



HAMLETTER

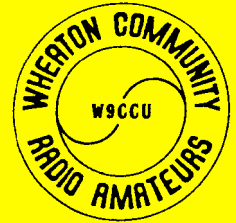
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Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs

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WCRA WILL HOLD ITS SUMMER PICNIC IN LIEU OF THE AUGUST GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT THE EAST SHELTER OF HERRICK LAKE FOREST PRESERVE FROM 6 TO 9 PM. PLEASE BRING A DESSERT TO PASS AND BUG GOO FOR THE STATE BIRD OF ILLINOIS. THE ENTRANCE TO HERRICK ON BUTTERFIELD IS JUST WEST OF ARROWHEAD GOLF CLUB AND JUST EAST OF WIESBROOK ROAD.



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	Peter ,	KB9KZO
Membership	Mary ,	K9GAL
Public Serevice		
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 N9NTM

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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HAMLETTER	eMail:hamletter@w9ccu.org	

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From the President's Gavel

by Don, N9NYX WCRA President

Several items of interest for today's missive. First up and most pressing for everyone is the club's summer picnic to be held this Friday evening at Herrick Lake Forest Preserve in Wheaton. Entrance is off of Butterfield Road just west of the Arrowhead Golf Club or just East of Wiesbrook Road. When you turn in to the Forest Preserve entrance you will be looking at the lake and a "Y", go to your left and this will take you around to the East Shelter. Those of you that remember two years ago, this is the same shelter we used then. It has a nice big covered area with lots of tables. Please remember that the club is furnishing the food, drink, and paper goods to eat all of these goodies but we are asking everyone to bring a dessert to pass. So dig into you favorite receipe book and come up with a fat pill that everyone will be scrambling to get on his or her plate.

Since we won't be having a business meeting this month, you will notice that the meeting minutes from the July meeting do not appear in this Hamletter. If everything goes according to plan and the creek don't rise, you will see them in the September issue.

Until recently we have listed four different nets that the club held on various nights and on various club repeaters. Due to a lack of Net Control Operators or a lack of interest or both, the 2M ARES Net on Tuesday evening at 8 PM and the 440 net at 8:30 PM have just died. Until three weeks ago the 220 repeater net that followed the Sunday night 2M net was not functioning because the repeater was being repaired. Thanks to Marty, N9NTM, who has taken over the 220 net on Sundays, we have had a 220 net for the past two

weeks.

The point of my bringing this to your attention is that we need to have more people show an interest in our nets and more net control operators step up and participate. We have an individual looking into adding more interesting content to our 2M Sunday Night Net. But without more interest from all of you out there in Ham Radioland, we may shut more nets down.

See you Friday evening,at Herrick,
Don

**WCRA
Meeting
Minutes**

by: Todd Carr
KC9HKN
WCRA
Secretary



The July Meeting Minutes will appear in the September Hamletter.

DuPage County Amateur Radio Simulated Emergency Test (SET)

Three of DuPage County Amateur Radio Clubs, DuPage Amateur Radio Club, Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs and York Radio Club will participate in the SET.

The date and time of the SET is Saturday, September 22, 2007 at 9:00 AM.

The format of the SET is three segments:

- 1) Each club starts their VHF/UHF repeater net at 9:00 AM asking check-ins for their call sign, name, QTH, and if they have emergency power. At the conclusion of the repeater net, check-ins will be requested to switch to VHF simplex no PL.
- 2) Simplex check-in 146.52 no PL, the Net Control Operator will do a roll call of all check-ins of the respective three VHF/UHF repeater nets. Net Control will ask each check-in for their call sign and QTH. At the conclusion of the roll call, check-ins will be asked to switch to HF.
- 3) HF check-in will be 3.905 +/- QRM using the same procedure as the Simplex check-in.

QST Reviewed for Aug. – Antenna Issue!

By Jim Ward, W9DHX

YES, THE 21ST EDITION OF THE “ANTENNA BOOK” IS OFF THE PRESS

Not only is there a printed book, but a software bundle that goes with it. So for the \$44.95 you can have an impressive library book on your shelf, as well as some great programs for your computer. See page 58 and 59.

ANTENNAS, ANTENNAS, ANTENNAS – COUNT ‘EM—6

No less than six beautiful articles cover various antenna construction projects from simple to complex. The simplest antenna idea uses a metal paint roller tray as a base. See page 66 in the “Hints and Kinks” column.

“UP FRONT IN QST” WITH PHOTO FEATURES

It was bound to happen...check the photo of John Bill holding his “Certificate of Completion” following his VE Exam at Dayton. He’s a new **TECHNICIAN AT AGE 7**.

He missed only one question on the 35 question test. Congratulations.

Then there is Phil McBride with his 25 pound briefcase station that outputs a **QRP** Signal on all bands, using **SOLAR POWER** to make his **VA3QR** signal heard.

Finally, if you are an aviation enthusiast, watch the skies for this ham’s RC plane with an 82” wingspan with **KA8YYZ** painted on the wing. Jesse Wall is proud of his kit-built 1/8 scale plane with a 26cc engine and a 16 inch prop.

HIGH ALTITUDE RESEARCH AT 95,082 FEET

Two pages (48-49) detail the fascinating story of a balloon exploration of near space. The author, David Joe Williams, **AJ5W**, gathered ozone data via a sophisticated balloon carrying a payload of complex scientific instruments, an Alinco **DJC-1** 2-meter transceiver, plus digital cameras. The results are recorded in text and photos, including “way up there” views of Tulsa. Good job, Dave!

ADVICE FOR HAM ROAD WARRIERS – THE MOBILEERS

QST Technical Editor Joel Hollas, **W1ZR**, passes out three pages (80-82) of pictures and words to help you refine your mobile set up. His suggestions provide a host of options for equipping your vehicle. He does his mobile work on all bands, and sends a **CW** signal with a Vibroplex Vibrakeyer strapped to his coffee cup. In the summer months he switches his gear to a sailboat and works “**MM**”.

ANTIQUÉ WIRELESS ASSN.—100 YEARS OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION

Spark gaps and Crystal sets using a “cat’s whisker” are just a part of the AWA Museum that is described in the “Old Radio” section on pages 87-88.

REMINDER OF THE SEPTEMBER W9DXCC CONVENTION SEPT. 15TH

You **DXCC** members need to mark your calendar for that date—this year’s event is at the O’Hare Holiday Inn and has a great lineup of events. Page 83 carries the details and the website: www.w9dxcc.com.



OUR MEMBERS THAT CELEBRATE A BIRTHDAY IN THE MONTH OF AUGUST



ROBERT
KEITH
JIM
ORRIN

KB9O AQ
KA9HPL
W9DHX
WA9VAA

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

AUGUST CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- 2nd: 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.
- 7th: Club breakfast **every** Tuesday morning 7-9 AM, Glen Oaks Restaurant, Glen Ellyn.
- 3rd: In lieu of the Monthly membership meeting at First Presbyterian Church in Wheaton, 615 W. Jefferson Ave. at 7:30pm, WCRA will have its summer picnic at the Herrick Lake East Shelter from 6 to 9 PM. Please bring a dessert to pass. All other food, drink, and paper goods will be provided.
- 20th: DEADLINE FOR HAMLETTER SUBMISSIONS for September.
- 23rd: 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 when the 2M is complete.

Next WCRA General Membership Meeting September 7th, 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.

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Club and HamLetter Mailing Address:

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First Class Mail

