



HAMLETTER

Published Monthly

Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs

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MERRY CHRISTMAS

and a

HAPPY NEW YEAR

from the

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

of the

WHEATON

COMMUNITY

RADIO

AMATEURS.

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 ,a	NJ9E
Field Day		
Hamfest	John ,	WT9Y
Refreshments	Bruce ,	K9OZ
Membership	Mary ,	K9GAL
Public Serevice	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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This publication uses QuarkXPress 6.5 and Photoshop 7.01		



From the President's Gavel

by Don, N9NYX WCRA President

I'll begin by wishing you all a belated Happy Thanksgiving and good and safe Christmas Season and Happy New Year.

In case you are like me and have forgotten that this is the time of thankfulness and gift giving don't forget to look a your gift list early now that Black Friday and Internet Monday have passed.

Speaking of things to do we have a couple of pressing items on the calendar. This Friday is our club Christmas/Holiday Party. For those of you new to this recent tradition, we ask you to bring a dessert dish to pass and as many of your family you feel safe to be seen with in public and come for a time of fellowship - radio talk for 'rag chew'. This Friday at First Presbyterian Church at 7:30 PM. See you there.

The second pressing need concerns our Mid-Winter Hamfest at the DuPage Expo Center. Several important positions are still vacant. The most pressing is a ticket chairperson. If you are interested please contact John, JT9Y, our Hamfest

Chairman.

Remember to try out our new club net format. Kurt wanted to know about your Thanksgiving meal this past Sunday.

**Until further down the log,
Don**

WCRA Meeting Minutes

by: Todd Carr
KC9HKN
WCRA
Secretary



The minutes will appear in the January edition of the HamLetter

Help sell Hamfest Tickets

HAMFEST COMMITTEE PLANNING MEETING

All,

It's time to have our second meeting to finalize the hamfest plans. I will be holding the meeting at my house on Sunday, December 3 at 7 pm. My address is 1586 Scottdale Circle, Wheaton. Home phone is (630) 690-9608 and cell is (630) 605-8027. We are still short a ticket chairman among other positions so I will be recruiting this Friday at the Christmas Party/meeting.

As always, if you feel I missed inviting anyone, please let me know.

Regards,
John, WT9Y

DECEMBER QST FRONT COVER BAND EXPANSION NEWS (Continued from Page 4)

In Howell, Michigan the Field Day crew had a balloon fest at the same site so visitors had a double special event experience.

A Raleigh, NC., club had a brother and sister team running the GOTO station.

The Weather Channel picked up Field Day at Portland, Maine, as an example of Ham Radio Service during weather emergencies.

DECEMBER QST

FRONT COVER BAND EXPANSION NEWS

By Jim Ward, W9DHX

THE FCC REZONES FOUR HAM BANDS!

QST reports the long awaited decision on how to update ham bands on pages 39 to 41. Charts and text explain the four bands (10, 15, 40 and 80) involved. If you are a traffic net operator, this is must reading.

NEW LICENSING MATERIALS FROM ARRL ON THE TECH TICKET

Harold Kramer, WJ1B, reports on page 13 about new training aid materials, particularly Tech License assistance. So if you have friends looking for a Tech ticket, be sure to have them check this out.

W1AW GETS A NEW ANTENNA FARM

If you've ever been to an Antenna Party, then you'll enjoy the page 42 report of a group of ARRL staffers and volunteers putting up the new W1AW antenna array. New aluminum went into place on 16 antennas—14 HF and 2 VHF.

KIDS DAY PLANS – 2007

Last year 484 kids got on the air—this year on January 7th they are looking to break that record and inspire a new generation of young hams. There is a Certificate involved for participants and the design for a “Cheaper Beeper” code practice oscillator is given in the article on page 45.

REMOTELY PILOTED VEHICLES SUGGESTED FOR PS ROLE

QST Editor Steve Ford reports on page 73 about the possibility of using an R/C airplane for emergency service work. Check out the website: www.hobby-lobby.com/srtele-arf.htm

FIELD DAY 2006 – W9CCU IS 4TH IN 7A

Page 90 shows our scores for this year's outing. We had 24 participants making 1276 contacts, and a total of 5,145 points. We were nosed out of first by three clubs who had double the number of operators. So next year we need a bigger turnout? So as all agreed, it was great fun and great weather.

UNUSUAL FIELD DAY HAPPENINGS

Each year WCRA members try and pep up the Field Day scene with some different modes of operation. This year we had Peter's Escalade R/C vehicle with ATV cameras doing an inspection of sites for score recorders. Page 20 of QST tells the story of some other different action, for example:

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

OUR MEMBERS THAT CELEBRATE A BIRTHDAY IN THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

BOB	W3MDM
DON	K9MUF
MARTY	KA9RCC
DOUG	W9NJM
JOHN	N9GLZ
LARRY	WA9RTE
GEORGE	KA3HSW

**IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO START
PLANNING TO SELL ADVANCED
TICKETS TO OUR HAMFEST IN
JANUARY.**

DECEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- 1st: Monthly membership meeting at First Presbyterian Church in Wheaton, 615 W. Jefferson Ave. at 7:30pm. Talk-in on .39 This will be our Club Christmas Party. XYL's or Significant Other's are invited. No Business Meeting. Just a LARGE RAG CHEW. Bring a Dessert to Pass.
- 5th: Club breakfast every Tuesday morning 7-9 AM, Glen Oaks Restaurant, Glen Ellyn.
- 7th: Club Brunch 1st & 3rd Thursdays 10:30 AM at Peppercorns. Peppercorns is located at the corner of President and Geneva Road in the shopping center on the North side of Geneva. All are welcome. THIS IS A RELATIVELY NEW LOCATION, SO COME A HALF MILE EAST OF CAROL'S GARDEN TO PEPPERCORNS
- 21st: WEEK BEFORE CHRISTMAS VEC testing at the Helen Plum Library in Lombard from 6:30 till 8:30pm. Go to the club VE Testing website at vetesting.harrykamer.com for the latest details.
- 20th: DEADLINE FOR HAMLETTER SUBMISSIONS for January.
- Remember the Club net on 2M is held every Sunday evening at 8 PM local. Followed by the 220 net at 8:30 PM local. Tuesday at 8 PM local on 2M is the ARES net followed by the Club 440 net at 8:30 PM local.

Next WCRA General CHRISTMAS PARTY -December 1st, 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.

HAMLETTER

Club and HamLetter Mailing Address:

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First Class Mail

