



HamGab

Next meeting: April 4th

April 2014

PO Box 474
Crestwood, IL
60445-0474

www.hamfesters.org

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April Birthdays

Dennis N9BIA
Thomas KA9BVQ
Rita KC9CDL
Dave KB9EPL
Robert KA9GTx
Mike W9GYC
Norm N9IRO
Patrick KB9KRT
Michael W9MCS
Bruce KB9USV
Bob WF9V
George N9VOK
James KM9Y
Eric KC9OOM
Ashley AB9RS

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
Steve W9KXT
Kurt WB9FMC
Mike W9MCS
John WB9JTS
Cathy KC9NRH

Hamgab Editors

Steve & Eric
KC9OOL & KC9OOM
Scapstone@aol.com

We had a memorial for the late Roger Borowski K9RB prior to the March meeting. We all enjoyed sharing some wonderful memories of Roger. We would also like to thank the Borowski family for supplying the pizza.



Weather Spotting Class



Once again our April meeting will be a Basic Weather Spotting course. The presentation will be given by our very own Dave N9KPD and is in conjunction with the Romeoville National Weather Service. See information below along with the link and QR code for early registration. You may also follow the links on the Hamfesters website.

- **HOST**
 - Hamfesters Radio Club
- **LOCATION:**
 - Crestwood Civic Center
 - 14025 Kostner Ave. in Crestwood, IL 60445
- **DATE & Time**
 - Friday April 4, 2014
 - 7:30PM -- 9:30PM (up to 10PM based on number of questions)
- **PRESENTER**
 - David Bukowski - N9KPD
 - Oak Forest EMA 414

Anyone can attend.

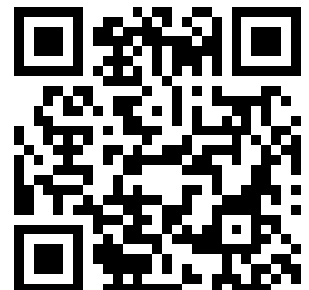
The training will begin promptly following a very brief and abbreviated general meeting. Please invite other agencies and friends especially those who have an interest in severe weather and spotting.

Please pre-register on the link or QR code below.

Pre-registration is not required, but will help in speeding up the check-in process.

<http://goo.gl/TT4ZPg>

**Please note that despite repeated rumors,
Hamfesters WILL be having its annual
Hamfest on Sunday, August 3rd.**



**SOME KIND OF MARCH, OH
AND SPRING IS HERE- KINDA!**

THE PRESIDENTS BEAT

DONALD POINTER KC9EQQ

APRIL 2014

I don't think there is a President of any Ham Radio club who has not met up with their fair share of controversy in any matter from A to Z. I can certainly say I had mine about three weeks ago, and if was not for the awesome membership of this club, I would still be one upset Prez at this writing. Here is the deal....Rumors began somewhere out there by someone that Hamfesters was not going to have a Hamfest. Where the rumor started I don't know, but I do know this- WE ARE HAVING OUR HAMFEST...NO IF'S ANDS OR BUTS ABOUT IT! Your Board of Directors and it's Officers took decisive action and went forth into the night after our last board meeting and spread the good word on every net, multi- club breakfast and other gatherings to shout that we are on and were never, ever, never off regarding our Hamfest going onward. Can you imagine otherwise? I certainly can't! I thank all of you present at our regular March meeting for letting beat on my chest that Rumors of Hamfest' death are greatly exaggerated. Now you the member can do me one favor, actually two. One: Spread the truth and two, sign up with Kerry Nelson to help him at Hamfest with the many tasks needed to run Hamfest. This is your Hamfest folks and it is what helps keep this club going. Thank you and enough said on this topic for now.....

Only at a Hamfesters regular meeting could we have a White Elephant sale plus a heartwarming memorial for one of our own! The memorial was for past member Roger Borowski K9RB and was put together well in part by Barbara Borowski and her family as a way of saying thanks to our club and Hams all over for the love they gave her husband during his time in Ham Radio. We had nearly 100 people come to the meeting, some staying for a few minutes and others staying for the meeting in it's entirety. Of course, I wish to thank all from our club who assisted in the set up and clean up that night too. Very nice of you for certain!

I can tell you this, the Borowski family was overwhelmed by the turn out of so many kind people who gave some very eloquent eulogies, filled with tears, laughter and fond memories of Roger. I am so proud of all who came out and took part of this special evening and I would be remiss if I did not thank the Borowski family for all the food they provided for the service too. What a truly nice family whom I am now proud to call friends of Nora, this club and myself. This certainly was a night to remember.

Back on the beat: Watch out folks- Mr. Weather is coming back to Hamfesters in April! I speak of none other than fellow Hamfesters member Dave Bukowski N9KPD, who is back by popular demand with his Basic Weather Spotters class on Friday, April 4th, with a prompt start of 7:30pm. Certificates will be available: Please see our website for more details. We had 100 people attend Dave's program last year and I expect to see that number exceeded next month, so please arrive early. We will have doors opening at 6:30pm. If this winter has given us any hint, it is that Winter's Sister Spring is going to come around soon with an attitude!



Begin your preparations by attending this great program and learn the importance of proper weather spotting and Ham Radio reporting of imminent severe weather conditions.

By the way, I attended the recent Village hall meeting for Crestwood and personally invited the Mayor and his colleagues to this program. Please be sure to thank them at the weather meeting for their continued support of our club should you see them there.

One last note: I hope you like the nice group photo of Jim, Patty and myself with the Borowski family and friends at the top of my column. What a great group and thanks Nora for taking the image.

See you soon and 73 to you and yours!

Don Pointer KC9EQQ

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 de Jim KB9CYL

HAMFESTERS RADIO CLUB

Board Meeting Minutes

24 FEB 2014

President Don Pointer called the meeting to order at 1925 hours.

Officers in Attendance: Don Pointer KC9EQQ, Jim Riley KB9CYL, Ed Broniarczyk WA9EOL

Directors in Attendance: Nora Pointer KC9MLV, Kurt Pawlikowski WB9FMC, Mike Serapin W9MCS, Cathy Fleischmann KC9NRH, Steve Peters W9KXT

The minutes were taken by Jim Riley in the absence of the secretary.

Don recognized Steve Peters for his program at the February meeting.

Health and Welfare

With the illness of Bob Maloney W9TOE it was suggested that Jim Liston W9HSH take over the ten meter net.

Bob Truhlar W9LNQ is convalescing after a stroke.

Harry Hess K9MDK is also ill and possibly in Christ Hospital.

Don made plans for the memorial service of Roger Borowski K9RB at our next meeting.

Secretary's Report

Secretary Patti Gullick could not make the meeting but asked if the board would consider purchasing Dragon software to help her with transcribing the minutes. The board approved.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Ed Broniarczyk WA9EOL reported that the club had \$26,894.53 in the treasury. \$180 was from dues.

Standing Committee Reports

Program: Don reminded everyone that March is the white elephant sale, April is weather spotting with Dave Bukowski N9KPD, May is the SS Badger with Pete K9OWQ, June is Field Day with Jim Riley KB9CYL, July is our Independence Day party and salute to veterans, Kerry AA9SB will discuss Hamfest, and in September Brian Davis W9HLQ will discuss the Raspberry Pi computer.

Hamfest: Kerry AA9SB reported that he is getting our hamfest on the ARRL website. Rumors about the fest being cancelled were discussed. Don talked about N9HSH's poster for the fest.

Publicity: Kerry passed around the press release for the upcoming meeting.

Field Day: Jim KB9CYL discussed who would replace Don Sommerfeld K9KNZ at the 40-meter CW station. Kerry Nelson said he would be interested in doing it.

Website: Brian Davis W9HLQ reported that things are going well with the website.

Education: Brian also reported that the general class is taking place at his house.

Old Business

Kurt Pawlikowski WB9FMC reminded everyone that he will bring changes to the constitution before the membership at our next meeting.

New Business:

No new business.

Jim moved that the meeting be adjourned, Ed seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 2137 hours.

Hamfesters Monthly Raffle

Due to cost issues, the raffle table at the monthly meetings has been discontinued. Not enough tickets were sold to offset the cost of the raffle. However, we will still have the door prizes. If you want to donate a door prize you can call me or let me know at the meeting. My number is still 708-429-4511 or kb9yxh@gmail.com. We would still encourage you to donate. Thank You

73' Bob Richter KB9YXH Raffle Chairman

General Meeting Minutes de Patti, KC9LYE

March 7, 2014

W9AA Hamfesters Amateur Radio Club

Today at the Crestwood community center, 4:30 PM until 7 PM there was a Memorial service for Roger

Borowski K9RB. Roger died last year at his home in Florida, he and his family moved there in 1996. Roger was a past president of Hamfesters.

Attending tonight Roger's family; wife Barb, their son, and daughter, niece, and family friend. Rogers family and friends shared their memories. And, we shared a wonderful meal from Beggar's pizza provided by Roger's family.

At 7 PM our Annual White Elephant sale began.

At 7:43 PM our club meeting began.

Roll: Don KC9EQQ, Jim KB9CYL, Ed WA9EOL, Patti KC9LYE, and Rich N9UNQ

There were approximately 40 members at tonight's meeting, I don't have the sign in sheets. Visitors were; W9LX, Frank (no call sign), Paul, and Zig.

President's report: by Don KC9EQQ, Hamfester's radio club will have their annual hamfest on Sunday August 3, 2014 at the Will County Fairgrounds, Peotone Illinois. There will be our vendor's cook out on Saturday August 2, 2014 located at the Fairgrounds. If anyone hears the rumor that our hamfest will not take place please make the correction.

S.S. Badger: by Pete K9OWQ, our second annual ham cruise will take place the last weekend in September. Please contact SSBadger.com for details. Pete will give a program about the S.S. Badger at our May meeting.

Programs: April Weather Spotter's Basic

Training course by Dave N9KPD. If you sign up early you will receive a paper certificate, go to hamfesters.org. Don spoke to the member's of the Crestwood Village Board, telling them about this program in April.

Minutes: the February club minutes were approved by Bob N9RAT, 2nd by Bob KB9YXH.

Hamfest Chairman: Dave N9KPD, has hamfest tickets, and hamfest fliers, please take some.

Publicity: by Kerry AA9BS, publicity was sent concerning tonight's programs. The Memorial service for Roger N9RB, and the white elephant sale. Also, Hamfesters VE testing is the second Saturday of every month at 9 AM at the Oak Forest Village Hall.

Hamfest: by Kerry AA9SB, Dave N9KPD, has resigned as hamfest volunteer coordinator, he is the hamfest tickets chairmen. We need volunteers to sign up for the hamfest in many positions; club trailer, security, gate ticket sales, prize table etc. Please see Kerry AA9SB, and Dave N9KPD, for more information.

Field Day: by Jim KB9CYL, June 28th to 29th 2014 Pete K9OWQ, will run a 6 meters station. Don K9KNZ, will no longer run the 40 meters station. We need volunteers for field day too, please contact Jim.

Hamfesters Constitution: Constitution chairmen Kurt WB9FMC, four changes were made they were approved by our membership.

Adjournment: at 8:28 PM by Rich N9UNQ, and Jim N9HSH.



CQ Field Day de Jim Riley KB9CYL

- I'm writing this on March 12 of the winter that never ends. Six inches of heavy, wet snow fell this morning. The weight of the snow on my G5RV bent the mast that was supporting it and the antenna is on the ground in some places. Looks like I'll be off HF for a while. Old Man Winter is still playing with us but at least I plan to be on HF at Field Day.
- Last month I reported that Don K9KNZ had stepped down as chief of the 40-meter CW station. This month I can report that Kerry AA9SB has offered to take over. Details are still being worked out. Contact Kerry if you can help.
- Pete K9OWQ will be setting up a 6-meter station in conjunction with the VHF/UHF team. He has everything he needs except for a shelter. If you have one we can borrow, please contact Pete directly.
- A duty roster based on last year's FD has been emailed to all participants. I've asked last year's crew to let me know if they can repeat in last year's capacity. We still need people to fill the void left by the passing of Joe Kratky KA9KBU. With Bob N9JYX, Joe prepped the trailer every year even when he was participating with another team. Bob is very capable but may need help. If you'd like to lend Bob a hand, give him a call or see him at the meeting.
- Even if all positions are filled, some of them still need backup. Stuff happens and we need someone on standby for some very important jobs. If you can back up our chefs or our trailer hauler, we need you. If you have a generator you can keep on standby, let me know.
- If I don't hear from those of you who received the duty roster, I'll be putting the arm on you at the meeting. We need to have all positions filled very soon.
- Field Day is June 28 and 29 at Altman Park, 116th and Oketo in Worth. Setup begins at 0800.



General class training session has finished.

Hamfesters just completed an abbreviated general class for three students. We met for several hours on Wednesday nights. We reviewed the difficult area of the General question pool. We did some sample questions and practiced taking the test. We also reviewed the test taking strategy. I wish the students good luck on their test. You can do it!

73,
Brian, W9HLQ



So You Want Your Technician Ham License?

Has anyone ever come to you and indicated they wanted to get their ham license? What did you say? Well it happened to me the other day. I fumbled around by saying something about a license manual or finding a training class somewhere. Then I trailed off...realizing I was really not helping (sorry Paul).



After talking to Al, N9ZD, our resident VE testing team leader, I found out that most of the Technician test candidates have studied the material on their own. There were no training classes convenient either by location or date for them to use. That event prompted me to write an outline on how to self study and get your Technician license whenever you want it!

This brings us to the idea of encouraging prospective hams to study the material on their own. The problem is where to start and what steps should be taken before taking the VE exam? There are many manuals and web sites dedicated to the new ham; but where to start? So Hamfesters has provided an outline on their web site that can be downloaded by anyone who is interested in getting their ham license.

Now if someone asks about a ham license, you can point them to this article and know that you have done them a favor by showing them the quickest and easiest way to their ham ticket. It should save a lot of explaining on your part. Of course, it would be nice for you to follow up with that person to coach them and answer their questions.

You can get your copy of the document on our web site: look on our **License Class** web page for a bright yellow link in the middle of the page.

<http://www.hamfesters.org/main/licensing-class/>

--73, Brian, W9HLQ--

Hamfest Update March 2014 de Kerry AA9SB Hamfest Committee chairperson

With the 2014 Hamfest flyers printed and ready for distribution, we need to get them out to everyone near and far. For many years we've reminded everyone to bring them if you're going to one or more of the upcoming hamfests in Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, or elsewhere -- and drop them at their club table. And pass them out there, as well as at our meetings and at STARS and Tri-Town. (No rogue rumormongers are going to put out misinformation or disinformation about our hamfest -- now celebrating its 80th anniversary!!) But this year, we're not just going to keep reminding everyone to do this -- we're going to be setting up a schedule of hamfests and assigning at least one or two volunteers who will attend the various hamfests. Think about what hamfests you'd like to attend and let's get organized on this. Get the word out.

And don't forget to get tickets for *yourself* -- either from Dave, N9KPD, our Hamfest Ticket Sales Coordinator, or from one of our ticket sellers -- and get tickets to sell and SELL them, locally and at the hamfests and elsewhere. We're going to make an all-out effort to make this hamfest a huge success. And with Dave moving up to Ticket Sales Coordinator we need a new Volunteer Recruitment Coordinator to take his place. We'll also be looking for volunteers to sign up for assignments for the various Hamfest positions: ticket sales, security, prize table, VE testing, or set-up. Let us know how you'd like to participate. Thanks much!

Hamfesters VE Testing de Al Bukowski N9ZD VE Coordinator

Hamfester's Radio Club VE's assembled to offer Amateur Radio Exams for March 8, 2014; and we had five candidates. One individual passed his Extra exam. Three passed there Technician exam. Sorry to say, we had one individual that requires additional studying. The participating VE's team members were Ron N9STU, Gene KB9RNM, Ron WB9JYZ, Bob N9JYX and myself, N9ZD. We also had a visiting VE, Val AK4MM from the Orlando Amateur Radio Club, Orlando, Florida. Thanks to all the VE's for your dedicated time.



Hamfester's Radio Club conducts FCC authorized tests for Technician, General, and Extra class licenses every 2nd Saturday each month at Oak Forest City Hall 15440 S. Central Ave. Oak Forest, IL 60452. Doors open at 9:00 AM. We begin testing about 9:15 AM. Enter through the main City Hall entrance and look for the Amateur Radio 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 April 12, 2014.



Special instruction note: It is very important to bring the following items to any exam session: The appropriate test fee (currently \$15), A picture ID (driver's license or Student ID Card etc), a calculator if you would like to use one. And it's very important to have your Social Security Number, or if you are licensed, please use the FRN (Federal Registration Number) listed on your license. If you are upgrading, Please bring you're Amateur Radio license and a copy and any issued CSCE and a copy showing proof of recent passed exam(s) if not already processed by the FCC. If you have any questions regarding our test session or about upgrading, please contact N9ZD via e-mail at: N9ZD@arrl.net.

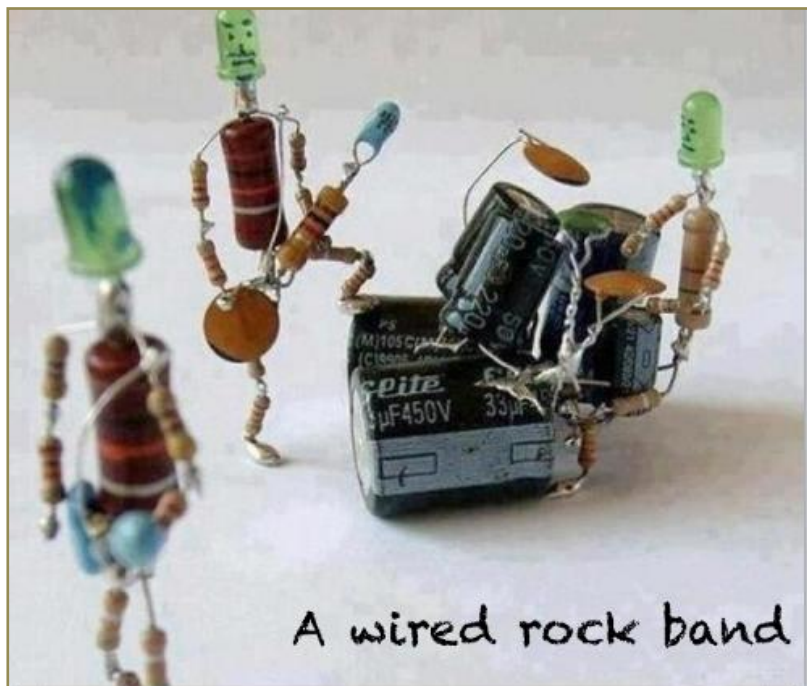
Walk-ins are welcome and again the test fee is \$15.00 (cash only -- no credit cards or checks).

Important message for anyone studying for the Technician Class Exam:

The [NCVEC](#) Question Pool Committee has released the new 2014-2018 Technician Class, Element 2, [question pool](#) to the public. This new Question pool will take effect on July 1, 2014, and will remain valid until June 30, 2018. The [current Technician question pool](#), released in 2010, is valid until June 30, 2014.

73's

AL – N9ZD



The Spectrum Monitor Magazine

A new radio related digital magazine is available. It is an out-growth of the now defunct Monitoring Times magazine. The Spectrum Monitor Magazine is published monthly and a subscription is \$24/year. The magazine is downloaded as a single PDF file. It is read simply by scrolling through the full color articles. It is a nice way to read articles online.



There are articles on ham radio, radio theory, feature articles such as the Aviation Special shown on the cover at the left. This article has lots of frequencies that you can monitor when you visit an air show.

Public service and emergency communications are regular articles as well as background information on how the frequencies are used.

There is good coverage of short wave broadcasting and the stations creating them. Other topics include satellite, antenna, and propagation.

For more information check their web site;
<http://www.thespectrummonitor.com/index.aspx>

73, Brian, W9HLQ

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

Hamgab, April 2014



Hamgab, April 2014



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Hamfesters Amateur Radio Club

PO Box 474

Crestwood, IL 60445-0474

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 Crestwood Civic Center

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 79th annual Hamfest coming August 4, 2013-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 28 & June 29 2014 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 146.640. Tom KA9ZXN is Net Control

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

WEB SITE: www.hamfesters.org Webmaster
Granville, W9PNG & Brian ,W9HLQ

Club's address:
Hamfesters Radio Club
P.O. Box 474 Crestwood, IL 60445
Patti KC9LYE Secretary

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