



HAMLETTER

Published Monthly

Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs

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COME OUT AND JOIN WCRA AS WE WORK FIELD DAY 2006



WCRA Staff

Elected Officers

President	Don ,	N9NYX
Vice President	Bruce ,	K9OZ
Secretary	Todd ,	KC9HKN
Treasurer	Ken ,	N9HQ
Custodian	Bob ,	KC9HOP

Volunteer Committee Chairs

Club Call Trustee	Tom ,	N9CBA
Christmas Party	Ruth ,	KA9RZG
Club Awards	John ,	N9MWF
Elmer/Know-Code	Charlie ,	WB9SGD
Field Day	Dale ,	NJ9E
Hamfest	John ,	WT9Y
Refreshments	Bruce ,	K9OZ
Membership	Mary ,	K9GAL
Public Service	Joe ,	N9WRO
VHF/HF Awards	John ,	N9MWF
Webmaster	Tom ,	N9WBW

Amateur License Staff

Training Classes	Jack ,	KA9HEL
Volunteer Exam.	Harry ,	K9HK

WCRA Repeater Administrative Board (RAB)

Chairman		
Secretary	Doug ,	W9NJM
Member	George ,	KA3HSW
Member	Larry ,	KA9KDC

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 Reprtr	

HAMLETTER

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From the President's Gavel

by Don, N9NYX WCRA President

Now that all of you have exhausted your bank accounts after attending the Dayton Hamvention, it will be nice to hear how all of your new toys are working. I drove down Thursday afternoon and we in the initial crowd standing outside the gate when the Flea Market opened up at 8 AM Friday. Still a lot of empty booths that early on but still a lot to see and spend money on. Two things caught my eye while wandering up and down the aisles. One fellow was selling clocks made out of old radio tubes that showed the numbers of the time in the tubes when it was turned on. Clever. The other fellow was selling honey and radio equipment. His sign above the booth said he had been stung early on in like by two things, yep, radio and honey bee farming. OK but it was a nice tie in to what he loved doing. I managed to limit my expenditures to some equipment at the Heil booth. Left lots of drool marks elsewhere though.

This month's general membership meeting will be on Field Day. This is our one chance a year to come out and be mosquito bait while using some of our radios to contact others of similar minds. If you have not signed up to be a station captain or assistant station captain, please see one of our Field Day Co-Chairs for details. At the last meeting we had only two stations staffed and spoken for. I personally don't think WCRA needs to be 9A or 10A, I would like to see those stations that are set up run smoothly and give visitors a chance to operate and see how Ham Radio really works. If you decide to set up a station make sure that you plan for a place to house your equipment, make arrangements for power, and talk enough other friends and relatives into coming out to help that you don't run

out of people and energy sometime Saturday evening.

We are still looking for volunteers to staff positions in the club. We would like to mail out this Hamletter to those that are unable or do not have access to the internet. If you are interested please contact me or one of the board members.

Until next time, check your SWR.

Don

WCRA Minutes for May 5, 2006

WCRA Meeting Minutes

by: Todd Carr
KC9HKN
WCRA
Secretary

President **Don N9NYX** called the meeting to order at 1930. Motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting by **Tom N9WBW, Marty N9NTM** seconded, and the motion passed.

President Don N9NYX introduced himself as the new club President and also said that he has changed that the business meeting will follow the scheduled program from now on.

Bob, KC9HOP introduced himself as the new club Custodian and said he needs to meet with Kurt KB9RTO the old custodian to establish current club inventory.

Todd, KC9HKN introduced himself as the new club Secretary and informed the club that any club member can be pass information to him and he will see that it gets to the appropriate group in the club. The Vice President **Bruce, K9OZ** and Treasurer **Ken, N9HQ** were not present.

Public Service **John, N9MWF**, asked for volunteers for the MS walkathon on May 7 in Naperville. He also thanked all those who helped at the Special Olympics event last weekend.

Ham letter Don, N9NYX wanted to make sure that people are getting the ham letter emails and he is also trying to verify some email accounts that are bouncing back to him.

Web Page **Tom, N9WBW** reports the website needs work on some of its links. He also asks that if any member has any news worthy items of interest to relay them to him to be put on the web site.

Field Day **Dale, NJ9E** said that captain positions are needed for Field Day and that approximately \$800.00 is needed for a generator and bathroom facilities. He also said that people need to bring their own shelters and tents.

In Health and Welfare it was reported that **Vicky, K9OAB** suffered a stroke. It was also reported that **Howard, WB9IRH** has gone into Brighton Gardens care center.

Motion to accept the reports by **Marty N9NTM, Steve, N9OA** seconded, and the motion passed.

Old Business, RAB **Doug, W9NJM** reported that the part for the 220 repeater was still on order and that the repeater will be down until part comes in. President Don N9NYX reports that the 2 meter repeater is still a work in progress to get it back up on the COD tower.

President Don N9NYX read some emails about the club vehicle from a past member and a current member that he had received in response to the article in the last ham letter by Vice President Bruce K9OZ. President Don N9NYX tabled the motion of moving forward on a club vehicle or trailer decision to the membership present, also about costs to support said vehicle. Steve N9OA asked that the matter on the club vehicle be voted on, to how long it will take to resolve. Tom N9WBW commented on the need for a vehicle, is to find the clubs direction, and if club really needs a vehicle. John N9MWF commented that we need to redefine club needs, club goals, use club vehicle to recruit new members, vehicle used as club asset, provide communication for community, and use said vehicle at club events. **(Continued on page 4)**

(Meeting Minutes Continued from Page 3)

New Business President Don N9NYX asked John N9MWF about acquiring vests for public events that would provide for club visibility at events. Tom N9WBW mentioned he uses vests that have Velcro on them so that the vest can be changed for different uses. John N9MWF said he would check with Joe N9WRO.

Tom N9WBW motioned to adjourn, Marty N9NTM seconded, the motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned at 2100.



May 2006 General Membership Meeting pictures.



**ANCHORS YOU WISH TO SELL
COULD APPEAR HERE**

QST FOR JUNE—KIDS' DAY TO FIELD DAY

By Jim Ward, W9DHX

JUNE 14th IS KIDS DAY!

If you want to bring Ham Radio into the lives of some young people—read about this special day—just a week before Field Day. There are simple rules which “kids of all ages” should be able to understand—page 53.

LAST MINUTE FIELD DAY TIPS AND GEAR

Ordering instructions for shirts and pins, ideas for adapting a boat trailer to hold a tower, and antique FD photo, all included on page 20 (Up Front in QST).

THE STORY OF W9CNN, A 1955 DREAM STATION

The Editor of “Old Radio” feature has chosen a Chicagoan’s super-station for this month’s article on pages 82-84. You’ll enjoy pictures of his multi-rack setup, his Yacht Bridge, and two windmill towers.

A TRIBUTE TO FATHER MORAN—100TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS BIRTH

Many Club members worked the famous Nepal Priest from Chicago that started a boys’ school in Kathmandu in 1951. When he returned to Chicago, he met many Hams in person! The article is on p.48-49.

ILLUSTRATED HISTORY OF THE MICROPHONE

If you’ve wondered how that mike works—this page 50-52 article will explain it all, plus show you pictures, and the more recent ones are in color. The author founded Heil Sound Ltd. His call is K9EID.

“TAKE YOUR HANDHELD TO WORK DAY”—JUNE 20TH IS THE DATE

If you can take you kids to work on a special day, why not your radio? The idea worked last year, as a preliminary to the big Field Day weekend—so the ARRL is giving it another go in 2006. See the article on page 54, and a special website, hello-radio.org.

KILL-A-WATT ELECTRIC USAGE MONITOR – A DEVICE TO SETTLE ARGUMENTS

Ever have a family debate about the electric bill and how much juice your rig uses? You can settle it with the fancy device described on page 61—it targets each device as to quality and quantity of current used. It sells for only \$49.95—cheap enough for avoiding arguments about wht is using the most electricity, the hair dryer or the ham shack!

LOW COST ACCESSORIES FOR THE HAM SHACK – TOILET PAPER TUBES

Page 65 (Hints & Kinks) suggests you use the tubes for storing test leads, scope probes, coax jumpers and other similar items. The suggesting ham says “the cost is right and the supply is endless.”

VANITY CALL SIGN PRICES AND OTHER FCC NEWS

Still have that “ordinary” call sign and want to get a Vanity Call? The Fee is “poised to drop slightly”. The ARRL has asked for a reduction—read the details on Page 78. There’s also news about fines levied against offenders tracked down by Riley Hollingsworth. Keep up the good work, Riley!

LOG BOOK OF THE WORLD STEPS DOWN TO THE WAS LEVEL

There’s an important paragraph on Page 79 for Worked All States candidates. You can now file using Log Book of the World.—more electronic progress.

OUR MEMBERS THAT CELEBRATE A BIRTHDAY IN THE MONTH OF JUNE

DENNIS
SAM
PAUL
RUTH

KE9VG
N9IER
N9TKX
KA9RZG



Activities
on the HF
Bands
by:
Peter Barr
W9UF

Peter will return next
month.

Roberto, WA9E, is re-working his add for the store and has asked that the add that has been running be pulled until new ad is ready for publication.

JUNE CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- 1st: Club Brunch **1st & 3rd** Thursdays 10:30 AM Carol's Garden, Carol Stream.
- 2nd: Monthly membership meeting at First Presbyterian Church in Wheaton, 615 W. Jefferson Ave. at 7:30pm. Talk-in on .39 will give everyone directions to the church and also where our meeting room is inside the church. Program for June is Field Day with business meetin to **follow** program.
- 6th: Club breakfast **every** Tuesday morning 7-9 AM, Glen Oaks Restaurant, Glen Ellyn
- 20th: DEADLINE FOR HAMLETTER SUBMISSIONS for April Remember we are doing a limited printed edition. **Please be prompt.**
- 24th & 25th: WCRA Field Day at Pan Fish Parrk, Glen Ellyn.
- 29th: VEC testing at the Helen Plum Library in Lombard from 6:30 till 8:30pm.

Next WCRA General Membership Meeting -June 2nd, 2006, First Presbyterian Church 615 W. Jefferson Ave., Wheaton, Illinois 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.

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First Class Mail

