

HAMLETTER

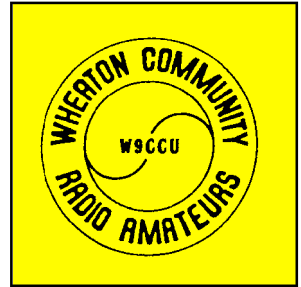
Published Monthly

Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs

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Steve N9OA

WCRA DEMONSTRATES AMATEUR RADIO AT THE 2007 CAM-PORALL HELD MAY 5TH & 6TH AT THE SANDWICH FAIR-GROUNDS



Viktor Kartashov AJ9M



George, KA3HSW



Hal, AC3Q



WCRA Staff

Elected Officers

President	Don ,	N9NYX
Vice President	Peter ,	KB9KZO
Secretary	Todd ,	KC9HKN
Treasurer	Ken ,	N9HQ
Custodian	Bob ,	W9BK

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	Doug ,	W9NJM
Secretary	George ,	KA3HSW
Member	Rich ,	N9DKO
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

Editor	Don ,	N9NYX
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Features	Jim ,	W9DHX
HAMLETTER	eMail: hamletter@w9ccu.org	

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From the President's Gavel

by Don, N9NYX WCRA President

With the temperature outside creeping up over 90 degrees, it seems that the summer activities have arrived. As you probably noted on the front page of this month's issue and on page seven, there are some shots of members helping out at this year's Boy Scout Camporall in Sandwich this first weekend of May.

In addition to Special Events which are continuously coming along, Field Day pops up on the 23rd and 24th. The program for this Friday's meeting will be putting the finishing touches on the Field Day setup and operation. If you are interested in being a station captain or helping out someone else who is a station captain please plan on attending Friday and letting your desires be known. Dale, NJ9E, our Field Day Chairman will be returning from a trip to Phoenix and will not arrive until after our membership meeting is over. Peter, KB9KZO and Steve, N9OA will be covering for Dale. I don't think all of the station captain positions are spoken for yet so this is your chance to set up and run your own show. Please remember that Field Day is primarily a public relations endeavor where we would like to have as many of the public stop by and see what amateur radio is all about. Pan Fish Park in Glen Ellyn is a good spot to show the visiting public what we as a club have to offer.

As many of you already know, the membership of WCRA voted to acquire a trailer and design its interior to be used by the club in place of the club truck that was sold last year. Wayne, KF9JC, has written an update on progress since last meeting on page 6. The steering committee is always looking for a helping hand so if you have the time please consider getting

involved. With the design work and the installations that will follow I envision many evenings over the next several months being spent in good fellowship and some hard work as the club gets the trailer up and running.

If you have a question or suggestion about the club and its operation, don't hesitate to drop me an email.

Until this Friday,

de N9NYX

WCRA Meeting Minutes

by: Todd Carr
KC9HKN
WCRA
Secretary



WCRA Meeting Minutes for May 4, 2007

President, **Don N9NYX** called the meeting to order at 1930. Motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting by **Tom N9WBW, Mary KC9IJO** seconded, and the motion passed.

President, Don N9NYX opened the meeting with introductions. **Paul KA9RVS, Bob W9TIE, Francis WM9L,**

Pat K9JAU, Appaji KB9ZFL were voted back into the club membership.

Vice President, **Peter KB9KZO** introduced himself as the new club vice president and will be working on bringing in some interesting programs for the rest of the year and if anyone has any suggestions please let him know. Peter KB9KZO also informed the membership present that the club will be supporting the 2007 Scout Camperall located at the Sandwich Fairgrounds from May 4-6. We will be demonstrating different amateur radio modes at the event. Everyone is invited to attend and take part in this event.

Custodian, **Bob W9BK** had nothing new to report.

Treasurer, **Ken N9HQ** estimated balances checking \$5,000, money market \$25,000.

Secretary, **Todd KC9HKN** we had 37 attend the May meeting.

Hamfest, **JohnWT9Y** correction from last month's hamletter, all the bills for the 2007 Hamfest have not been paid.

RAB, **Doug W9NJM** reported that there were some issues with intermod on the club 440 machine. The club 220 machine is back on the air and is under going testing at this time.

Hamletter, Don N9NYX if you're not receiving the hamletter please update your email address with Don.

Public Service, **Joe N9WRO** announced that he would be stepping down as chairman of Public Service. **Kurt KB9RTO** thanked everyone who helped at the Special Olympics, **Steve N9OA, Kurt KB9RTO, Mary KC9IJO, Don KB9UFS, Mark W9UZ, Mike KC9KHT, and Janie AE9JG.** We will need volunteers on May 6, for the MS Walk-a-Thon from 7:30 AM to 1:30 PM.

Field Day, **Dale NJ9E** informed the club we will be using Pan Fish Park in Glen Ellyn this year.

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

Old Business, **John N9MWF** requested 30 minutes of time to discuss the WCRA club vehicle purchase. During this time club members asked questions about the proposed club vehicle. **Mark W9UZ** requested motion to vote on purchase of a WCRA club vehicle, \$3,000 to purchase WCRA club trailer balance to come from club member donations, \$350 for insurance and registration with an additional \$100 for maintenance for the first year which will be reviewed annually after first year. **Kurt KB9RTO** seconded the motion to vote on

Field Day June 23 and 24

Everyone Welcome.

Come to the June meeting for Details.

We Need Your Help

Join Us At This Annual Event And Have Fun.



Meeting Minutes Continued from page 3

purchase of a WCRA club vehicle. WCRA membership present voted on motion, **Bob W9BK** reported on the results of the vote, 37 votes cast, 24 votes Yes, 10 votes No, 3 votes Abstained. The motion to purchase a WCRA club trailer passed.

Bruce K90Z informed the club membership present of the joint Emergency Exercise between WCRA and W9DUP, **John N9JZX**, some time in August to September this year. More information will follow on this emergency exercise.

Special Note, WCRA membership would like to thank **Joe N9WRO** for his service as WCRA Public Service Chairman and all his hard work supporting the club during his tenure.

Kurt KB9RTO motioned to adjourn, **Steve N9OA** seconded, the motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned at 2115.

YOU! COULD BE FILLING THIS
SPACE WITH AN ARTICLE YOU
HAVE WRITTEN.

JUNE'07 QST REVIEW- Field Day Now!

By Jim Ward-W9DHX

THE COVER SETS THE PACE FOR THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

One of QST's great covers shows a bright Wisconsin sun coming up over a Field Day site with the American flag topping a tri-bander beam with a Radio Bug(cartoon character) perched on the element. The same bug is rampant throughout a special ARRL Field Day Cookbook—everything you'll need to have a great time at the Annual Event. It has a tear out feature—take it with you as you head for Panfish Park!

“BUILDING A BETTER FIELD DAY” ARTICLE SETS A STANDARD

Ed Wright, KB6THO, did the impossible – he did Field Day at home with his kids! The story of Ed's adventures in the back yard with his 10-year old daughter, KI6CRN, and her non-ham 8 year old brother, Dan, is a tale worth reading. It is on page 44 and it is no surprise that the kid's grandfather was a ham as well.

EQUIPMENT IDEAS FOR FIELD DAY

Have you seen the new Stanley MaxLife 369 Tripod Flashlight? It is pictured on page 52 and requires 9 AA batteries, three for each leg of the tripod. It is 9" tall and sports 6 LED's in a swivel head. The average selling price is \$25.

PUBLIC SERVICE REPORTS

Since WCRA is a “service” club, you might be interested in knowing some of the projects that other clubs take on. Page 80 has a report on “good works” in Kentucky and San Jose, California.

OLD TIME RADIO – THE HISTORY OF S. O. S.

Columnist John Dilks, K2TQN, goes over the history of the radio term, S.O.S. on page 88—along with great pictures of the “Titanic” sailing out for sea trials before the fateful sinking.

FCC STILL AFTER THOSE OFFENSIVE FELLOWS

Riley Hollingsworth is still working on tracking down offenders who think that they can dominate the ham frequencies. In the page 77 FCC News they give all the “up to date news” of fines and warnings. It pays to follow the rules.

PRODUCT REVIEW – NEW ICOM HANDHELD

Michael Tracy, KC1SX, reviews the new IC-V85 on page 65. Significant is the rated 7 watts of output power, reducible to 4 watts at medium setting, and half a watt on low. Overall, the reviewer calls it “a pleasure to use...easy to program and operate...a good choice to trade up.”



Communication Trailer Is on the Move.

by Wayne Kiser

The WCRA Trailer Committee expresses its appreciation to the members of WCRA for their approval of the plans to build and operate a communication's trailer. "We want to build a first class facility that the club will be proud of," says John Cheney, N9MWF, member of the trailer committee. Other members of the committee are Joe LeFebver, N9WRO; Mark Potter, W9UZ; Dale Kwarta, NJ9E; Steve Peterson, N9OA; Kurt Rubin, KB9RTO; and Wayne Kiser, KF9JC. Members of the club are encouraged to contact anyone on the committee with comments and suggestions.

The committee has already begun planning the layout, assembling equipment, purchasing the trailer and preparing to install the radios and other items. "We need to establish a building team for the actual construction of the inside of the trailer." says Potter. He encourages WCRA members to volunteer their time for such things as paneling, wiring, installing radios and antennas. Several things have already taken place.

- Storage at the Office of Emergency Management has been confirmed, and Cheney and LeFebver are working on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the county.
- The specifications for the trailer are being finalized, and some of the committee members are planing a trip to Elkhart, IN, to meet with the American Hauler Trailer Company. Once this is complete, they will contact other trailer builders for comparative costing.
- The club has been given cabinets to house radios, computers and office supplies for the work stations.

The first item to be purchased will be the generator. Since the generator is portable and will be operated outside the trailer, they plan to have it available for Field Day on June 23rd. They won't have a completion date for the trailer, however, until they know how quickly the manufacturer will do his work.

When it comes to paying for the project, member pledges are coming in, and they are ready for the actual contributions themselves. If you plan to contribute to the trailer fund, please write your check to Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs. If you can help with the actual construction, contact John Cheney. "One of the people we need," says Cheney, "is a person who understands packet radio and can help with a packet station."

Perhaps our next HamLetter will contain a layout for the equipment placement.

Pictures provided by Dale, NJ9E



N9OA

WCA OFFERS ACTIVITIES FOR: ARRL Field Day

- * Public Service Communication
- * Boy Scout Participation in the Jamboree on the Air



KA3HSW



We take advantage of satellites to make some of these programs more interesting.



MORE PICTURES FROM THE BOY SCOTT CAMFORALL



OUR MEMBERS THAT CELEBRATE A BIRTHDAY IN THE MONTH OF JUNE

PAUL N9TKX
RUTH KA9RZG



If you do not see your birthday listed here in your birth month, please contact the editor with your information.

Here is an email from Bruce, K9OZ, who is spearheading the club's efforts to organize an emergency exercise with other clubs in the area:

John Quinn N9JZX, and I would like some time to talk about the joint emergency exercise during the June meeting. I'm attending the DuPage meeting Tuesday night and we're giving the same pitch to them. John and I are having an organizational meeting June 5. That's going to be about the extent of the organization. Following the organizational meeting, I'll write a piece on it for the July Hamletter.

We contacted other clubs in the area, but none have shown any interest, so it's us and DuPage.

JUNE CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- 1st: Monthly membership meeting at First Presbyterian Church in Wheaton, 615 W. Jefferson Ave. at 7:30pm. Talk-in on .39 Program for May will be planning for Field Day.
- 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.
- 20th: DEADLINE FOR HAMLETTER SUBMISSIONS for July.
- 23-24: Field Day at Pan Fish Park in Glen Ellyn just east of Park Ave south of Roosevelt Road.
- 28th: 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.

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 Membership Meeting June 1st, 2007, 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

