



Ham Gab

Christmas Party: Dec. 7th December 2012

PO Box 102
Bedford Park, IL
60499-0102
www.hamfesters.org

Special Interest Articles

Hamfesters in the
newspapers p. 3
Contact with Japan p. 5
Zero day event station p. 6

December Birthdays

Robert K9MDO
Richard N9UNQ
Ron KB9ZBN
Al N9ZD
Dorothy N9ALC
James KC9SOG
Frank K9BWQ
Steve W9KXT
Michael WA9YJA

Officers

President-Don KC9EQQ
Vice President -Jim KB9CYL
Secretary-Patty KC9LYE
Treasurer- ED WA9EOL
SGT at Arm-Rich N9UNQ
Trustee-Bruno K9QKB

Board Members

Nora KC9MLV
Jim KA2DRQ
Kurt WB9FMC
Mike W9MCS
John WB9JTS
Cathy KC9NRH

Hamqab Editors

Steve & Eric
KC9OOL & KC9OOM
Scapstone@aol.com



Reminder, the Hamfester's Christmas party will be Friday December 7th at Papa Joes in Orland Park. It's at 14459 S LaGrange RD. It's easier to come in from the back. Arrive around 7:00 pm and dinner will start at 7:30 pm.



It is with great sadness that we report that long time Hamfester Matt Sobczak K9MS is a silent key. He passed away on November 22nd. Matt was a Hamfester for over 60 years. He served the club as a licensing instructor, the man in charge of the Christmas party when we had it at the civic center, and a veteran of many Field Days, including the time he was FD chairman. He racked up many, many CW points over many years. An antenna expert, he provided us with masts and a 150-ft folded dipole for the trailer. He donated them to the club. Over the years he brought out many home-brew antenna concoctions. They all worked. Matt will be greatly missed.

MAKE SURE YOU GET YOUR TICKETS FOR THE HT.
WE'LL HAVE THE RAFFLE AS SOON AS ENOUGH
TICKETS ARE SOLD.

THE PRESIDENTS BEAT

DONALD POINTER KC9EQQ

DECEMBER 2012



Matt K9MS and his family enjoy the Salute to his life as a Ham Operator. From L to R: Patty, Ed, Barbara, Matt, Patty and President Don KC9EQQ

I start this column with a very heavy heart. As many of you may know now, on Thanksgiving night, this club lost a gentle giant of a man with the passing of Matt Sobczak K9MS. His contributions to the club are only surpassed by his contributions to all he met with his unselfish sharing of himself as a friend to all he met. With his calm demeanor, and unwavering backing he lent to all who needed it, he guided many a person towards a path leading towards success and personal best. I know firsthand of this as Matt always supported this President, this club member and this friend with kind words of support and encouragement.

At the funeral, Nora KC9EQQ, Joe KB9EQQ, Bob N9JYX and myself could not be more impressed by Matt's wonderful family in the guise of his wife Arlene, and their children, in laws and grandchildren. Within them you saw all the purest qualities of decency and love for all people that Matt and Arlene instilled within the aforementioned people. His memory will live on but what he gave to this club and it's memories of his contributions will live on for years to come. Our sympathies to his family, friends and others who were so positively impacted by Matt's presence in their lives. I am going to miss you my friend and so will the Ham Radio community.

By this writing we will be but days away from our Hamfesters Christmas party and I hope you will be there sharing the fellowship with your fellow members and recall all those who have left us this year within our club fondly and warmly. No program, no hype, just a night of kinship with the folks who make up the best Ham Radio club out there-

Hamfesters!



Nora and I wish to extend to you our warmest wishes for a blessed Christmas, Hanukah, Kwanzaa or whatever you celebrate this wonderful season.

As many of you know, I wear my respect for all those who serve and have served in the military along with all First Responders unabashedly on my sleeve. Please join me if you will in wishing all the best to those who serve and protect us around the clock a Glorious, Blessed and peaceful Holiday season that we are now in. It should be all our hopes that the New Year will bring with it a promise that these brave men and women will all come home safe. It's nice to get great gifts from the ones you love, but it is even better to see these heroes come home before anything in one piece and with peace. I know Matt K9MS, (a former Army vet), would of wanted us to..... God Bless you all and please have a safe New Years from Nora and I.

Questions, comments etc., for Don? Please email him at: dpointer65@aol.com or call him between the hours of 10am to 8pm at: 773-426-1936.

Board meeting minutes – Patti, KC9LYE

Hamfesters Board Meeting Oct. 22, 2012 start 7:32PM

Roll: Don KC9EQQ, Ed WA9EOL, Patti KC9LYE, Nora KC9MLV, Mike W9MCS, John WB9JTS, Kerry AA9SB.

President's Report: By Don KC9EQQ, this is our first board meeting at the Crestwood Community Center. So, now both our board & club meetings are held at the same location.

Jim KB9CYL, is at work tonight

James KA2DRQ, will not run again for board member, he has family issues. John WB9JTS, & Mike W9MCS, will run for re-election to the board.

Our club election is on Nov. 9th, officers are unopposed.

Board members are; Mike W9MCS, John WB9JTS, Kerry AA9SB, Steve W9KXT, Kurt WB9FMC, Nora KC9MLV, Cathy KC9NRH. There are six board positions

Note that our next club meeting will be held on Friday Nov. 9th, there will be club elections, & a white elephant sale. On Nov. 9th there will only be a raffle for an HT. Also, on the 9th there

will be left over prizes from the Hamfest. Hamfest ticket sellers will have first choice of these prizes,

The last day to purchase Christmas Party tickets is December 1st, contact Jim KB9CYL.

At the party Mike WA9ZPM, will provide recorded music.

At the Nov. 9th meeting white elephant sale, sellers who are not members of Hamfesters must pay a fee of \$10.00.

New Business: Tonight Don KC9EQQ & Nora KC9MLV, brought White Castles for us. Thank You!

Minutes: The Sept. board minutes were approved by Mike W9MCS, 2nd by John WB9JTS.

Health & Welfare: Patti KC9LYE, told the board about my cataracts. I can't drive at night until after the surgery, John WB9JTS, brought me tonight.

Treasurer's Report: By Ed WA9EOL, he will renew the club's insurance.

Brian W9HLQ, has 10 students in the general license classes. These classes began on Sept.27th until Nov.8th.

The treasurer's report was approved by Mike W9MCS, 2nd by John WB9JTS.

Publicity & Hamfest: By Kerry AA9SB, publicity for the Nov. 9th meeting has been sent.

New vendors for hamfest 2013 are being contacted.

A different location for hamfest 2013 is being researched, possible sites; Orland Park, Tinley Park, and the Willowbrook Holiday Inn.

Adjournment: 8:25PM approved by John WB9JTS, 2nd by Mike W8MCS.



Hamfesters make the Newspapers

The Crestwood Avisor November 12th edition had an article about the history of Hamfesters and some notes on our presentation by Steve Cooper. The Southwest News and Herald on October 26th had a mention on Hamfesters and the White Elephant sale in November. A special thank you goes out to Mike Kiley WA9ZPM for his help with the city of Crestwood and of course for his remarkable skill with the sound system.

General meeting minutes – Patti, KC9LYE

Hamfesters Club Meeting Nov. 9, 2012 began at 7:30PM

Roll Cub Officers: Don KC9EQQ, Jim KB9CYL, Ed WA9EOL, Patti KC9LYE, Rich N9UNQ, Bruno K9QKB.

There were 40 members, & 7 visitors; Tamme KC9RFJ, and friend Mary, John KC9NLA, Jake KC9WOX, Alex KC9WOT, Ben KC9WOS, & Dave Fields.

Program: The white elephant sale, and club elections. All club officers ran unopposed. The elected board members for 2013 are; Kurt WB9FMC, Cathy KC9NRH, Steve W9KXT, Nora KC9MLV, John WB9JTS, Mike W9MCS.

Joe KA9KBU, Rich N9UNQ, & Kurt WB9FMC, counted the ballots.

Health & Welfare: Don KC9EQQ, spent 3 days in the hospital with chest pains, it was a muscle pull.

New Business: Thanks to Mike WA9ZPM, acting as our club representative to Crestwood. As a result, there was a newspaper article about Hamfesters. We honored our veterans, Veterans Day is tomorrow. Dave Brasel NF9N, has donated radio equipment to the club for sale.

Minutes: Oct.5th minutes written by Jim KB9CYL, approved by Bob N9KWG, 2nd by Bob N9JYX.

Treasurer's Report: by Ed WA9EOL, approved by Bob

N9RAT, 2nd by Lee WB9USF.

Education & Dues: by Brian W9HLQ, the general license classes that began on Sept. 27th has ended, the VE test is tomorrow Nov. 9th. There were 10 students in the class. Thanks to Gregg AA9MZ, & Neil WA9FTU, for teaching the classes.

Club dues, as of tonight please send dues to Brian W9HLQ.

Make checks payable to Hamfesters Radio Club.

Publicity & Hamfest: by Kery AA9SB, publicity has been sent for tonight's meeting.

We are looking at other locations for Hamfest 2013.

The Peotone fair grounds are asking a lot more money for 2013.

Christmas Party: by Jim KB9CYL, the deadline for purchasing tickets is Dec. 1st, contact Jim.

The party is Dec. 7th at the Papa Joe's in Orland Park at 7PM. Ticket are \$18.00 and \$20.00.

Field Day: by Jim KB9CYL, FD is June 22-23, 2013

Raffle: Tonight we are still selling tickets for an HT \$5.00 each. 16 tickets are sold, 40 tickets is the goal. The remaining prizes from Hamfest 2012 were distributed to ticket sellers. After sellers choice, everyone can take a prize.

Adjournment: at 8:45PM Lee WB9USF, 2nd by Bob N9KWG.

CQ Field Day de Jim Riley KB9CYL

As I write this, the sun is shining and we're enjoying some outstanding early-spring weather. It's the perfect time to start thinking about Field Day, and that's just what we're doing.

I have brought the club's insurance information to the Village of Worth. That's the last thing we need to finalize the claim on our FD spot at Altman Park, 115th and Beloit, about a quarter mile west of Harlem for the weekend of June 23 and 24.

Joe Kratky KA9KBU has been working on our folded dipole to alleviate the tuning problems we had last year. He tells me he has them resolved. Anybody want to operate 80-meter CW?

Al Bukowski N9ZD asked about setting up a 40-meter phone station. Maybe we could run 20-meter phone there, too. Or maybe we could run a separate 20-meter phone station. We sure have the room. Any takers?

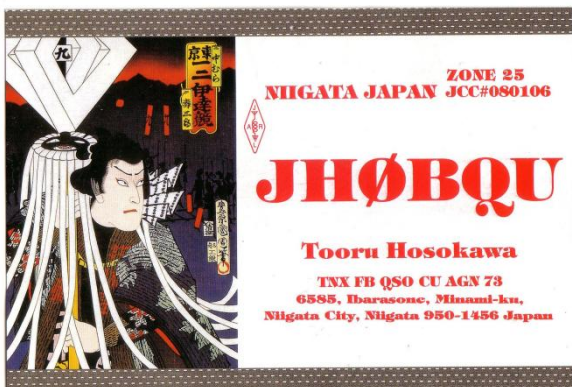
John Swanson KB9FQB, the old Swedish chef himself, has offered to provide supper Saturday night. He hasn't said what he's making but you can be sure it will be a treat.

That's what's new for this year so far. Our other long-time FD ops plan on bringing back their setups from last year. That leaves only one question: What are **YOU** doing for your club's Field Day? If you have any ideas, shoot me an email at kb9cyl@mail.com or see me at the meeting

Bill makes contact with Japan . How cool is that? See details below.

It was on 10-30-2012 at approximately 5:31 P.M. I had my ICOM 735 tuned to the 10 meter band 28.494.0 to be exact. I heard this call from Niigata Japan JH0BQU. I thought to myself this guy will never hear me with 100 watts of power and a G5RV wire antenna. Again I heard the call JH0BQU and nobody was answering him. So I jokingly grabbed the mic put out my call KC9KUX . To my surprise this guy hears me with a 5-8 signal. One thing I did learn from all of this is never think your rig or antenna isn't good enough for these long distance contacts. If the propagation is good there's always a decent chance to make that contact. Thanks for letting me share.

73 from KC9KUX
BILL



To Radio	KC9KUX			
Confirming Our QSO				
DATE	TIME	RF	MHz	2 WAY
30/10/2012	22:31	58	28	SSB
✓ Pse QSL # (GSL #)				
Rig	IC7800	FTDX9000	K9	(10) W
Anr.	25pmh	4EL-YAGI	0B/6-3	
Rmks. Thank you QSO,				
Please QSL, 73 FB DX,				
73				

NOD - - Special Event Station celebrating The End of the world!

That's right, the end is finally near. According to one of the three Mayan Calendars, the End of the world will occur on Dec 21, 2012. To celebrate this literally once in a lifetime event, Special Event Station NOD (Now Zero Days) will be activated on 10-80 meters and on several satellite passes for three days during and after(?) the end of the world. December 20; is a celebration of the end of the world. December 21, the day of destruction, we will be on the air as long as possible. December 22nd, that is a little iffy right now.

Amateur radio stations around the crumbling globe are invited to contact NOD, who will be operating from a secret, undisclosed location. Our operating schedule may be a little erratic as destruction rains down upon us and as long as our antennas hold out. Those who may be looking skyward for the end of the world, NOD will be operating on several satellite passes.

This will provide cosmic, maybe even intergalactic coverage for the end of the world as we know it. Our Doomsday Special Event has been picked up by the Amsat News Service and will be carried in a future bulletin.

You can celebrate Doomsday by contacting NOD directly on the air. Amateurs can also become an official Doomsday station by registering on our website. You will be given a registration number and the authority to identify yourself as "Official Doomsday Station" followed by your Doomsday number.

QSL with SASE to KK5W. If Doomsday actually does happen, we regret that a QSL will not be possible so hold on to your SASE until the 22nd at least.

Check out our website for a preview of the NOD QSL card.

Amateurs can also become an official Doomsday station by registering on our website. You will be given a registration number and the authority to identify yourself as "Official Doomsday Station" followed by your Doomsday number.

Official Doomsday stations will receive the Doomsday Station Certificate.

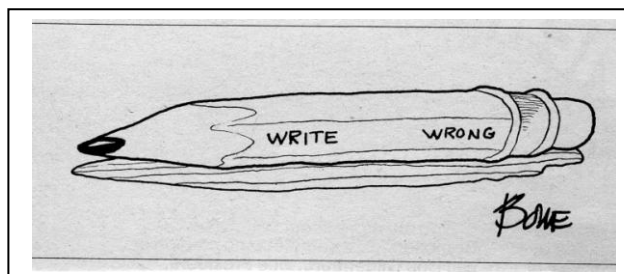
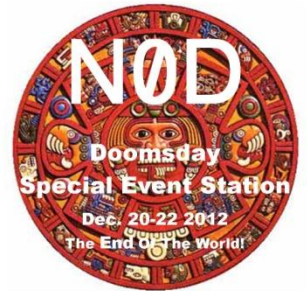
It is not entirely clear exactly how it will happen. Will it be a cataclysmic shift in the earth's

magnetic field, Global Warming on steroids, earthquakes, volcanoes floods, global thermonuclear war, meteor collision, the 10 plagues of Egypt UFO invasion who knows ? There are scientists, soothsayers and philosophers on both sides of the question. Either way it will be an event worth remembering.. .or maybe there will be no one left to remember it?

More information is available on the Official NOD website, www.nowzerodays.com

You can also e-mail the NOD team at NOD.Doomsday@gmail.com. Check our website for the latest updates. www.nowzerodays.com

Disclaimer: neither the editors or the Hamfesters club have any involvement with this site.



Hamfesters VE Testing: By Al Bukowski N9ZD



Hamfesters Radio club VE's administered FCC Amateur Radio exams November 10, 2012 at the Oak Forest City Hall 15440 S. Central Ave. Oak Forest, ILL 60452. We had two

candidates from the Hamfester's Radio Club classes who passed the General exam. Congratulations to the candidates. The VE's who helped administering and grading the exams were, Tim AA9BV, Bob N9JYX, Tom KA9ZXN, Ron WB9JYZ, Ron N9STU, and myself N9ZD.

If you or a friend are planning on taking an Amateur Radio examination, please remember that Hamfesters conducts FCC authorized VE (volunteer examiner) tests for Technician, General, and Extra class licenses every month on the 2nd Saturday at Oak Forest City Hall 15440 S. Central Ave. Oak Forest, IL 60452. Oak Forest City Hall Doors open at 9:00 AM. We begin testing at 9:30 AM Sharp. Enter through the main entrance and then go to the left to the Chamber Room or look for the Testing exam signs. We do ask that you park your car in the main parking lot between the Fire Department and the Police Department and not directly in front of the Main doors to City Hall.

Our next test session will be held on Saturday December 8, 2012.

Very important: Please remember to bring the following items with

You to any exam session: The appropriate fee (currently \$15) for the test.

We urge you to bring exact amount of cash. Please bring your picture ID, the original and a copy of your Amateur

Radio license (if licensed), a pen, pencil, and calculator if you would like to use one (all memories must be cleared). It is very important to have your Social Security Number, or if you are licensed and have been issued an FRN (Federal Registration Number), please use that in place of your SSN because without either your SSN or FRN, the FCC will not process your application. If you are upgrading, it is essential to bring your CSCE and a copy showing proof of recent passed exam if not already processed by the FCC.



If you have any questions regarding our test session or

Questions about upgrading, please contact me (evenings): (708) 535 2981

or preferred - via e mail at: abukowski@sbcglobal.net.

Again - The test fee is still \$15.00 (cash only -- no credit cards or checks).

73's AL - N9ZD

Hamfesters Roster News

Welcome new member:

Carl Roszczybiuk, WB9AVW

13875 S. Logan Dr.

Orland Park, IL 60467

Phone: 708/460-6510

email: wb9avw@comcast.net

Carl is director of engineering.

Welcome a returning member who has been away from the club for several years.

Ron Savickas, N9STU

10301 Kathy Ct.

Palos Hills IL 60465

Phone: 708/598-3571

no email yet.

[illegible]

Hamfesters Monthly Raffle

We try to do the best we can for prizes for the monthly Hamfest meetings. We however have a limited budget we can work from. We would encourage all members to contribute an item for the monthly raffle. It might be something that would be useful to others, but is no longer of use to you. It could also simply be something you just choose to donate. We try to get as broad a variety of prizes as we can. With your donations we can have even more variety and nicer prizes for our monthly raffles. If you can help we would greatly appreciate it.

This is one other small source of income for the club. Your prize doesn't have to be electronic in nature; it can be any- thing even if it doesn't deal with ham radio. Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration of making a prize donation and hope to hear from you very soon.

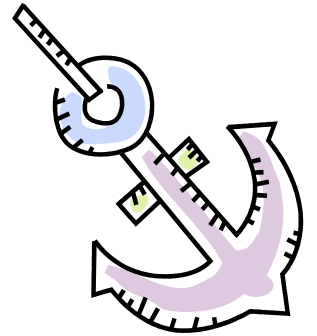
Feel free to contact me by email at

kb9yxh@yahoo.com or call me at (708) 429-4511.

73' Bob Richter KB9YXH Raffle Chairman

You are "Boat Anchorite" if you remember....

The humorous flashbacks here are for all of us who probably started their ham careers with the trusty Heath AT-1 transmitter and a Hallicrafters S-38C.



- ✓When a certain W2 used to call CQ with the comment: "no lids, no kids, no space Kadets" (He didn't want to talk to any young "K" call signs, only "W's").
- ✓We waited for Mom to go out and then boiled several hundred 4 inch wood feed line spreaders in paraffin wax in a galvanized bucket on the kitchen stove.
- ✓When thousands of ham's in the world copied the blinking eyelids of one of the USS Pueblo captives.
- ✓When a good Galena crystal with good hotspots could be traded for 2 pounds of number 26 magnet wire.
- ✓When the telephone repair man would stop us kids on the street and give us a bunch of old ear pieces so he would not have to replace so many at the pay phones at the drugstore.
- ✓When the JATO bottles could be bought for one dollar a piece (at a war surplus store) in the admonition that if you fooled with those things they could hurt you.
- ✓The time when a certain amateur radio magazine published a picture of a Novice station with the VFO on the transmitter and no evidence of any crystals.
- ✓When everyone was wondering where the really annoying, band ruining, "woodpecker" QRM was coming from.
- ✓When many used a AN/ARC-5/BC-458 transmitter for a VFO.
- ✓The ham in town with the big antenna and high power Collins gear had a handle of "Doc".

Used with permission of the Collins Radio Association

Check their web site for more information about Collins radios: www.collisra.com



Hamfesters Amateur Radio Club

PO Box 102

Bedford Park, IL 60499-0102

www.Hamfesters.org

Hamfesters Radio Club



Meetings and VE Testing

Club meetings are held on the first Friday of every month at the Crestwood Civic Center, 14025 Kostner Ave. in Crestwood, IL.

Meetings begin at 7:30 PM. September meetings may vary if our meeting date conflicts with the Crestwood Flower show.

Board Meetings: 7:30 PM on the 4th Monday of each month at the Oremus Center, 7902 Oketo, Bridgeview, IL

VE TESTING: Every 2nd Saturday of the Month at the Oak Forest City Hall, 15440 S. Central Ave. Testing begins at 9:00 AM but we ask that you arrive 10 minutes early. Exam fee is now \$15.00. Al N9ZD VE Team Chairman

Special Activities

Hamfesters Big Peotone Hamfest: Our 78th annual Hamfest coming August 2012-Will County Fairgrounds, Peotone, IL. Kerry AA9SB Hamfest Chairman.

Field Day: Join the W9AA crew for one of the best Field Days ever on June 23 & June 24 2012 at 115th and Oketo Avenue, Worth, IL.

Jim KB9CYL Field Day Chairman

WAHM: Worked all Hamfester Members-work 10 Current members for a beautiful award certificate. Matt KC9JXC Awards

Nets/Contact Info

10 METER NET: Every Sunday Evening at 8:00 PM on 28.410. Bob W9TOE is Net Control

2 METER NET: Every Monday Evening at 9:00 PM on 146.430. Joe KA9KBU & Tom KA9ZXN are Net Control

W9AA Mailbox:145.650 24 hours a day. Bruno K9QKB is Sysop. ILOAK:Node on 145.650

WEB SITE: www.hamfesters.org Brian W9HLQ is Webmaster

Club's address:

Hamfesters Radio Club

P.O. Box 102 BEDFORD PARK, IL 60499

Patti KC9LYE Secretary

Deadline for Submitting to the Hamgab is the fifteenth of the month.