



HAMLETTER

Published Monthly
Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs
Issue 618 March 2015



Good Propagations

Home study first! In two Saturdays, you will be a ham radio operator!

Amateur Radio Class & Exam

Get your entry level ham license (Technician)
in two days with the help of the
Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs

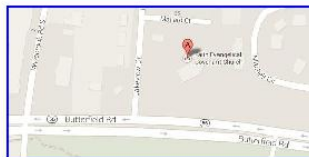
Saturday March 14th and March 21st, 2015

- Study at home in advance using proven and easy study materials and then join us for class for demonstrations and answers to all your questions.
- Pass your FCC Amateur Radio Technician license exam right in class, on the second day!
- Radio demonstrations of internet linking, digital modes with computers and smartphone apps.
- Training on how to operate through local radio repeater systems.
- Live equipment demonstrations, including radio direction finding.
- Multiple-choice examinations with no Morse Code test required.
- Get acquainted with experienced hams from our area.



Book for Class

- Who:** You! Adults and youth are invited
- When:** Saturday March 14th and March 21st, 2015 (both dates required for attendance)
9AM to 5PM (bring a sack lunch)
- Where:** Faith Evangelical Covenant Church
2001 Lakeview Drive, Wheaton, IL 60189
- Prestudy:** Complete the study guide before class starts found here:
<http://w9ccu.org/tctechprestudy.pdf>
- Cost:** \$20 for the class (required) + \$15 for the test (optional)
\$20 to purchase the book online (Amazon)
Make check payable to the WCRA for \$20 to reserve a spot
- Register:** Pre-registration is required by contacting training@w9ccu.org or phone 630-604-0157



<http://www.w9ccu.org/classes.htm>

Inside...

- Pg1-Good Propagations
- Pg 2-Minutes
- Pg 4-In The News
- Pg 6 Program Notes
- Pg 9 QST Review
- Pg 10-Ask Ann Ode
- Pg 11 Silent Key

Event Calendar

03/06/15 7:30 p.m.
Monthly Meeting. 1st
Presbyterian Church
Wheaton IL.

03/14 & 21/15
9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tech
Class. Faith
Evangelical Covenant
Church 2001
Lakeview Dr. Wheaton
IL.

03/20/2014-Deadline
Hamletter

04/10/2015 7:30 p.m.
Monthly
meeting/Election
Meeting. 1st
Presbyterian Church
Wheaton IL.

Meeting Minutes

WHEATON COMMUNITY RADIO AMATEURS

February 6, 2015, 1930 hrs

OPENING

Call to Order	7:36PM
Opening Remarks/Announcements	Welcome to all. The hamfest workers prizes will be raffled after the meeting.
Introductions of Members/Guests	N9HQ,N9L TW,KB9UGJ,KD9AUK,N9CBA,N9HDW,KB9RTO,N9MWF, W9DHX,W9UZ,AJ9M,KC9YFI,KB9RTO,NJ9E,KB9FYL,KC9KHT,N9JPG N9DKO,W9NJM,KA3HSW,WA9E,N9LEM,KC9ABR,N9HLG

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - prior meeting

Corrections/Questions	None
Approval	Approved

OFFICER REPORTS

President (N9JPG)	Kevin will be resigning as President effective after the April meeting. Mark Potter and Jim Ward will look for his successor.
Vice President (N9HDW)	Tonight's program will be in regard to running W1AW's anniversary station. March's meeting will be in regard to a tree climbing, antenna hanging, robot. Peter will not be running for vice president.
Secretary (N9HQ)	None
Treasurer (KB9FYL)	Amounts were given. Budget requests were forwarded to all committee chairs to be discussed at the next meeting.
Property Custodian (NJ9E)	

REPEATER ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD (RAB)

RAB report (WA9E)	At the RAB's January meeting, the new Yaesu repeaters were discussed. The RAB will be asking for funds to purchase 3 new Fusion repeaters to replace our existing repeaters. Budget transfers will need to take place to facilitate the purchase. Mark Potter will be allowing us to use his existing tower for one of the new repeaters. See New Business.
Questions & Answers	A brief discussion was had regarding the Yaesu repeaters.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee chairs are requested to keep reports brief and concise.

Please hold any and all questions for continuing business.

HAMLETTER (KC9LJO)	Mary needs help, due to work commitments.
Website (N9WBW)	None
Public Relations (N9JPG)	The upcoming training class was published in the ARRL website.
Club Awards (N9MWF)	John needs a list of upcoming board members leaving.
Public Service/Emergency (N9OA)	None
CSU (N9MWF)	The new UHF repeater that was donated was tested and did not

MEETING MINUTES (Continued)

	work well. John feels that it just needs some minor tweaking. Minor issues with the CSU need to be addressed. One of the fenders needs minor repair.
Interference (open position)	None
Training (W9UZ)	The March Tech class needs attendees and instructors.
VE team (NE9ET, de facto rep.)	10 Exam Elements were passed at the Hamfest. A donation was also made to the club from the VE Team.
[Meeting] Program (N9HDW)	As previously noted.
Club Nets (KC9YFI)	Net participation has been lackluster. More participation is needed.
Hamfest (KB9RTO)	A big round of thanks to Kurt for chairing the Hamfest for the past several years. Thanks to all that helped. Although able sales were down, this year's Hamfest was profitable.
Radio GO KIT Fundraising (NJ9E)	2 kits were sold at the Hamfest. Much interest has been shown locally, as well as out of state. 20 kits are available to be sold.
Field Day (N9WRO, KC9KHT)	Help is needed.
Holiday Party (KA9RZG)	None
Membership (open)	KD9CTQ and KA9CHM were voted in as members.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

Questions for Committee Chairs	None

NEW BUSINESS

RAB Equipment Purchase	A motion was made to to spend up to \$1800 for new the new Yaesu Fusion repeaters provided Yaesu will sell them to us at the discounted price. Discussion took place. An amended motion was made to spend up to \$600 to purchase one repeater and to continue negotiations with Yaesu for further repeater purchases. The motion passed.

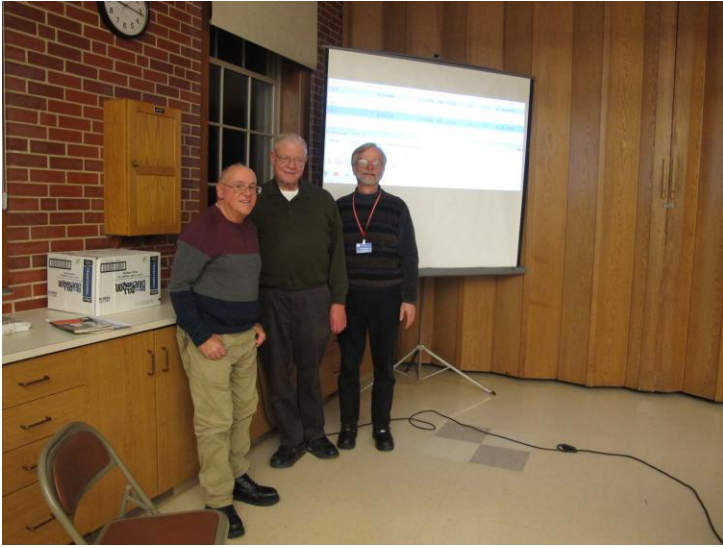
CLOSING

Anchors	None
Announcements	None
Guest Comments	None
Member Comments	None
Adjournment	8:35pm

- Following the meeting we will have a prize giveaway for those that participated in the hamfest.

IN THE NEWS

Highlights from the February Meeting



(from left) Greg Schmit, WA9SGF; Mark Potter, W9UZ; and Peter Richey, N9HDW, presenters at the club meeting.

Kurt Rubin, WB9RTO, looks over the stack of workers' prizes.





Mike holds the hat with the workers' names while daughter Riley draws a winner.

Prize winner Steve, KB9RCO, shows off his prize.



PROGRAM MEETING NOTES

March 6, 2015

Ham Kids In Action:

"Robotic Rope Climbing Antenna Raising System for Tall Structures and Trees"
Presented by Colin Oleniczak KD9AHH and Alex Caswell KD9AUQ

April 10, 2015 (Note: one week later than usual)

[Program follows annual meeting and officer elections.]

2015 WCRA Mid Winter Hamfest Forum Video: "BroadBand HamNet ", by Jim Kinter K5KTF. If you missed the forum, or just want to see it again, this is the full live recording including the presenter's slides, talk, and Q&A.

May 1, 2015

2015 WCRA Mid Winter Hamfest Forum Video: "Practical Safety Considerations For Amateur Radio Towers", by Mark Allen W6PC. If you missed the forum, or just want to see it again, this is the full live recording including the presenter's slides, talk, and Q&A.

June 5, 2015

"ARRL Field Day - WCRA Final Preparations" Led by the WCRA Field Day Committee

Peter
N9HDW

REMINDER!!! MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE NOW DUE!!!!

The club's membership dues were due by **December 31st, 2014**. Please visit <http://www.w9ccu.org/application.pdf> to fill out the form online if you have not done so already. Dues are \$26 for a regular member, \$13 for students/seniors/non licensed associates and \$39 for a family membership. If you need a name badge please check all appropriate boxes and include the costs in your check/method of payment. The biggest change to the 2015 Membership Dues Form is the section indicating your privacy preferences. For more information or if you have any questions please email Carol (KB9FYL) at Carol.Schroeder@att.net or Ken (N9HQ) at n9hq@arrl.net

An Important Notice from the ARRL

FCC "Paperless" Amateur Radio License Policy Goes into Effect on February 17

ZCZC AG04

QST de W1AW

ARRL Bulletin 4 ARLB004

>From ARRL Headquarters

Newington CT January 29, 2015

To all radio amateurs

Starting February 17, the FCC no longer will routinely issue paper license documents to Amateur Radio applicants and licensees. The Commission has maintained for some time now that the official Amateur Radio license authorization is the electronic record that exists in its Universal Licensing System (ULS), although the FCC has continued to print and mail hard copy licenses. In mid-December the FCC adopted final procedures to provide access to official electronic authorizations, as it had proposed in WT Docket 14-161 as part of its "process reform" initiatives.

Under the new procedures, licensees will access their current official authorization ("Active" status only) via the ULS License Manager. The FCC will continue to provide paper license documents to all licensees who notify the Commission that they prefer to receive one. Licensees also will be able to print out an official authorization - as well as an unofficial "reference copy" - from the ULS License Manager.

"We find this electronic process will improve efficiency by simplifying access to official authorizations in ULS, shortening the time period between grant of an application and access to the official authorization, and reducing regulatory costs," the FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) said. According to the WTB, the new procedures will save at least \$304,000 a year, including the cost of staff resources.

In comments filed November 5, the ARRL had strongly recommended that the FCC "give serious consideration to continuing a default provision for sending an initial paper license document to new licensees in the Amateur Radio Service, along with detailed, simple instructions for how to make the elections set forth in the notice relative to future modified or renewed licenses."

The FCC said that applicants or licensees who include a valid e-mail address under "Applicant Information" in the ULS will receive an official electronic authorization via e-mail. New license applicants

An Important Notice from the ARRL **Continued**

who do not provide a FCC Registration Number at the examination point will receive a printed license as well as an FRN and a temporary password to access the Commission Registration System (CORES).

The ARRL and other Amateur Radio commenters also worried that unless a license document is printed on distinctive paper stock, its authenticity could be questioned in such situations as obtaining vanity call sign license plates. To address this, the FCC said the watermark "Official Copy" will be printed on each page of an official authorization that a licensee prints out from the ULS. The WTB recently stopped using distinctive paper stock to produce hard copy licenses and has been printing these on "standard, white recycled paper." The Bureau noted that the distinctive paper stock it had used was six times more expensive than the plain recycled paper it now uses.

The ULS License Manager now includes settings that allow licensees to notify the WTB that they prefer to receive official authorizations on paper. Once the final procedures go into effect designating electronic access as the default, licensees can change the ULS License Manager setting so that the Bureau will print and mail a license document. Licensees also may contact FCC Support via the web at, http://esupport.fcc.gov/index.htm?job=contact_fcc_support , or via telephone or mail to request paper licenses.

The FCC rejected as "outside the scope of this proceeding" an ARRL argument that Section 97.23 of the Amateur Service rules be amended to replace "licensee mailing address" with other alternatives, including e-mail, for use in Commission correspondence. The rule, which requires that any licensee mailing address be in an area where the licensee has US Postal Service access, has precluded FCC issuance of location-specific call signs in such areas as Navassa Island (KP1) and some Pacific islands.

NNNN
/EX



QST REVIEW

By Jim Ward, W9DHX

ANTENNA IDEAS ABOUND IN STORY AND PHOTOS OF NEW WAYS TO RADIATE

Editor Steve Ford, WB8IMY, furnishes a whole display of “antenna photos” on page 20, including a “fly swatter” for six meters made out of aluminum gutter guard! Three other colorful antenna shots fill the page, one showing an array posed against a “sun dog” halo.

FIVE ANTENNA ARTICLES FROM WHICH TO CHOOSE

KE4PT- Hal Siwiak- spent a lot of time designing a portable antenna that would work on 40 to six meters and describes it on pages 44 - 46. It is an off center end fed dipole that works either with a distant end support, or draped over a fiberglass tent pole (as shown in his illustration). Hal gives all the construction instructions and performance charts as well. Four other articles give you more information on antennas than you really need to know.

GEORGE GREENE, NE9ET, HONORED IN ARRL VEC LIST

Page 46 of this month’s issue honors WCRA’s George as one of the top five Volunteer Examiners in the ARRL Central Division. He has served on 213 examining sessions since his accreditation on the 13th of November in 2000. Congratulations are due to George for his volunteer work to bring new hams on board.

VINTAGE RADIO COLUMN HIGHLIGHTS TOY TELEGRAPH KEYS

Hal Kramer, WJ1B, reaches back into history to write about and show pictures of antique toy radio keys. His favorite is a “Rin-Tin-Tin” plastic key that was included as a premium with a box of Shredded Wheat. It was from the 1950’s and 1 ¼ inches in length. One “Codemaster” key included a phonograph training record and had a choice of buzzer, flasher, or clicking options. This was the first step in many a youngster’s travel toward getting a ham license. See pages 100 – 101.

“HOW TO BUILD A WHEEL WELL MOUNT” FOR YOUR MOBILE ANTENNA

Installing big mobile antennas without drilling holes in your car has always been a problem. Steve Sant Andrea, AG1YK, has solved it by drilling the holes under the rear wheel lip. He shows you how to do it on page 73. Follow the instructions carefully and don’t put it too close to the opening where you fill your gas tank.

Dear Ann Ode...



Dear Ann Ode,

At the recent golf outing sponsored by my ham radio club, there were two dogs playing on the fairway. The club president teed-up and yelled "28". Why did he do that?

Signed, Wondering

Dear Wondering,

Because it's "fore" in dog years.

You can tell your ham radio troubles to Ms. Ode at ann.ode@w9ccu.org



Check us out on
FACEBOOK

Fox Hunt Report

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

5th Sat Hunt - Contact Mike at phone number below as hunt info and rules may be different from above hunts.

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

Silent Key-KE9ES



FREDERICK C. "FRED" MANGOLD - 64
1/23/1951 - 2/12/2015

Turner-Eighner Funeral Home - Somonauk -

Frederick C. "Fred" Mangold, 64, of Leland, IL passed away Thursday, February 12, 2015 at his home in rural Leland. He was born January 23, 1951 in Chicago, IL the son of Fred W. and Eleanor (Baumann) Mangold. He married Judith A. Lucci on July 2, 1977 in Wheaton, IL. Fred was a volunteer firefighter for the Leland Fire Department. He also served on the Leland School Board, St. James the Apostle School Board in Glen Ellyn, was a cub scout pack leader, little league baseball coach and was a ham radio operator. Fred's greatest love of all was his friends and family.

He is survived by one son, Brian (Kelly) Mangold of New Berlin, WI, one granddaughter who was the pride of his life, Cora Elizabeth Mangold of New Berlin, WI; one sister, Linda (Robert) Rasmussen of Fox Lake, IL; one brother, Ronald (BokHee) Mangold of Carol Stream, IL; two sisters-in-law, Carol Wisner of Irondequoit, NY, and JoAnne (Steven) Siar of Wheaton, IL; one brother-in-law, Don Wisner of Port St. Lucie, FL; his mother-in-law Rose M. Lucci of Wheaton, IL; three nieces, Meredith (Jeremiah) Conway of Brooklyn, NY, Robin Rasmussen of Fox Lake, IL and Jill Siar of Wheaton, IL; two nephews, Eric Rasmussen of Fox Lake, IL and Andy Siar; one great nephew, Theo Conway of Brooklyn, NY.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one sister, Diane Mangold, his wife Judith A. Mangold, and his father-in-law Joseph G. Lucci.

Funeral services will be held at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 17, 2015 at Turner-Eighner Funeral Home in Somonauk, IL with Pastor Derek Johnsen officiating. Visitation will be from 4:00 to the time of service at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday in the funeral home. Memorials may be directed to St. Luke's Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery or the charity of one's choice. For more information or to sign the online guest book go to www.EighnerFuneralHomes.com

Help Wanted

The Program Committee needs an additional volunteer to help at club meetings to greet people, arrange refreshments and perform setup/teardown. On the job training provided! Lots of satisfaction in making the meetings more welcoming for people.

If you have a knack for hospitality, this is a great way to meet people in the club as well as visitors. Only requires coming a little early to meetings (30 minutes) and staying a few minutes after the meeting to cleanup. Contact Peter N9HDW to volunteer (n9hdw@arrl.net).

Help Wanted

NEW HAMLETTER EDITOR

DUTIES-Edit all articles submitted to the Hamletter and lay them out in a newsletter format.

QUALIFICATIONS- A love of Amateur Radio and experience with the club. Any previous Newsletter or Journalism experience is a plus.

INTERESTED-See Kevin N9JPG for further details.