



# HAMLETTER

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Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs  
Issue 597 June 2013



## Good Propagations: Field Day!



By: Mike Wilson (KC9KHT)

Field Day is now just around the corner. As normal, our June club meeting will be all about this year's Field Day. However there are some things we need to let you know about before the meeting.

First, we need an accurate head count for meals so we have enough food and none of it goes to waste. Please let Tim (KC9YFI), Joe (N9WRO), or Mike (KC9KHT) know what meals you plan on attending. Also, if you need to borrow any club equipment during Field Day weekend, let us know. This way we can ensure it gets packed for the weekend and isn't already being requested by another member.

The meeting will also be used to ensure the logging software is installed and working on all logging PC's. If you are planning on bringing out your computer to Field Day (as a primary logging PC or backup), please bring it to the meeting so we can ensure all is working correctly. This will ensure an easier start to the contest.

If you're still looking for a great way to get involved with Field Day, we are looking for GOTA Captains. If you want to teach new operators or show someone who is unlicensed the joys of our hobby, this would be a great and rewarding position for you!

The club also still has some work to do on the CSU in preparation for Field day. If you are free on June 8th we will be gathering at Joe's (N9WRO) house to finish taking inventory of the trailer, assembling and tuning a new club vertical antenna, and loading up for Field Day.

Whether you are already signed up to work a station, or just want to drop by because you have some free time, we are looking forward to seeing all of you out a Field Day this year! [Contact mwilsonemt@gmail.com](mailto:mwilsonemt@gmail.com)

### Inside...



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CHECK OUT OUR  
FACEBOOK PAGE!

### Event Calendar



Next WCRA Meeting  
June 7th @ 7:30 PM Topic-Field Day  
2013. Presented by Joe LeFebvre  
(N9WRO) and Mike Wilson  
(KC9KHT)

June 8th, CSU Clean Up/Inventory at  
Joe(N9WRO)'s house. 9 a.m.

June 9th, Tour De Cure

JUNE 22ND & JUNE 23RD -  
FIELD DAY!!! Panfish Park, Glen  
Ellyn IL. All Day!!!!

VE Testing  
Lombard Library  
6/27 @ 6:30PM

2 Meter Net on 145.31 Mhz  
Sunday Nights @ 8PM

Hamletter Submissions Deadline  
June 24th, 2013.

July 4th, Wheaton Independence  
Day Parade

July 12th, Next WCRA Meeting  
@ 7:30 p.m, Topic- Interfacing the  
Arduino Microcontroller to the  
Motorola MSF5000 Repeater -  
presented by Doug Eaton

# Meeting Minutes

## WHEATON COMMUNITY RADIO AMATEURS

May 3, 2013, 1930 hrs

### OPENING

Call to Order	Called to order at 7:30 pm
Opening Remarks/Announcements	Welcome
Approval of Agenda	Approved
Introductions of Members/Guests	N9HQ N9HDW N9MWF K9JWG AJ9M N9JPG K9ILF KC9IJO KC9KHT WA9VAA W9DHX KC9YFI WA9FTS N9CBA W9UZ KA0DSF W9BK KA3HSW NV9R KB9FYL WA9ACO NJ9E WA9SGF* KC9YMJ* WA9EMO* Guests*

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES - April 2013 meeting

Corrections/Questions	None
Approval	Approved

### OFFICER REPORTS

President (N9JPG)	<b>Kevin's comments and plans for the club's future can be found in the Hamletter</b>
Vice President (N9HDW)	Program Committee needs volunteers. Mark Potter, Jim Ward and Mary Tuohy are current volunteers. Kodak projector remote is missing. Please turn it in if you have it. <b>Tonight's program will be Human Power for your Field Day Station.</b> Dayton photos requested if you are going.
Secretary (N9HQ)	Membership rosters will be provided next month.
Treasurer (KB9FYL)	Totals given.
Property Custodian (NJ9E)	None

### REPEATER ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD (RAB)

RAB report (KA3HSW)	31 machine working well. Recorded meeting announcement up and working. 440 machine still has a bad hum. Problems getting into the site prohibit maintenance. Will try to coordinate with the Dupage club.
Questions & Answers	

### STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

*Committee chairs are requested to keep reports brief and concise.*

*Please hold any and all questions for continuing business.*

HAMLETTER (KC9IJO)	Please send contributions to Mary. June deadline last Friday of May.
Website (N9WBW)	None
Public Relations (W9UZ)	Field Day article will be in the Trib Local.
Club Awards (N9MWF)	On hold pending determination of club name badges.
Public Service/Emergency (N9OA)	Special Olympics went well considering the last minute site relocation.
CSU (N9MWF)	Network upgrade in progress. Work day next Saturday, <b>May 11 at Joe's house.</b>
Interference (open position)	None
Training (WB9SGD)	Kevin & Charlie trying to coordinate a program for this fall.
VE team (NE9ET, de facto rep.)	None
[Meeting] Program (N9HDW)	Human power and solar power for your station.
Club Nets (open position)	Every Sunday at 8pm.
Hamfest (KB9RTO)	None
Radio GO KIT Fundraising (NJ9E)	None
Field Day (N9WRO, KC9KHT)	CSU workday May 11. Contact Joe or Mike to volunteer. Sounds like we will be 5A this year.

# Meeting Minutes (cont)

Holiday Party (KA9RZG)	Will be in December. Need suggestions for location.
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## CONTINUING BUSINESS

Questions for Committee Chairs	None
By-laws Amendment Proposal	Working on proposal.

## NEW BUSINESS

Establishment of a Membership Committee	Motion made and seconded to create a permanent membership committee. Motion carried unanimously.
WCRA Name Badge Designs	The dies for the old name badges are worn out and need to be replaced at a substantial cost to the club. Ideas will be entertained for a new design. John Cheney would like to see the current logo to remain for traditional reasons if a new design is incorporated.
Establishment of a 2013 Fall Technician Class Training Series of Classes	Kevin would like to get the scouts more involved. Adults would also be encouraged to attend.

## CLOSING

Anchors	George Henry has a new GAP Titan DX for sale, \$200 or best offer.
Announcements	None
Guest Comments	None
Member Comments	None
Adjournment	8:15 pm

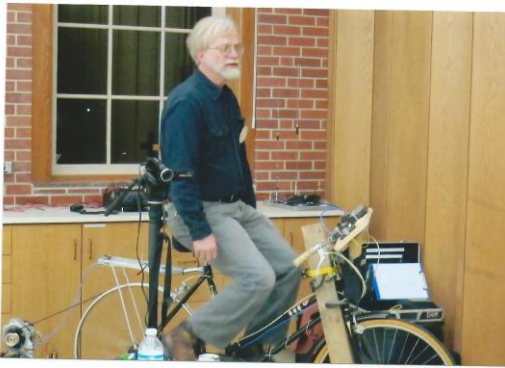


Introducing the 2013/2014 Board of Directors (From Left to Right)

Dale Kwart (NJ9E), Property Custodian.  
 Peter Richey (N9HDW), Vice President.  
 Kevin Oleniczak (N9JPG), President.  
 Carol Schroeder (KB9FYL), Treasurer.  
 Ken Kwasniewski (N9HQ), Secretary.



Peter Richey (N9HDW) and Al Sawyer (K9ILF) gave a talk in May about alternative power sources for Field Day. Al and Peter talked about a power source that seemed to come off the set of Gilligan's Island. Al talked about installing a pedal powered dynamo at Field Day. The more you cycle, the more power you get. And once you were done producing pedal power for your radio, the charge would last several hours (depending upon how long you rode the stationary device of course).



President Kevin (N9JPG), even tries his hands at pedal power.







## The President's Corner

By: Kevin Olencziak (N9JPG)

The new board, including myself have been getting acclimated to our new roles. Everyone is eagerly taking on their positions and working to ensure details are covered and done well. We have been undertaking a number of initiatives in coordination with committee chairs to help with the club operation:

- A responsibility matrix to help existing and new committee and board members know how the club operates.
- Investigating new club badge and award designs possibilities
- An updated and well documented club asset inventory
- An updated club brochure
- Options for a fall new ham tech training class

As a board we are looking to gather club input on future planning by sharing a schedule of upcoming topics for executive board meetings where members are welcome to come and attend if they desire. We'll slowly start in on that process this summer and welcome all ideas.

Summer is upon us and field day is almost here. Joe N9WRO, Mike KC9KHT and team have been diligently planning out the event details. With the parking lot changes at Panfish Park, they are venturing out to new locations within the park which will surely make antenna placement a new challenge this year. Come on out, even if only for a few hours and have some fun!

Kevin - N9JPG  
WCRA President

### MEETING TOPICS

June 7th, 2013: WCRA Field Day 2013 Final Plans -  
presented by Joe Lefebvre N9WRO and Mike Wilson  
KC9KHT

July 12, 2013: Interfacing the Arduino Microcontroller to the Motorola  
MSF5000 Repeater -  
presented by Doug Eaton

And starting in June 2012, there will be a new monthly section to the program - Kids In Action - a short presentation about things amateur radio licensed youth are doing.

Peter Richey (N9HDW).

# QST REVIEW



By Jim Ward, W9DHX

LOTS OF ARTICLES THIS MONTH ABOUT FIELD DAY!

Joe(N9WRO) and Mike(KC9KHT) say it is required reading-get all the latest tips from the article: “Bagging the Field Day QRP Multiplier” (page 66) and other stories in QST on how to stack up points for this year’s 24-hour event. Author Carrey Fuller, KX0R, customized the front seat of his car last year to have all his FD aids at his fingertips. On the opposite page, you’ll find guidelines and sample diagrams on putting up towers with safety.

FIELD DAY “FLYOVER” GETS APPLAUSE FROM EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA HAMS

Last year Eastern Pennsylvania Section Manager Bob Famiglio, K3RF, got the bright idea of visiting various FD sites by airplane. He asked another ham friend to pilot a Cessna 182 Skylane for him as he toured the area. At some spots he not only got contact by his handheld, but other locations gave him a “Welcome SM” sign greeting from the ground. His range with his 5W hand held was between 40-60 miles Simplex. He made “landing visits” at two clubs who were conducting Field Day at airports in Scranton and Selinsgrove. The article is on page 65.

JAMMIN’ AND HAMMIN’ WITH THE BOY SCOUTS—JAMBOREE ON THE AIR-2013

Jim Wilson, K5ND, makes a strong point for getting ham recruiting through Boy Scout events, with this “on the air” activity taking place in the third weekend in October. It is the largest Scouting event in the world! The National Jamboree will be at a new site in West Virginia, and will be opening July 15th. This is a new “permanent” location. Another new idea – an “Amateur Radio Operator” rating strip was introduced in 2012. Makes you want to get back in uniform so you can wear it!

SSB PIONEER HONORED WITH A PARTY AT JONESBOROUGH, TENNESSEE

Central Electronics was a part of the introduction of SSB in the Fifties. The founder of the firm, Wes Schum, W9DYV, will be honored by his friend Nick Tusa, K5EF, on Field Day. Nick has asked all collectors of Central Electronics, Lakeshore, Drake, Collins, Eldico and other vintage gear to visit the 20 acre location on June 22nd. It is a bed and breakfast called Storybrook Farm and operated by Schum’s daughter and husband. See the story and pictures on page 70.

# 34 Foxhunt Report

April 27th, 2013 by Kevin N9JPG with Colin, Mason and Abby

This was my first time hiding as the fox and I gave it a fair amount of consideration. I've marveled a bit at the creativity of others who have been the fox for the hunts I've been on, and worked to do it justice. I scouted several locations earlier in the week as I work in Schaumburg, but was uncertain whether I would be heard at the start. My hiding location ended up being a compromise after some Google Earth investigation looking at terrain profiles. I hadn't really paid much attention to how much power others had used in the past and had limited means. So that's how I ended up at Helen Keller Junior High School and you with a S9+ at the start!

First to find me was KB9SMR followed soon after by AA9CC (but did not place because this was his week to hide). Second place went to KC9SEM, third was KB9DIM, fourth was WD9EXW, fifth was WA9FTS and W9RA was close but ended up DNF. We gathered at one of the first restaurants I visited when I moved to Chicago over 15 years ago called The Assembly. Hiding Spot - Google Earth 42.04168, -8810039



Results:

1. Marty KB9SMR, Bill Unoff. Tony AA9CC, Joan KC9QQY
  2. Matt KC9SEM, Patty (ex KC9YQM - now N9PLS, Jacob, Mackenzie
  3. Charlie KB9DIM
  4. John WD9EXW, Tom N9CBA, Janet
  5. Mike WA9FTS
- DNF Don W9RA

## Fox Hunt Reports For June

1st Sat Hunt - KMart Parking lot, Elmhurst, Rt 93 north of St Charles Rd - CFAR input 147.750MHz

2nd Sat Hunt - Downers Grove Golf Club parking lot, off Belmont Rd south of Odgen Av - Simplex 146.565 MHz

3rd Sat Hunt - Centennial Park, Addison, Rohlwing Rd, 0.4 miles south of Lake St - CFMC input 146.160 MHz

4th Sat Hunt - WoodDale Rd between Thorndale and Irving Pk Rd - Simplex 146.34 MHz

For further info contact Mike WA9FTS or call at 708-457-0966

Hunters gather about a half hr before the hunt. Everyone is invited to participate or ride along (call in advance). All hunts start at 8PM.

## Dear Ann Ode...



### Dear Anne Ode,

Today I received your 3-page letter about your dispute with your neighbor who objects to your 80-foot tower with antennas for all the low bands. I have carefully researched all the applicable laws. You certainly have an airtight case and I'd like to represent you.

How soon can we start the legal proceedings?  
Signed, Local Attorney

Dear Attorney,

Never! I gave you his side of the story.

\*\*\*\*\*

Do you need help solving your ham radio problems?  
Ann Ode can help you. Send her an email: [ann.ode@w9ccu.org](mailto:ann.ode@w9ccu.org)

#### ILLINOIS RADIO LEAGUE REQUESTS ASSISTANCE! ATTENTION ALL AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS!!!

This is KC9QXO and the Illinois Radio League needs your help!  
The New Lenox Chamber of Commerce is holding a 5K/8K race and the New Lenox Police Department has requested communications to be provided by the Illinois Radio League.  
This race is different this year and will be held at night. They have over 20 different locations they need our help with and is beginning to look like our largest racing event held in New Lenox.

The details are as follows:

Thursday, June 6, 2013  
Arrival of Amateur Radio Team: No later than 1730 hrs.  
Briefing: 1800 hrs.  
On Post at: 1830 hrs.  
Start of Race: 1900 hrs.  
Approx End of Race: 2030 hrs.  
Command: Wildwood Park (Northeast corner of Joliet Hwy and Gear Drive, New Lenox, IL)  
Talk-In Frequency: 145.210 (-)(107.2)

We will need APRS capable radios as we are going to be leading and tailing the race.

We would like to get a count of how many people are able to help us out and would like to have responses by Tuesday, June 4, 2013. Once we have this count, additional maps and details will be provided by email including frequencies. However, don't be afraid to show up if you don't let us know.

Thank you for all your help and hope to see you on June 6, 2013. Please respond directly to Bill Byerley at [bill3@wb9irl.org](mailto:bill3@wb9irl.org) immediately if you are available to assist the Illinois Radio League with this public service event!

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Bill Byerley - KC9QXO  
Illinois Radio League  
Will County Skywarn  
Will County ARES  
ARRL Local Gov't Liaison  
(815) 931-8546  
<http://www.kc9qxo.com>



# FOR SALE

GAP Titan DX vertical antenna for sale. Full coverage 40 - 10 meters plus 100 KHz on 80M, includes 2 cap units for different segments of 80. Purchased from a former club member and never put up. Asking \$200

2 double-sided 19" rack mount cabinets, 15 units high each side. Actual dimensions 29-1/4" H x 20-3/4" W x 26" D. Asking \$75 each.

George, KA3HSW

Email: [ka3hsw@arrl.net](mailto:ka3hsw@arrl.net)

Be sure to come  
on out June 9th  
to Joe's house  
(N9WRO)  
For another CSU  
Inventory/Field  
Day Prep day.

For more  
information  
contact Mike at  
[mwilsonemt@  
gmail.com](mailto:mwilsonemt@gmail.com)

Or  
[Joe at N9WRO@comcast.net](mailto:Joe at N9WRO@comcast.net)



## CQ Hamletter Contributors

I'm so excited to be back as your Hamletter editor. I have just a few requests of you when it comes to your submissions.

First of all I'm willing to accept anything that is club and/or ham radio related but inclusion in the Hamletter will depend upon the space I have and the importance of the article submitted. (For example an article about our Hamfest might go in before an article about a club member on a DXpedition). Please try and get your submissions in by the deadline (This month June 24th is the deadline) otherwise I might not be able to include it in the next edition of the Hamletter. I'll take the articles in any format you wish to submit and yes, I would love to have lots and lots of submissions from you, my fellow club members. If you have any questions about the Hamletter contact me at [m2e1990@gmail.com](mailto:m2e1990@gmail.com). Or call me at (630)222-9732

### WCRA General Membership Meetings

WCRA meet the first friday of most months at the First Presbyterian Church in Wheaton at 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 snacks. This is followed by an amateur radio related program. We would like to see you there to share the enthusiasm. If you want to join the WCRA, visit our web site to get the application and join us at an upcoming meeting!

### WCRA OFFICERS

President - Kevin Olencziak (N9JPG)  
Vice President - Peter Richey (N9HDW)  
Treasurer-Carol Schroeder (KB9FYL)  
Secretary-Ken Kwasniewski (N9HQ)  
Custodian-Dale Kwarta (NJ9E)

### HAMLETTER

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### Our Mission Statement

The mission of the Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs is to further the art of radio communications and electronics by mentoring anyone with like interests, participating in community events, preparedness in assisting in the event of a disaster where other communication modes can fail, while promoting social camaraderie among its members.