on the Farm. 28.390 14.290 7.270 3.990. CERTIFICATE. Bob Yurs, W9ICU, 1107 Commercial St, Sycamore, IL 60178. www.w9icu.com.

Aug 12-Aug 13, 1400z-2100z, Angle Inlet, MN. Northwest Angle Amateur Radio Club, NW0AA. Northern most club in contiguous 48 states. 21.350 14.240 7.200 3.960. QSL. Dan Whipple, 11726 Norway St NW, Coon Rapids, MN 55448.

Aug 13, 0001z -2355z, Indianapolis, IN. Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra/Kenneth Bandy, W9O. Commemorating 75th anniversary of Indianapolis Orchestra. 14.275 7.260 21.360. QSL. Kenneth Bandy, 1405 S Bridgeport Rd, Indianapolis, IN 46231. <http://bandyrecording.com/W9O.htm>.

Aug 13, 1400z-2100z, Rush Springs, OK. W5PAA-FAA Aeronautical Center Amateur Radio Club, W5F. 2005 Rush Springs Watermelon Fest. 10-80 m CW/SSB. QSL. David Begue, K5FOZ, 2155 County Rd 1230, Tuttle, OK 73089-3112. www.W5PAA.org.

Aug 13, 1300z-2200z, Baltimore, MD. Social Security Employees Amateur Radio Club, W3SSA. Commemorating the 70th Anniversary of the Social Security Act. 14.280 7.280. Certificate. Greg Stec, K3ANG, 1624 Pickett Rd, Lutherville, MD 21093. An electronic version of the certificate is available.

Aug 13-Aug 14, 1400z-2200z, Perry, OH. Lake County Amateur Radio Association, N8BC. Celebrating 27 years of public service in Lake County. 14.270 7.272 147.2100. Certificate. Dennis Brostek, KI8U, 7187 Maple St, Mentor, OH 44060. www.lcara.org.

Aug 13-Aug 14, 1400z-2400z daily, Window Rock, AZ. Navajo Amateur Radio Club, N7C. Navajo Code Talkers Day. 14.265 7.265. QSL. Herbert Goodluck, PO Box 3611, Window Rock, AZ 86515.

Aug 14, 1500z-1800z, Pikes Peak, CO. Colorado 14er Event Task Force, Various call signs. Colorado 14er Event--operating from summits of CO mountains. 14.260 147.42 147.45 446.00. QSL. Bob Witte, K0NR, 21060 Capella Dr, Monument, CO 80132. www.14er.org.

Aug 19-Aug 28, 0001z -2400z, Lebanon, TN. Wilson Amateur Radio Club, W4C. Special Event Station from the Wilson County Fair. 28.320 21.320 14.320 7.265. QSL. Greg Tomerlin, K4KO, 1562 Walnut Grove Rd, Lebanon, TN 37090. www.wilsonarc.org.

Aug 20, 1100z-2000z, Hillsboro, TX. Lockheed Martin Recreation Association and Fannin County ARC, N5B. North Texas Balloon Project Launch #12. 14.282 7.220. QSL. Ed McGinley, W5ETM, PO Box 6215, Fort Worth, TX 76115. www.ntbp.org.

Aug 20-Aug 21, 0001z -2359z, Dunkirk Lighthouse, NY. Dunkirk Lighthouse--Lancaster ARC, W2SO. International Lighthouse Weekend. 28.450 21.350 14.250 7.250. Certificate. Lancaster ARC, 525 Pavement Rd, Lancaster, NY 14086. larc.hamgate.net.

Aug 20-Aug 21, 0001z -2359z, Eagle Harbor, MI. International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend, K8E. Lighthouse and two range lights. 14.275 14.030 7.275 7.030. Certificate. QSL via bureau or N8MR, 14071 Fairway, Livonia, MI 48154. www.kc8nah.com/Interests/illw05.htm.

Aug 20-Aug 21, 0001z -2359z, Newport, OR. Oregon-Idaho DX Group, N7L. International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend, from Yaquina Bay Lighthouse, USA-906. 28.351 28.021 21.221 21.021 14.221 14.021 7.155 7.021 3.755 3.521. QSL. via Buro, or to K7VAN, Box 12941, Salem, OR 97309. Participating lighthouses: <http://arlhs.com>.

Aug 20-Aug 21, 1200z-2359z, St Augustine, FL. St Augustine Amateur Radio Society, N4AUG. LH 758 Celebrating ILLH Weekend. 14.270 14.030 7.265 7.030. QSL. SAARS, PO Box 860084, St Augustine, FL 32086. www.saars.net.

Aug 20-Aug 21, 1300z-1600z, Buffalo, NY. Western New York DX Association, K2L. International Lighthouse Weekend. 14.230 14.030 7.230 7.030. QSL. Bob Nadolny, WB2YQH, PO Box 73, Spring Brook, NY 14140. www.wnydxa.org.

Aug 20-Aug 21, 1300z-2100z, Sea Girt, NJ. North America DX Association and Neptune Radio Club, WR2DX. ILLW from Sea Girt Lighthouse. 14.260 7.260. QSL. NADXA, PO Box 357, Bradley Beach, NJ 07720.

Aug 20-Aug 21, 0001z -2359z, Rochester, NY. Brockport Amature Radio Klub, N2VY. International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend. 14.275. Certificate. Allen Skiles, N2VY, 1-A Burke Lane, Spencerport, NY 14559. www.barkarc.org

Aug 20-Aug 21, 0001z -2359z, River Rouge, MI. Motor City Radio Club, W8MRM. Mariners' Memorial Lighthouse/International Lighthouse Weekend. 14.275 7.275. Certificate. N8MR, 14071 Fairway, Livonia, MI 48154.

Aug 20-Aug 28, 1600z-1600z, Lincoln, MI. Alcona County Amateur Radio Group, K8A. 34 th Annual Alcona County Fair. 21.345 14.245 7.245 3.945. QSL. Stanley L. Darmofal, W8SZ, PO Box 15, Harrisville, MI 48740. www.alconaradio.org.

Aug 24-Aug 28, 1400z-2359z, Ringoes, NJ. Cherryville Repeater Association II, W4H. 2005 Hunterdon County 4H and Agricultural Fair. 28.375 21.375 14.275 7.275. Certificate. Special Event Radio W4H, Cherryville Repeater Association II, PO Box 308, Quakertown, NJ 08868. <http://www.qsl.net/w2cra/w4h/W4H-webpage.htm>

Aug 27, 1500z-2300z, Plainfield, IL. Plainfield Radio League, W9P. The Plainfield Tornado, Aug 28, 1990.

14.260 14.070 14.230 7.260. Certificate. Plainfield Radio League, PO Box 682, Plainfield, IL 60544. www.prlham.org/spev.

Aug 27-Aug 28, 1350z-2100z, Westfield, MA. Hampden County Radio Association HCRA, W1NY/A10. ANG 104th Fighter Group Airshow. SSB 28.336 21.360 14.260 7.260 CW 28.033 21.033 14.033 7.033 3.533. QSL. HCRA, PO Box 562, Agawam, MA 01001. www.hcra.org

Aug 28, 1400z-2100z, Hanover, KS. Crown Amateur Radio Association, K0ASA. Hollenberg Pony Express Station Festival. 18.085 14.245 14.040 7.125. Certificate. Crown Amateur Radio Association, 11551 W 176 th Terr, Olathe, KS 66062. www.kshs.org/places/hollenberg/index.htm.

Aug 29-Sep 4, 2000z-2000z, Black Rock Desert, NV. Nevada-7-Burn at Burning Man Festival, N7B. Burning Man 2005. 21.360 14.290 7.263 3.940. QSL. Kenneth M. Beck, 425 N Columbia Center Blvd #F207, Kennewick, WA 99336. <http://n7bweb.net/>.

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

<u>Time</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Contest</u>	<u>Band</u>	<u>Mode</u>
0000z 2359z	Aug 6 Aug 6	TARA Grid Dip Contest www.n2ty.org	160-10 M	RTTY/PSK31
0001z 2359z	Aug 6 Aug 7	ARLHS Nat'l Lighthouse/ship www.arlhs.com	160-10 M	All modes
0001z 2359z	Aug 7 Aug 7	10-10 Int'l Summer Contest www.ten-ten.org	10 M	SSB/AM/FM
1800z 0600z	Aug 6 Aug 7	North American QSO Party www.ncjweb.com	80-10 M	CW
0000z 2359z	Aug 13 Aug 14	Worked All Europe DX Contest www.waedc.de	80-10 M	CW
0000z	Aug 20			

Ø8ØØz	Aug 20S	ARTG		
16ØØz	Aug 20	Worldwide		
2359z	Aug 20	RTTY		
Ø8ØØz	Aug 21	Contest	80-10 M	RTTY
ØØ16z	Aug 21			
		www.sartg.com		
18ØØz	Aug 20	North American		
Ø6ØØz	Aug 21	QSO Party	80-10 M	SSB
		www.ncjweb.com		
Ø6ØØz	Aug 27	ALARA		
1159z	Aug 28	YL Contest	80-10 M	CW/SSB
		www.alara.org.au		
12ØØz	Aug 27	SCC RTTY		
1159z	Aug 28	Championship	80-10 M	RTTY
		lea.hamradio.si/~scc		

DX POTPOURRI

There is an Internet rumor circulating, of an upcoming Market Reef operation. Pat, OH6GDX, Pat says that its been canceled for this year due to work demands and scheduling problems of the operators. But it does look good for OJØYC in 2006.

Curious as to the new prefixes you've been hearing on HF lately? Germany has started to assign DQ and DR-prefixes. In addition, German club stations can now apply for 2x1-callsigns like DK2A. There are no 2x1 callsigns for individuals. One more important change: While all DP-prefixes were extraterritorial area before (like DPØGVN, DPØPOL in the Antarctica, DPØEPO Munich European Patent Office), now only DPØ-DP2 are extraterritorial. 2x1-Callsigns DP3A-DP9Z will be assigned as regular short callsigns for Club stations.

Hisato, JA1DOT, informs OPDX that he plans to take his summer vacation in Uganda. Look for activity from him between August 3-12th. During his stay he plans to be active on 160-10 meters on CW, SSB and RTTY. He recently received his 5X1W license from the Uganda Communications Commission. Hisato will be using an IC-706MKIIG into a SG-235 plus 4 meter mast and 10 meter fishing rod. QSL via JA1DOT, either direct to QRZ.com or via the JARL QSL bureau.

Patrice, 3A/F5RBB will be on from Monaco August 29 to September 4th. Look for him on 40-10M.

Paul, G3SEM is in Botswana until the 6th a work assignment. He has a multi-band dipole up and will try to get on the air as much as he can, around his work schedule. QSL to his home callsign.

Stefano, SV5/IV3IPS/p is scheduled to be on the air from the Isle of Rhodes August 13-20. Look for Stefano on 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10M SSB and RTTY. QSL via the bureau to his Italian callsign.

J49A and the Radio Amateur Society of Crete will have Crete on the air in the IOTA contest from Imeri

Gramvousa, EU-187, SSB and CW. QSL via SV9ANK.

TM5VIN - the "vin" being French for "wine" - will be on the air August 6th and 7th from the Charvet cellar, a large wine cellar for the Sancerre vineyard. QSL via F9KH.

Dov, 4Z4DX/LH, will be on the air from the Jaffa lighthouse, August 20- 21, all bands and modes. QSL to his home callsign or eQSL. He will also put his log on LOTW.

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



WCRA Supports First Annual Lions “Night Walk”

On Sunday evening June 5th eleven members of WCRA assisted the Lions Illinois Foundation with their First Annual “Night Walk” to support Lions Club services.

The event took place at the Danada Equestrian Center in Wheaton. The walk took place along one of two trails through the center. Each trail went about 1.5 miles and then turned around for a total walk of 3 miles.

The Lions requested WCRA to provide radio operators on each trail as well as in the Headquarters Tent and in the parking area. In addition to supplying operators for these assignments, WCRA loaned Commercial Radio Equipment to the Lions so that their personnel could coordinate the event.

By the end of the evening, WCRA received a number of very positive comments on the professionalism of the members and the Committee Chairman for the event expressed their appreciation for the valuable service the club provided to the event. They indicated that they would invite us back for the next “Night Walk”.

Those members participating were: Kurt (KB9RTO), Steve (N9OA), Todd (KC9HKN) and John (N9MWF). Some members made it a family event. Wayne (KF9JC) along with his wife, Ruth Ann, manned one of the check points on the Purple Path. Dale (NJ9E) and Ruth (KB9RZG) were both present as was the entire Schroeder family Larry (KD9KDC) Carol (KB9FYL) Kelsey (KC9CVQ) and Samantha (KC9CZO)..

The next time you see any of these loyal members, thank them for helping the club fulfill its Public Service Mission.

OUR MEMBERS THAT CELEBRATE A BIRTHDAY IN THE MONTH OF AUGUST

ROBERT	KB9O AQ	08-07-46
KEITH	KA9HPL	08-11-62
JIM	W9DHX	08-12-21
RALPH	W9VQM	08-25-40

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.

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AUGUST QST –A TWIN HIT ISSUE!

By Jim Ward, W9DHX

ARRL EXPO REPORTS A HIGH LEVEL OF ENTHUSIASM

If you didn't get to Dayton, you have a second chance—this month's QST gives you a four page run down of the hoopla and shouting that took place with color photos of Hams and Exhibitors. Page 39 begins the story, and you'll enjoy the report on all the new gadgets and equipment!

AND YOU GET THE “ANTENNA ISSUE” BESIDES!

The usual array of antenna ideas is packed in this month's QST—my favorite is a two-meter “Weather Vane” number, with patterns for the rooster on top. As the article says, your neighbors will think it is a real weather instrument of sorts. (page 35)

OTHER FEATURES—“THE CATALOG DAYS”

In the nostalgia department, (old radio), pages from the Sears catalog are reprinted, showing “Silvertone” models that are hard to believe. Pages 78 and 79 bring back memories of early marketing of plug and play equipment.

LET'S HEAR IT FOR THE ADVERTISERS—THEY PAY THE FREIGHT!

While you're enjoying the articles, don't forget the advertisers make QST possible with one of the slickest publications in the world—plus all the technical data about our versatile hobby. Enjoy!

Picnic-Picnic-Picnic (Continued from Page 6)

Other coming programs and meeting dates

September 2 --Paul Sexauer on antenna theory

October 7 – Carma

November – Auction/Show and Tell

We've got some ideas for some innovative new programs for the next year.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

CHECK YOUR SOCIAL CALENDAR

Paul Sexauer, K3VIX, (formerly W9JTO) will be the speaker at the September 2 meeting. Paul is the RF Systems Engineering Manager at TX RX Systems, Inc and a past WCRA member and president. TX RX is a major supplier of RF site management products such as transmitter combiners, receiver multicouplers, receiver tower-top preamplifiers, cavity filters and duplexers. In his presentation, Paul will touch on many of these topics, as well as interference issues, as they apply to the amateur world. The presentation will be geared toward the technical novices as well as the seasoned RF technicians. He promises that there will be something for everyone and the talk will be strictly “English” with minimal technical jargon. If you have a particular question or topic you would like to see included, you can email Paul at pauls@buffnet.net.

I am so lonely that you have decided not to put an anchor here with me. Don't you have something that you would like to sell or give away to a needy Ham?
Just eMail it to the editor.

AUGUST CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- 2nd: Club breakfast **every** Tuesday morning 7-9 AM, Glen Oaks Restaurant, Glen Ellyn.
- 4th: Club Brunch **1st & 3rd** Thursdays 10:30 AM Carol's Garden, Carol Stream.
- 5th: **PICNIC - PICNIC - PICNIC** We've decided to bring the picnic back to give new and old members a chance to socialize and enjoy an evening at beautiful Herrick Lake Forest Preserve. The picnic is being held in the East shelter at the Herrick Lake Forest Preserve. Enter the preserve off Butterfield, just East of Herrick Road. Go to the east end of the parking lot and you won't be able to miss the shelter. The program will be on direction finding, with some hands-on time, so bring an HT. Remember to RSVP.
- 15th: **DEADLINE FOR HAMLETTER SUBMISSIONS** for September. Remember we are doing a limited printed edition. **Please be prompt.**
- 25th: VEC testing at the Helen Plum Library in Lombard from 6:30 till 8:30pm.

Next WCRA General Membership Meeting -August 5th, 2005 -Herrick Lake - 6-9 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

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First Class Mail

